

# Nifty Shooting Cats Shake Up Crusaders

The bombardier tightened up the sites Friday night and blew the Buhler doldrums off the floor and out the door at Mulvane High School.

Coach Bill Stinson's girls shot 54% from the field and played a heady game to allow the MHS Wildcats to prevail over Wellington, 63-59, Friday night, Jan. 17, in a Chisholm Trail League game.

The victory improved the Lady Wildcat record to 5-3 and 2-1 in the CTL while Wellington dipped to 1-5 overall.

"We played some good basketball and I felt pretty good about it because we got back on the winning track," said Stinson, whose club was rebounding off a 63-59 thumping a week earlier at Buhler. "It was important to come out after the Buhler game and win. We needed to get this one to get some confidence back in our game, get things rolling for us."

It wasn't easy, though, even before a large homecoming night crowd in the friendly confines of the MHS gym. The Crusader gals hung on after the Wildcats scampered out to a 36-28 lead at intermission and actually rallied in the third quarter to tie the game at a pair of 48s.

"We had Lori (Cox) on the bench with foul trouble and I got a real stupid technical foul that allowed them to get back in the ball game," admitted Stinson. "I'm very fortunate that it didn't cost us the game, but I felt like we were getting some bad calls and needed to say something."

The Crusaders sank eight free throws (to Mulvane's zero shot) in the quarter as the Cats hit a chilly spell but Mulvane got things going in the fourth period. Junior Tammy Haas dropped in two freebees late in the fourth period to give Mulvane the lead for good after it was tied, 54-54, then Mulvane's quick pressing defense forced two turnovers and a couple buckets by Rhonda Davis and Cox to give Mulvane some breathing room.

"I don't remember shooting over 50% from the field or having four girls in double figures," said Stinson. "Offensively, we've got people who can score points, we have some good

## Girls Varsity

Wellington	18 10 20 11--59
Mulvane	18 18 12 15--63
Wellington--Shana Glick 16, Judi McEachern 2, Markie Russell 18, Tracy Cochran 3, Kristi Scheuffler 0, Lisa Lusk 6, Lori Goodrum 10, Jenny Moore 4. FG 24-54, FT 11-16, F 17.	
Mulvane--Lori Cox 10, Tiane Dossey 15, Tammy Haas 4, Rhonda Davis 20, Kathy Saxton 14. FG 29-54, FT 5-14, F 14.	

offensive players and good shooters. I feel like we can get that kind of scoring every game.

"Rhonda (Davis) had a great game and Tiane (Dossey) played well, as did Lori and Kathy (Saxton) and Tammy, but we're still doing a few of those little things that are going to keep us from winning the big games against good competition. We need to continue to work."

One of those "little things" that add up in the big games is poor free throw shooting. The Cats had one of their worst games of the year, making only five of 14 throws from the line.

On defense, though, Stinson was pleased overall. The swarming press which was so effective late in the game could become more of a regular fixture once the team is back to full strength. "We didn't work on it Friday night, I don't like to come out against a team like Wellington and give them any momentum if we happen to let them get behind us a couple of times. Late in the game, though, we threw it at them and it was effective. We got a few turnovers at an important time. Too, we just lack the numbers to use it any more."

Stinson said he hoped to use the Wellington game as a "stepping stone," allowing his club room to grow and improve fundamentally as the season progresses.

Scoring keyed the victory as much as anything, though. Guard Davis had her grandest night of the season, gunning down 20 points to shake out of a mini-slump.

Her guard mate, Dossey, scored 15 points and the sophomore Saxton had 14. Cox finished with 10 in spite of her foul trouble.

The girls will be back in action at Goddard Friday night, Jan. 24, for another big CTL game.