

# Tourney Starts Monday

# Cat Girls Get Message

Maybe some of that coaching is starting to wear through. That's the first thought Mulvane High School girls basketball coach Kelly Dennis had after her Wildcats did what they were told.

They ran, they passed, they shot, they defended. And they hammered down the Chaparral Roadrunner girls, 63-28, Friday night, Jan. 17, in a Chisholm Trail League game in Mulvane.

"I was really pretty pleased with what I saw," said Dennis. "We did a great job on defense and we actually acted like we had a plan, a thought about what we wanted to do every time down the court. I was pleased because it appeared that they might be listening to what we're telling them."

So thorough was the Mulvane game that Chaparral was held to only three field goals in the first three quarters and scored only 12 points until Dennis brought on the reserves to finish the game in the 4th quarter. The victory raised Mulvane's record to 5-4 overall and 4-2 in the CTL Division II standings, while Chappy stumbled to 0-4 in the league and 1-8 overall.

"I was surprised that they were down but we did play one of our best games on defense," confessed Dennis. "Our defense did a nice job. We ran our 1-3-1 trap and got numerous steals and that doesn't include a bunch of touches on the ball that we slapped away to disrupt their offense. They didn't have a lot of people who could handle the ball."

And that made things easy for the Wildcat girls, who have been in that same boat the previous couple of years. Mulvane's 1-3-1 pushed the Roadrunners out of their game and pressured their ballhandlers to make good decisions. They didn't.

"Our defense held them to only six field goals and I think that says a lot about our defense," said Dennis. "We just put in our 1-3-1. We ran it a little against Andale and used it some against Clearwater. I was happy with it. Chaparral just lacked the ability to handle the ball, so we made it real tough on their passing. Winning like this, though, makes it real tough to assess what you're team did and what they did to themselves."

The Cats rolled out quickly against Chappy after a sluggish start. By intermission, Mulvane was on its way, holding a 22-10 lead that turned into a rout in the third quarter when the Wildcats out-scored Chaparral, 16-2.

"I thought our third quarter was our most aggressive quarter of the season," observed

## 17th Annual Wildcat Girls Basketball Classic

Monday, Jan. 27

Game 1 -- Wellington (5-4) vs. Campus (5-6), 6 p.m.

Game 2 -- Garden Plain (8-0) vs. Arkansas City (2-7), 7:45

Tuesday, Jan. 28

Game 3 -- Andale (6-4) vs. Clearwater (3-5), 6 p.m.

Game 4 -- Mulvane (5-4) vs. Andover (4-6), 7:45

Thursday, Jan. 30

Game 5 -- losers of games 3 and 4, 3:30 p.m.

Game 6 -- losers of games 1 and 2, 5:15

Game 7 -- winners of games 3 and 4, 7

Game 8 -- winners of games 1 and 2, 8:45

Saturday, Feb. 1

Game 9 (Seventh Place)--losers of games 5 and 6, 2 p.m.

Game 10 (Fifth Place)--winners of games 5 and 6, 3:45

Game 11 (Third Place)--losers of games 7 and 8, 5:30

Game 12 (Championship)--winners of games 7 and 8, 7:30

Dennis. "Usually, the third quarter hasn't been very good to us but the girls felt like they were the better team and they wanted to go out and finish them off, which they did. We were the aggressor, though, the entire way and that was nice to see."

Offensively, the Cats racked up their biggest point total of the season, however, Dennis wasn't 100% satisfied. "Offensively, we really didn't execute well, especially early" said the MHS coach. "I thought at the very beginning of the game, we missed a ton of shots. Dannelle (Hughes) missed some good ones. Melissa (Buchanan) missed some good ones. We just didn't finish on those plays. We got some of our best shots of the season early but didn't start cashing in on them until later in the game."

Hughes finished with a game-high 20 points. She also had five rebounds. Reserve

### Girls Varsity

Chaparral	6	4	2	16-28
Mulvane	10	12	16	25-63

Chaparral—Kim Schmidt 6, Lindsay Greve 6, Kara Kastens 4, Wendy Scott 5, Julie Befort 1, Teresa Wiechen 2, Robyn Longbine 1, Summer Lewis 3. FG 6 (0), FT 16-24, F 19.

Mulvane—Dannelle Hughes 20, Melissa Buchanan 6, Crissy Carpenter 3, Lindsay Kendrick 4, Michelle Fowler 2, Ashley McCoskey 4, Kristen Buchanan 6, Kassie Hargrove 7, Jennifer McCoskey 3, Shelley Richards 4, Heather Williams 2, Victoria Padilla 2. FG 23 (1), FT 16-23, F 19.

### Junior Varsity Girls

Chaparral	2	3	6	6-17
Mulvane	10	12	7	11-40

Chaparral—Mock 4, Sonia Bellestine 4, Stacy McCoy 2, Lisa Miller 2, Lauren Fallis 3, Wicker 2. FG 6 (0), FT 3-5, F 16.

Mulvane—Ashley McCoskey 8, Rachel Rose 2, Shiriah Craft 2, Kristal LaPlant 2, Heather Williams 4, Victoria Padilla 6, Piper Roy 4, Kristen Buchanan 6, Andrea Hufford 6. FG 18 (0), FT 4-10, F 14.

Kassie Hargrove, a 9th grader, scored seven points and Melissa Buchanan and sister Kristen Buchanan were tough inside, scoring six points each. Actually, the entire team helped out as 12 players dished out points in the runaway win.

"Our guards (Lindsay Kendrick, Michelle Fowler, Shelley Richards and Victoria Padilla) all did a great job getting the ball inside," said Dennis. "That broke down their defense and if the shots were inside, we could kick it back outside and we got numerous good shots there, too. I was really happy with what our guards did. We've been emphasizing that all season and it looks like they are starting to understand what us coaches are talking about."

Hughes had one of her best games, said Dennis. "This is one of the first games where I thought she went hard to the basket," said the Mulvane coach. "She kept getting the ball in good position and made the move to the basket. That created a lot of things for us."

Another thing that Dennis was concerned about as the game progressed is the level of play. "It's awfully easy to slip into a sloppy game," said Dennis. "The last thing we wanted to do was to start playing sloppy and we didn't. I thought the girls really responded to our challenge and maintained their level of good play when Chaparral got sloppy."

Another plus in Dennis' eye was the numbers game. "We got a lot of people into the game and that's always helpful," said the mentor. "With just about everybody scoring, it helps. It would be nice to get that kind of balance every night."

The Cats also prevailed in the junior varsity game. Mulvane raced past Chappy, 40-17. The MHS jayvee defense worked well, limiting the Roadrunners to only five points in the first half while building up a 22-5 lead.

Scoring for the Cat JV's was well balanced with Ashley McCoskey scoring the team high—eight points. Victoria Padilla, Kristen Buchanan and Andrea Hufford scored six points each and Heather Williams and Piper Roy chipping in four each.

The Cats will be back in action Friday night, Jan. 24, with Augusta coming to the MHS gym for a series. After that, Mulvane will be hosting the 17th annual Wildcat Girls Classic beginning Monday, Jan. 27. Mulvane was seeded No. 3 and will meet No. 6 seeded Andover (4-6) at Tuesday night, Jan. 28.