

Girls 'Classic' In Classic

Hoping to make 1991 the year, the Mulvane High School girls worked their way past Clearwater, 33-27, Monday night, Jan. 21, in the opening round of the Mulvane Wildcat Girls Classic at the MHS gym.

Mulvane has never won the tournament but Cat Coach Gregg Wolgast is hoping this is the year to break the two-year domination by Garden Plain, the 1989 and 1990 tournament champs.

The Wildcats advance to a second round encounter against Winfield at 6:30p.m. tonight (Jan. 24). Winfield clipped Wellington, 46-38, in the other first round game Monday night.

The Cats jumped out to a big lead after holding Clearwater without a point in the first quarter. In fact, the Indians didn't get their first basket until midway in the second quarter. By that time, Mulvane held a comfortable lead.

"We played real good defense," said Wolgast. "That was probably as good of a defensive game as we've played in quite some time. We got a good start offensively but in the second half, they got us out of sync, crowding all five players into the lane around Kendra. That seemed to get us out of our game."

Ironically, Banzet, who finished with nine points, had only seven in the first half as the Cats busted out to a 24-8 lead at half-time. That strategy worked because Mulvane managed only two points in the third quarter and nine the entire second half.

"We started thinking about reacting instead of reacting," said Wolgast. "We held the ball on the breaks and that hesitation allowed them to get set up. Everybody went cold from the floor and with everybody in the lane, they shut off our offensive rebounding. Their two inside people had 20 defensive rebounds." Clearwater controlled the boards with 37 rebounds. Mulvane had 27.

Still the 7-3 Cats were able to hang on because of the first half cushion. "They like to run a lot of one-on-one, clearing out everybody on one side but we took them out of that," pointed out Wolgast. "The girls did a super job of not giving them any easy baskets."

Most of the second half Clearwater played more deliberately, but it was to Mulvane's advantage as the clock ticked on. The Indians finally got the Mulvane lead into single digits in the last two minutes of the game.

"Tricia Turner played one of her best games," said Wolgast. "She had a couple steals off the press in the first half, shot the ball well and did a good job of running our break."

She also led the scoring for Mulvane for the first time this season, hitting for 10 points. Banzet's nine was next, followed by Lisa Heersche, who had eight points, and veteran Ticia Nicholson with five.

The Wildcat girls rolled into the tournament on a high note, which was climaxed by a stunning 57-40 drubbing of Wellington Friday night, Jan. 18. That gave the Cats two straight wins following back-to-back setbacks.

There was no junior varsity game because Wellington was short of players, according to Wolgast.

The Cats parlayed 33 Wellington fouls into a 25 of 40 night at the free throw stripe, which provided the margin of victory since Wellington out-scored Mulvane by three field goals.

The first half shelling by Mulvane also was a big difference as Mulvane rolled out to

Wildcat Girls Basketball Classic Pairings

SECOND ROUND

Tonight (Jan. 24)

Game 5 — Wellington vs. Clearwater, 4 p.m.

Game 6 — Andover vs. Circle, 5:30

Game 7 — Kapaun Mt. Carmel vs. Garden Plain, 7

Game 8 — Mulvane vs. Winfield, 8:30

Saturday, Jan. 26

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

Game 10 (Fifth Place)—winners of games 5 and 6, 3:30

Game 11 (Third Place)—losers of games 7 and 8, 5

6:30 — Pom Pon Competition

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

Wildcat Girls Classic

FIRST ROUND

Mulvane	13	11	2	7-33
Clearwater	0	8	4	15-27

Mulvane—Tricia Turner 10, Kendra Banzet 9, Kerri Taylor 1, Ticia Nicholson 5, Lisa Heersche 8. FG 14-43 (0), FT 5-9, F 14.

Clearwater—Rebecca Keller 6, Angie Simon 3, Mami Trotter 3, Tracy Harbison 11, Keri Barrow 4. FG 8-41 (0), FT 8-13, F 14.

Winfield 46, Wellington 38

Garden Plain 74, Andover 44

Kapaun Mt. Carmel 70, Circle 56

Mulvane	15	18	10	14-57
Wellington	7	8	6	19-40

Mulvane—Lisa Heersche 15, Ticia Nicholson 14, Kendra Banzet 16, Tricia Turner 1, Kerri Taylor 6, Dawn Hicks 3, Sheila Mills 2. FG 16-29 (0), FT 25-40, F 13.

Wellington—Lenea Tuttle 13, Andrea Pettigrew 2, Cancilla Griffen 2, Kelly Silcott 13, Anna Heimer 2, Stephanie Lockhart 2, Samantha Bertrand 4, Heather McAllister 2. FG 19-44 (1), FT 1-7, F 33.

Junior Varsity Girls

No junior varsity game played because Wellington had 3 girls out

a 33-15 lead by intermission. That lead grew to 22 points in the 3rd quarter as Mulvane held the Crusaders to only six points.

"Things got a little sloppy in the last quarter but we did play well," said Wolgast. "One of the big keys again was the job we did on defense containing them. We didn't let them get off too many good shots, and we also controlled the backboards."

Mulvane made 16 of 29 field attempts. On the boards, the Cats had a big edge, 42-22, as Banzet pulled down nine, Heersche had eight, Kerri Taylor had seven and Nicholson five.

"We just kept building on our halftime lead and never allowed them to get into what they wanted to do offensively," added Wolgast. "Our press gave us some early baskets right before the half and I think that kind of broke their back."

And the good free throwing kept the ball rolling. "It was our best night at the line," stressed Wolgast. "It got rough at the end but we shot the free throws in when we had to. Lisa went 9-for-10 and the rest of the starters also hit their free throws."

Three players were in double figures for the 6-3 Cats. Banzet controlled the inside game with 16 points with Nicholson getting 14. Guard Heersche added 15 points with Taylor scoring six and Dawn Hicks three off the bench.

"Last week, I felt like we got things back together," said Wolgast. "There is a tendency to play sloppy when your opposition is playing sloppy, but we played well. It wasn't as smooth as the Rose Hill game, but we played better overall."

The girls will swing back into league play Tuesday, Jan. 29, when they go to Maize hoping to improve on a 3-2 Chisholm Trail League mark.