

# Injuries Sidetrack MHS Girls; Fourth In Own Tournament



Any more injuries and Mulvane High School Girls Basketball Coach Jayson Miller might have to go to med school to continue coaching.

The Wildcats lost two guards to injuries within about five minutes of each other in the opening round victory over Arkansas City Tuesday night, Jan. 22, in the 22nd Wildcat Girls Classic and the Cats lost their next to contests to finish 4th. Andale squirmed past Campus, 42-34, in overtime Saturday night, Jan. 26, to keep the Colts from claiming their second Classic title in a row. Garden Plain held off a furious rally by the Wildcats in the final six minutes to take third place by a 43-40 count. Clearwater won 5th place by dumping Ark City, 42-33, and Wellington beat Andover, 57-52, for 7th.

"I thought the other girls stepped it up so that (injuries) wasn't the problem with our losses," said Miller. But losing junior Melissa Doerfer, a two-year starter, with a knee injury and her heir-apparent, 9th grader Abby Sorensen, in the opening round didn't help.

Garden Plain had the game locked up going into the last quarter but the Cats put on a charge. "We played a great 3:38," said Miller with a chuckle. "That was pretty much our game right there. Before that, we were tentative. We had no business being in that game except the girls refused to go down lightly without a battle. I have to take my hat off to Kari (Leonard) and Sami (Booth). They really turned up the intensity and that got everybody going."

Mulvane actually closed to within one, 41-40, and had the ball but couldn't cash in because they had missed five free throws earlier in the quarter.

"You look at that game and we really played very poorly until that last 3:38, then we were all over them," said Miller. "Garden Plain is going to play that 2-3 zone and you know it going in. They just pack it in and shut down the inside game, you have to hit your outside shots and we didn't. They also beat us on the offensive boards. We didn't do a very good job in the

rebounding department in either of the last two games."

Leonard finished with nine points and tied Shayna Duncan for Wildcat scoring honors. Center LaShelle Parker was held to only eight points, Booth finished with seven and Mulvane's No. 1 scorer, Kris Lazar, finished with only four points.

In Thursday night's encounter with Campus, the Colts were steady throughout the game and pulled away in the 2nd quarter by out-gunning the Cats, 14-6, and Miller's troopers never could get in the groove.

"We didn't know what to expect going into that game, coming right after the injuries, but we knew they were a total pressing team," said Miller. "And up to the last couple minutes of the first half, we were doing a pretty good job of controlling the tempo and keeping things going slower, which is the way we wanted to play it. But we lost it in the last couple of minutes and went from being one up to seven points down at intermission. Then, we came out

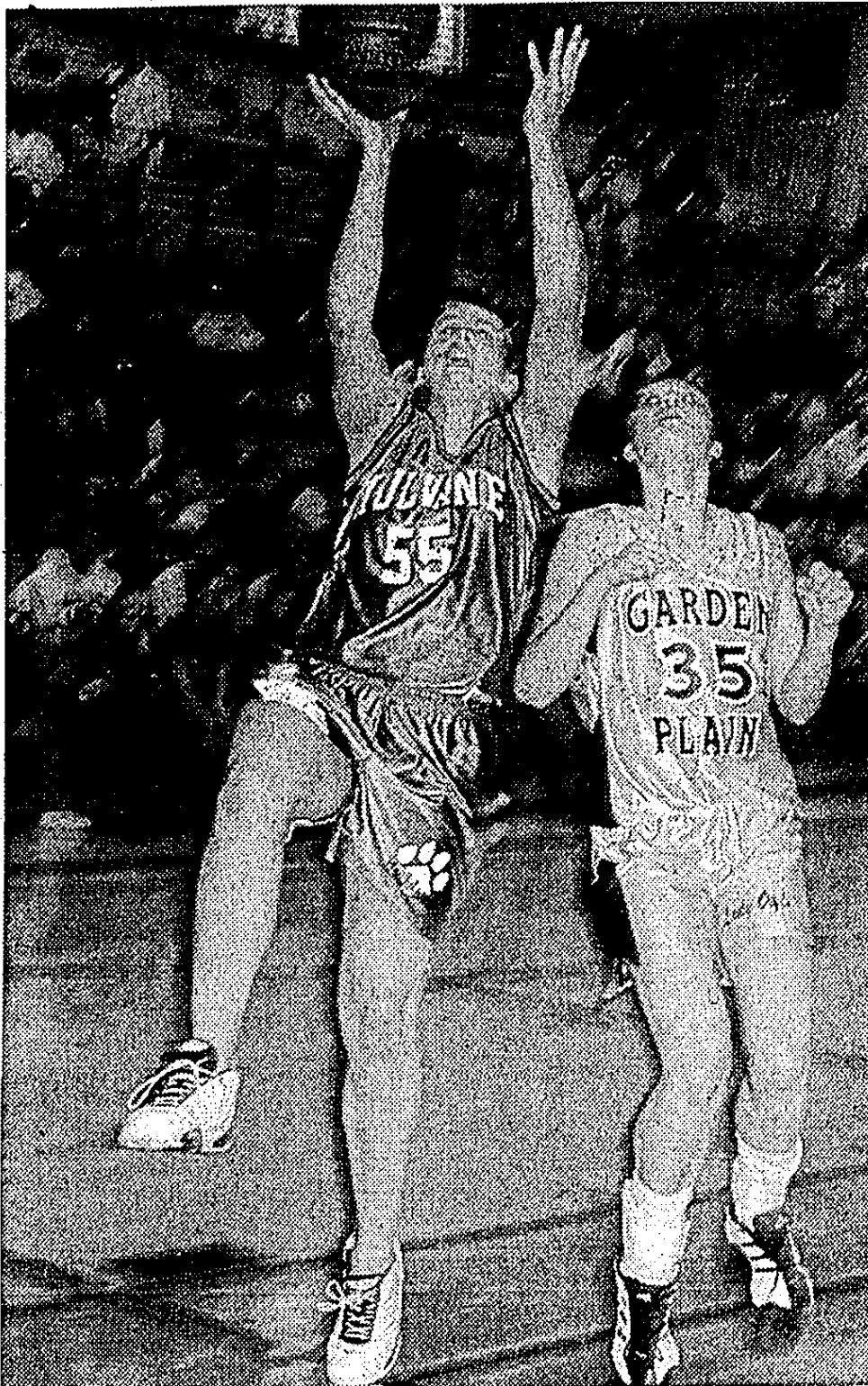
with a real bad third quarter. We couldn't shoot straight."

The Wildcat girls scored only four points in the 3rd quarter and the Colts were on their way into the championship game.

"We just got out of sync and weren't patient enough against Campus," added Miller. "And they also beat us on the offensive boards. I think the girls have gotten a little bit lazy in rebounding and it got away from them."

The Colts also pretty much throttled the Wildcat strength inside. Lazar had only three points and Parker scored six. Booth also finished with six points and Kayla Oblinger, who played a lot of point guard in pace of Doerfer, had four points, as did senior Kim Mangus.

The girls got a chance to re-group with Tuesday night's game at Maize being postponed by icy conditions. They'll try to get back on track at Valley Center Friday night, Feb. 1, before entertaining winless Augusta on Tuesday night, Feb. 5.



Senior center LaShelle Parker (55) drives for a bucket against Garden Plain

## 22nd Annual Mulvane Wildcat Girls Classic

### THIRD PLACE

Mulvane	8	7	4	21-40
Garden Plain	13	6	11	13-43
Mulvane—Kari Leonard 9, Shayna Duncan 9, Sami Booth 7, Kris Lazar 4, LaShelle Parker 8, Nicole Hackley 3. FG 12 (2), FT 8-15, F 25.				

Garden Plain—Jana Perry 6, Jennifer Wells 7, Rachel Kerschen 7, Danielle Lafferty 11, Janessa Gerber 4, Jennifer Meyer 3, Pattie Helton 5. FG 14 (0), FT 15-29, F 18.

### FIRST PLACE

Andale 42, Campus 34 (OT)

### FIFTH PLACE

Clearwater 42, Arkansas City 33

### SEVENTH PLACE

Wellington 57, Andover 52

### SEMIFINALS

Campus	8	14	8	10-40
Mulvane	9	6	4	7-26
Campus—Kelsey Brown 12, Jordan Sandial 2, Amanda Reyes 7, Shonda Harris 4, Ronnie Maglaughlin 13, Roberto Hoaglan 2. FG 12 (1), FT 15-19, F 13.				
Mulvane—Sami Booth 6, Kayla Oblinger 4, LaShelle Parker 6, Kris Lazar 3, Kim Mangus 4. FG 12 (0), FT 2-7, F 22.				

Andale 53, Garden Plain 34  
Arkansas City 52, Wellington 37  
Clearwater 62, Andover 45