

Wildcat Girls Wrap Up Fifth

A few adjustments and a three-shot streak at the start of the fourth quarter guided Mulvane High School to the consolation championship Saturday afternoon, Jan. 30, in the Wildcat Girls Classic at the MHS gym.

The Mulvane girls made a second half rush that powered Coach Gregg Wolgast's club to a 63-54 verdict over Circle.

Bishop Carroll won the tournament championship with a three-point play in the last three seconds, edging Clearwater, 43-40. Rose Hill kicked on the jets in the second half to soar past Wellington, 74-48, for third place, and Winfield rolled past Andover, 37-30, for seventh place.

The Mulvane victory marked the second straight tournament consolation first won by the Wildcats, who trailed, 30-25, after two quarters of play and still trailed by two heading into the final period. However, two buckets by Amy Arnold off the fastbreak and another lane jumper by guard Kim Prickett gave Mulvane the lead for good with 5:30 left in the game.

"The girls played pretty well in the second half," said Wolgast, whose team hiked its record to 5-8 heading into a game Tuesday night, Feb. 2, at Valley Center. "We made some adjustments in the second half which allowed us to get some easier baskets and we were able to pull away."

The Wildcats were able to pull away as the sophomore Arnold came alive for seven of her 13 points, because Prickett was able to beat the Circle pressure with her good passing and because the Cats were able to find senior Kathy Saxton inside next to the basket with more regularity.

"Circle was trying to trap a little higher up the court than normal so we just worked on moving our people up the floor, too, so the passes wouldn't have to be any longer," said Wolgast. "Also them trapping up the court helped us get the easier shots once we break the press."

Wolgast also got a great game out of Prickett. "There are a lot of things she does well that don't show up in the box scores," said Wolgast. "She was able to hit the shots at the top of the lane and that helped open Kathy up inside. When you're playing a zone like Circle was, you can't cover everywhere so something has got to be open. We just were able to find the open areas."

Prickett finished with 15 points and

when she wasn't popping one in, she was getting the ball out to the wings, who time and again found Saxton posted up next to the bucket for an easy turnaround jumper.

Wolgast also made a defensive adjustment by having the wing defenders go out to cover the baseline. That enabled the Wildcat inside defenders to front the Thunderbird inside scorers more effectively. "In the first half, we were having our baseline people slide out and that enabled Circle to get the ball inside low with our people behind them," said Wolgast. "We felt like our wings could slide down and then our inside people could stay in front of their pivot people. That made it more difficult for them to get the ball inside."

Saxton led all scorers with 24 points but she had loads of help from Prickett (15) and Arnold, who scored 13. Bridget Horton finished with six points and Nancy Farber scored four.

The Wildcats reached the consolation title game by rolling past Andover, 61-44, and Circle won its first game of the season by nipping Winfield, 49-48, in semifinal action Friday. Bishop Carroll burned Rose Hill, 70-57, and No. 1 seeded Clearwater topped Wellington, 72-56, in semifinals Thursday night, Jan. 28.

"We had another good game against Andover," admitted the first-year coach Wolgast. "We came out with a strong start and that enabled us to get our younger people some playing time. The girls again made the adjustments they needed to make to counter what Andover was doing."

The Cats took the lead for good in the second quarter, out-gunning the Trojans, 15-12, then out-scored Andover, 37-24, the rest of the way for a front-running victory.

Saxton again had a good game, scoring 19 points and Arnold scored 14. Horton's 10 points were a career high and Prickett and Kim Kysar scored six and five points, respectively.

MULVANE WILDCAT GIRLS CLASSIC CONSOLATION FIRST

Circle 15 15 13 11-54
Mulvane 17 8 16 22-63

Circle—Kelly Blake 7, Elizabeth Bardin 4, Minda Holliday 14, Kendra Kimball 9, Kristen Johnson 19. FG 24-58 (0), FT 5-13, F 14.

Mulvane—Kim Kysar 1, Kim Prickett 15, Bridget Horton 6, Amy Arnold 13, Nancy Farber 4, Kathy Saxton 24. FG 27-49 (0), FT 9-14, F 14.

CHAMPIONSHIP

Bishop Carroll 43, Clearwater 40

THIRD PLACE

Rose Hill 74, Wellington 48

SEVENTH PLACE

Winfield 37, Andover 30

SEMIFINALS

Mulvane 9 15 13 24-61
Andover 8 12 7 17-44

Mulvane—Bridget Horton 10, Kim Prickett 6, Kim Kysar 5, Kathy Saxton 19, Amy Arnold 14, Nancy Farber 2, Nicole Infinger 4. FG 24-48 (0), FT 13-28, F 17.

Andover—Melissa Ewing 8, Kitchel Stephenson 10, Barb Sater 4, Nikki Rome 7, Ann Mullins 12, Becky Ward 2, Kristi Wiggins 1, Karen Peckham 2. FG 19-49 (0), FT 6-15, F 17.

Circle 49, Winfield 48
Bishop Carroll 70, Rose Hill 57
Clearwater 72, Wellington 56



Mulvane sophomore Amy Arnold changes direction as she heads for two

MHS's Saxton Named To Elite Unit

The top four teams each placed two players on the all-tournament first team in the Wildcat Girls Classic held last week at Mulvane High School.

The only Mulvane player to be named to the all-tournament team was senior Kathy Saxton, who guided the host Wildcats to fifth place in the annual tournament.

Rose Hill's Rockets took third place and gained two spots on the elite team. Both Christy Armstrong, a senior, and junior Tracy Ames were named to the team.

Others on the first team were Rosie Wendell and junior Mara Roman of Bishop Carroll's Eagles, who won the tournament championship; Terisa Bohrer and Janay Vulgamore, two seniors from Clearwater, the runner-up; and Kristin Scheufler and Janet Stringer of Wellington, and Kristin Johnson of Circle, a sophomore.

Saxton was the tournament's No. 1 scorer, gunning in 62 points, and Scheufler was second with 61 points.

Bishop Carroll took home the sportsmanship trophy in the tourney. Clearwater finished second and Rose Hill was third.