

MHS Girls Rebound After Tourney

The basketball game Tuesday night, Feb. 2, between the Mulvane High School girls and the Kingman girls was kind of like a

Only One Wildcat On 'Star' Team

Mulvane High School senior Kristin Buchanan was the only Mulvane representative named to the Wildcat Girls Classic All-Tournament Team Saturday night, Jan. 30, at the conclusion of the 19th annual girls tourney at the Mulvane High School gym.

Buchanan proved to be the most consistent Cat for Coach Jayson Miller. She scored 22 points as Mulvane finished 4th.

Andover captured the Classic championship for the third time in the 90's, whipping Garden Plain in the title game. However, the Trojans, who also won in 1994 and 1996, placed only one player, senior Michelle Gorrell, on the all-tournament team.

Other members of the senior-dominated all-tournament team were Amy Cook, Jenni Leis and Stephanie Mountain, all of Garden Plain, Maggie Eck and Missi Eck of Andale, Natasha Ogden of Wellington, Nicole Patry of Campus and Heidi Stinson of Arkansas City.

The only underclassmen on the team were Patry, a sophomore, and juniors Stinson, Leis and Mountain.

Gorrell also won the "C. V. Hartung Award." The "Coaches Award" went to John Darrow of Garden Plain, and the Garden Plain team and fans were given the "Sportsmanship Award."

high wire act. One slip and you walk funny for the rest of your life.

The Wildcats and Eagles battled back-and-forth before the host Cats pulled out a 49-46 victory in a Chisholm Trail League game. The MHS girls improved their record to 4-2 in the conference and 7-6 overall. And they also made up for an unsatisfactory showing in their own tournament over the weekend, the 19th annual Wildcat Girls Classic.

In the junior varsity contest Tuesday, Kingman slipped past the Cats, 30-28. Carisa Ward had 10 points for Mulvane. Aubrey Benjamin had six and Kris Lazar and LaShelle Parker scored four each.

"It was tight all the way to the wire," said Miller, whose team played some of its best ball of the year. "It was stressful, though. It was a good win. Both teams had a run or two. We got up by nine points midway through the third quarter and they made a run to get it close. One big factor is that they didn't shoot very good at the line and that helped us out."

The Eagles were 10 of 22 at the stripe, including a 5-for-11 effort in the last quarter as the Cats were hanging on. Mulvane was ahead by only four going into the final minute. Kingman was fouled but made only one. With about 10 seconds left, Mulvane missed a free throw but Kingman's three-pointer fell away.

"It's good to win, we really needed this one," said Miller. "We talked about it before the game and stressed the importance of this game, especially being in front of the home crowd and especially after playing like we did the last two games of the tournament. This one was in the conference, so that made it doubly nice. We're halfway through the conference and sitting in a good spot."

Senior guard Lindsay Kendrick broke

out of a shooting slump with her career-best effort, 18 points. Kristin Buchanan and Jackie McColpin had eight points each and Arin Leonard and Shelley Richards scored four apiece.

"Lindsay came to play tonight," said Miller. "She has been slumping but this is how she can play every night. She had a good night for us. And Jackie also did a excellent job. She has so much to do for us because she has to put up with the press."

Miller said he felt the reason for the surge by his Wildcats was aggressiveness. "We shot a good percentage and we were much, much more aggressive on the offensive end than we have been lately," pointed out Miller. "The girls looked for that extra pass and it paid off. They did a really great job on offense."

The same couldn't be said for the Wildcats as they tried to showcase their skills in the Wildcat Girls Classic. After taming Arkansas City in the first round, the Wildcats were nipped first by Garden Plain, 47-30, in Thursday's semifinal, then by Andale, 51-25, in the game for third place Saturday evening, Jan. 30.

Andover steamed past Garden Plain, 62-54, to take the first place trophy.

"Obviously, our first game was our best one," said Miller. "We just didn't shoot very well against Andale or Garden Plain. Andale came out and proved they still have the edge on us. They got up and our heads went down. It just piled up on us."

The Indians put the clamps on the MHS offense, taking a 10-4 lead after one quarter and holding the Wildcats to only seven points in the first half. By that time, it was basically over, 25-7.

"They came out running a trapping defense against us and the girls kind of got frustrated," said Miller. "We knew they would full court us and we handled that well, but the half-court trap, we didn't handle it well. It disrupted our offense and our timing and that made us try things that weren't part of our game."

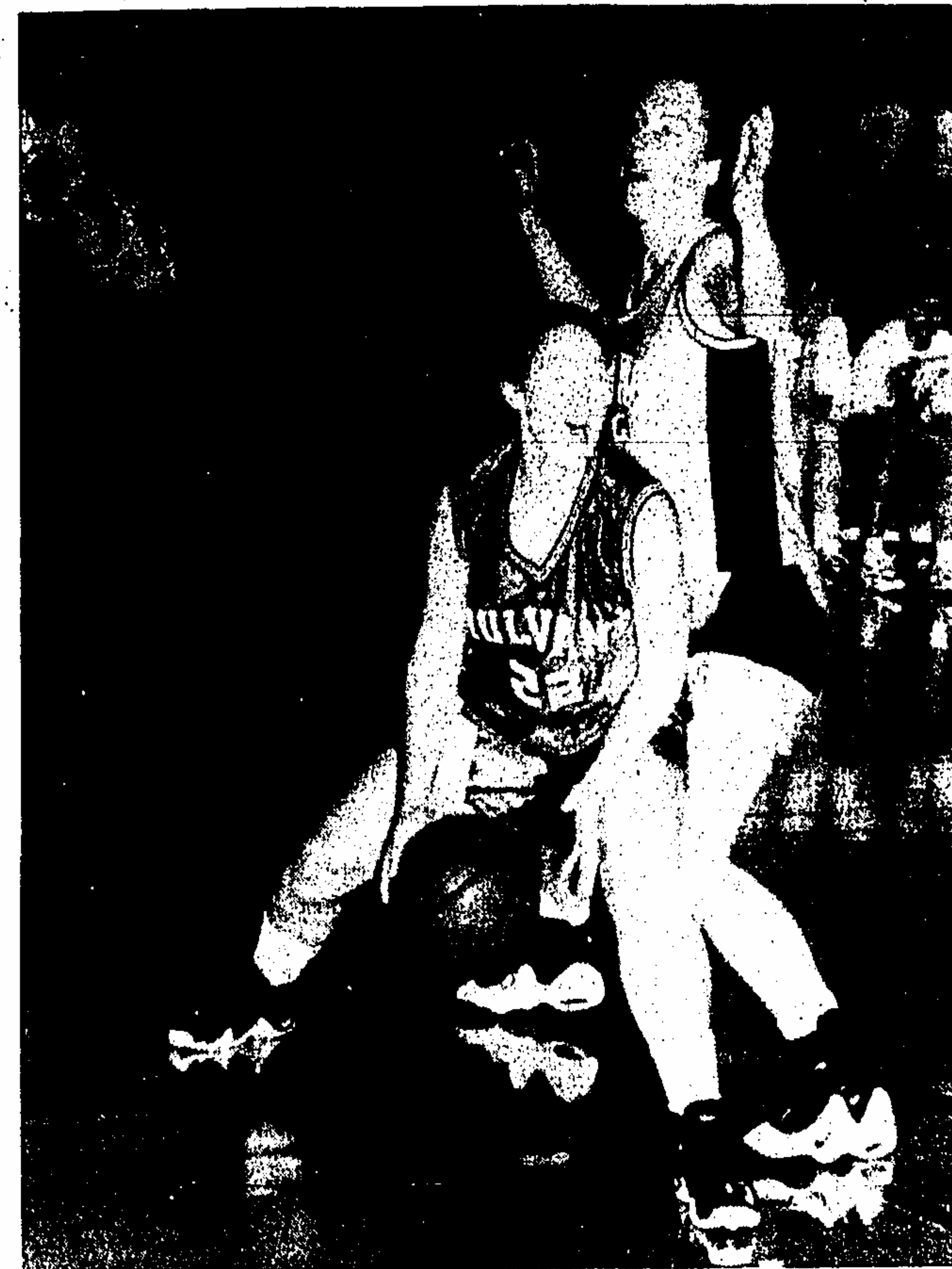
"On top of that, the girls weren't shooting well," added the Wildcat coach. "When you add those two things up, you get a lot of frustration and a lot of bad choices. You definitely can't win games with seven points in the first half."

The second half was better but not much and the Indians took home the third place trophy. Although eight Cats scored points, nobody took the lead. Kendrick and Richards had four points each and Arin Leonard and McColpin scored three apiece.

In the Garden Plain game, the Wildcats came out with a solid first quarter. They were actually ahead all of the first quarter but the Owls scored the first eight points of the second quarter to grab the lead. By intermission, they were up, 26-18, and on their way to the title game.

The Wildcats went stale in the second half, scoring only 12 points. Richards had the high number for Mulvane, scoring eight points. Kristin Buchanan scored seven, Kendrick had five and both Kassie Hargrove and Shiriah Craft had four points.

"Garden Plain came out and played our game in the first quarter," said Miller. "We wanted to slow the pace. They have an explosive team and finally hit a few shots in the second quarter that got the momentum going. The rest of the game, we were just trying to battle back but that's hard to do against a team that is hitting its shots."



Wildcat Lindsay Kendrick (22) drives a base line and gets ready to shoot

19th Annual Wildcat Girls Classic Results

THIRD PLACE

Mulvane 4 3 8 10 25
 Andale 10 15 8 18 51
 Mulvane - Lindsay Kendrick 4, Jackie McColpin 3,
 Shiriah Craft 1, Kristin Buchanan 2, Shelley Richards 4,
 Arin Leonard 3, Natalie Turner 2, Jackie Burkhart 2 FG
 10 (0), FT 5-10, F 24
 Andale - Betsy Eck 7, Missy Eck 19, Katie Garlin 6,
 Mandy Hermes 2, Maggie Eck 11, Sarah Horsch 1,
 Audrey Martin 5 FG 18 (0), FT 15-30, F 12

CHAMPIONSHIP

Andover 62, Garden Plain 54

FIFTH PLACE

Campus 44, Arkansas City 41

SEVENTH PLACE

Clearwater 49, Wellington 38

SECOND ROUND

Mulvane 9 9 3 9 30
 Garden Plain 8 18 6 15 47
 Mulvane - Shiriah Craft 4, Shelley Richards 8,
 Lindsay Kendrick 5, Kristin Buchanan 7, Jackie
 McColpin 2, Kassie Hargrove 4 FG 11 (1), FT 7-11
 Garden Plain - Amy Cook 7, Cheryl Pauls 5, Renee
 Lilly 4, Jenni Leis 16, Stephanie Mountain 4, Kayla
 Pauls 4, Jessica Cox 3, Janne Werner 4 FG 17 (0), FT
 13-28

Andover 57, Andale 49
 Campus 45, Wellington 32
 Arkansas City 54, Clearwater 39

Regular Season

Varsity Girls

Kingman 12 13 12 9 46
 Mulvane 14 13 14 8 49
 Kingman -
 Mulvane - Lindsay Kendrick 18, Jackie McColpin 8,
 Kristin Buchanan 8, Arin Leonard 4, Shelley Richards 4,
 Kristal LaPlant 2, Natalie Turner 2, Shiriah Craft 1 FG
 22 (2), FT 3-6, F 21
 Kingman - Sammi Knapic 8, Sarah Knapic 20, Holly
 Messenger 7, Cindy Hageman 3, Carrie Miller 8 FG 16
 (4), FT 10-22, F 15

Junior Varsity Girls

Kingman 2 5 14 9 30
 Mulvane 8 4 4 12 28
 Kingman - Jennifer Kaufman 3, Cindy Vaughn 4,
 Lindsey Begkamp 8, Andi Hernandez 2, Amy Hook 6,
 Andrea Peitz 1, Amber Stucky 4, Nacona Dodge 2 FG
 13 (0), FT 4-14, F 12
 Mulvane - Aubrey Benjamin 6, Carisa Ward 10,
 LaShelle Parker 4, Kris Lazar 4, Jackie Burkhart 2, Katie
 Bagby 2 FG 12 (0), FT 4-6, F 21