

# Wildcats Third In Classic, Bounced At Valley Center

Not beating up on Bishop Carroll wasn't the end of the world, but clipping Clearwater was out of this world. That pretty much sums up the Mulvane Wildcat Lady Classic Tournament, which ended Saturday, Feb. 1, at Mulvane High School.

Bishop Carroll wrapped up the tournament championship again, dumping Rose Hill, 42-39, and Coach Bill Stinson's Wildcats claimed third by trouncing Clearwater, 73-61.

Fifth place went to Wellington, which hammered Augusta, 63-57.

All week long, Stinson had been pointing to the Bishop Carroll-Mulvane semifinal match-up Thursday, Jan. 30, as one of the key games of the season. And even though the Golden Eagles trimmed Mulvane, 37-27, Stinson came away feeling like it was a moral victory. It was.

"We wanted to beat Bishop Carroll because it is a City League school," emphasized Stinson. "We were right up there but just didn't shoot the ball well. Kathy Saxton has been our leading scorer and best field goal shooter all season long. She just had one of those off-games. She got her shots but they didn't fall. That was it. We didn't get that extra scoring punch we needed even though we played a very good ball game."

The Wildcats played even better in the battle for third. The Cats racked up 73 points, a school record, and generally had control of the contest against the taller Indian girls. Lori Cox scored 20 points to pace Mulvane but she had an abundance of help as guard Rhonda Davis fired in 17 points, sophomore Saxton scored 14 and Tiane Dossey had 10.

The Cats took charge after a 21-20 first quarter by out-scoring Clearwater, 20-14, in the second quarter, then put the game away in the final quarter as Davis hit seven of 10 free throws and the team went 11-of-17 at the strike. "Hitting the free throws was important, it was important all night," stressed Stinson, whose club made 19 of 29 overall after hitting only five of 13 against Carroll. "We lost our first two games this year by two points each. I think if we could go back and shoot our free throws like that we would have won them both."

Mulvane led by as many as 10 points in the third quarter before Clearwater closed the gap to only one point. 57-56, in the two minutes of the final quarter. Saxton and Cox each hit inside for some breathing room and Davis netted two from the stripe as Clearwater went more than three minutes without a score.

A free throw by Dossey, two more by Saxton and four by Davis, including two off a technical foul on the Clearwater coach, put the game in Mulvane's corner, along with the third place trophy.

"We got some great play the entire tournament," said Stinson. "Sheila (Mahlandt) and Tammy (Haas) came off the bench and played great. Lori had a great tournament and so did Rhonda. Both Lori and Rhonda were on the all-tournament team."

Stinson said he was disappointed a third Cat didn't make the tournament top 10, Dossey. "She really sets the pace for us," said Stinson. "She doesn't get into position to get a lot of points but she sets our offense and gets

the ball down the court. She really keys the play for us."

In the semifinal against BC, Mulvane was in the thick of things with just more than three minutes left when the wheels came off. Carroll out-scored Mulvane, 13-4, in the last quarter to win it.

"We got three or four opportunities to take the lead after we were three points down (30-27) but we missed underneath and we missed three one-and-ones at the free throw line," said Stinson. "We had the opportunities but the ball didn't fall."

Frontliner Cox and Dossey scored eight points each for the Cats. Haas had six and Davis five. Saxton was blanked.

"I'm real happy with the results of the tournament, though," concluded Stinson. "We haven't ever finished third or higher so it represented a milestone for us. And I can't explain why we score 27 points one night and 73 two nights later."

"One thing I saw more than anything was the girls were working our offense. They were moving the ball like they are supposed to, getting the ball inside to Lori and Kathy and once they start hitting, that opens up Tiane and Rhonda and the rest."

The Cat gals returned to CTL play Tuesday night, Feb. 7, and were toppled at Valley Center, 47-41. The loss dropped the MHS record to 8-5 overall and 3-2 in the conference. In Mulvane's first junior varsity game since December, VC powered past the rusty Cats, 27-8.

"We got into a little foul trouble with Lori in the second quarter and it hurt us the rest of the way," said Stinson. "We were up by three when she picked up her third, then they drove to a four-point lead at halftime. It's kind of frustrating because I think we are a better ball club. I don't think Valley is looking forward to playing us here."

The sophomore Saxton continued with the hot hand, scoring a game-high 15 points. Cox, a senior, finished with 10 points and Davis scored eight. Mulvane fell behind by as many as 10 points in the fourth quarter but rallied using pressure defense. "We played fairly good basketball but just a couple of little things kept us from winning it," added Stinson.

Mulvane's junior varsity couldn't click

## LADY WILDCAT BASKETBALL CLASSIC THIRD PLACE

Mulvane	21 20 15 17-73
Clearwater	20 14 18 9-61
Mulvane—Lori Cox 20, Tiane Dossey 10, Sheila Mahlandt 5, Tammy Haas 7, Kathy Saxton 14, Rhonda Davis 17. FG 27-46, FT 19-29, F 15.	
Clearwater—Julie Duncan 2, Janay Vulgamore 16, Staci Newlin 4, Dana Blumenhine 17, Robyn Wright 20, Terisa Bohrer 2. FG 26-53, FT 9-14, F 19.	

## CHAMPIONSHIP

Bishop Carroll 42, Rose Hill 39

## CONSOLATION FIRST

Augusta 57, Wellington 63

## SEMIFINALS

Bishop Carroll	8 12 4 13-37
Mulvane	8 7 8 4-27
Bishop Carroll—Roxann Hermann 20, Paula McGreevy 4, Jackie Schulte 4, Elaine Dugan 2, Debra Loehr 2, Peggy Maxwell 2. FG 18-43, FT 1-2, F 13.	
Mulvane—Lori Cox 8, Tiane Dossey 8, Rhonda Davis 5, Tammy Haas 6, Kathy Saxton 0. FG 11-35, FT 5-13, F 7.	

Rose Hill 49, Clearwater 45

Wellington 55, Andover 39

## Girls Varsity

Mulvane	6 10 8 17-41
Valley Center	9 11 12 15-47
Mulvane—Lori Cox 10, Tiane Dossey 6, Rhonda Davis 8, Kathy Saxton 15, Sheila Mahlandt 2. FG 17, FT 7-9, F 12.	
Valley Center—Monica Coultis 2, Michelle Jost 11, Kim Barnes 3, Kristi Nordstedt 14, Stacy Kennedy 4, Cathy Smith 6, Patty Sanders 7. FG 21, FT 5-9, F 15.	

## Girls Junior Varsity

Mulvane	2 0 4 2-8
Valley Center	6 8 7 8-27
Mulvane—Kim Prickett 2, Rhonda Reekie 2, Kim Millerskow 4, Tina Moeller 0, Tammy Haas 0. FG 4, FT 0-0, F 4.	
Valley Center—Stacy Davis 2, Stacy Kahlich 6, Denise Smith 2, Melinda Jost 4, Stacey Brisco 6, Kristen Ruth 2, Rhonda Rowley 2, Tammy Robbins 3. FG 12, FT 3-4, F 4.	

offensively and it didn't take Valley long to take advantage of things, zooming out to a 14-2 halftime advantage. Kim Millerskow scored four points for Mulvane, and the only other scorers were Kim Prickett and Rhonda Reekie with two points each.

**FOOTNOTES:** Cox was not one of two players who didn't start a week ago against Goddard for being late for the team bus. Last week's story reported she was...All-Tournament team included Cox and Davis of Mulvane, Roxann Hermann and Paula McGreevy of Bishop Carroll, Stacy All of Augusta, Clearwater's Robyn Wright and Janay Vulgamore, Angela Barber and Shannon Armstrong of Rose Hill and Markie Russell of Wellington...Mulvane was awarded the "Sportsmanship Trophy" for displaying the finest sportsmanship both on and off the court.