

Girls Cash In On 'Four Quarters'

Four quarters. That's all Mulvane High School girls coach Kelly Dennis wants.

She got that Saturday, Feb. 1, during the third place game of the Mulvane Wildcat Girls Classic and the Cats posted their best finish in their own tournament in the last five years.

Mulvane held off Wellington, 59-56, in a struggle for third place. Garden Plain dumped Andale easily, 66-48, to nail down its second tournament championship in the last three years.

Fifth place went to Campus, a 64-50 winner over Andover, and Arkansas City stopped Clearwater, 60-55, for seventh place.

"We beat a pretty good Wellington team," said Dennis, "and the reason is that

the girls played a complete game. They played four quarters of basketball. We had a little spell in the third quarter where they came out and got a couple pretty quick baskets to tie it up at 28-28, but we got it back together and held them off. I think this was the first time all year where we've played for four quarters. You can't have a bad quarter in there and expect to win against good teams. Wellington is the second most athletic team we have faced and they have a lot of people coming off the bench and scoring, but I thought the whole game, we were more aggressive and took it to them. The girls did a nice job."

Indeed, Mulvane rolled to a six-point lead early and maintained the lead most of

the way. "Dannelle (Hughes) got her fourth foul late in the third quarter and we sat her out for a while but had to put her back in with about five minutes left when Wellington tied the game up," said Dennis. "We got the lead back out to three or four points and then made some free throws down the stretch."

The Crusaders had the ball and could have tied the game with about 40 seconds left but turned it over and Mulvane made some free throws to ice it.

"If we could have done a little better at the line and we could have won by 10," said Dennis. "We missed eight of them in the fourth quarter but we did make six when they counted."

The low post game with Hughes and Melissa Buchanan was clicking for Mulvane's Cats. Hughes finished with 19 points and Buchanan finished with 12. Sophomore Lindsay Kendrick scored seven points and senior Crissy Carpenter had five points.

"Our low post people did a pretty good job," noted the coach. "They tried to cover one and she'd pass it to the other one. They both did a great job."

Mulvane also had free throw problems against Andale in the semifinal game, which they lost by a 51-46 count. The Wildcats, who are now 8-5, hit only 10 of 21 at the stripe. "Andale did even worse (11 of 27) but that kept us from making any progress on them late in the game," said Dennis. "We had such a poor start. We played poorly in the first quarter, then missed four free throws in the second quarter and they took advantage of those factors to get a big lead that we never were able to overcome."

The Cats trailed badly at intermission, 31-17, but did out-score the Indians in the second half. "We were able to get Dannelle involved in the offense, which is something we didn't do early," said Dennis. "We ran the offense and made it a close game. We made two turnovers in the last minute of play and that really hurt."

Hughes finished with a game-high 22 but 16 of those points came in the second half. Three other players—Buchanan, Shelley Richards and Carpenter—had five-point games and Jennifer McCoskey scored four points.

"The Andale game was an example of not playing four quarters," said Dennis. "We stood around on defense the whole first half. Andale is a good scoring team but we didn't stop their dribble and let them go on past. In the second half, though, we dominated play, which you can see by the score. We dictated what was happening and we picked up the intensity."

The Mulvane girls went to Derby Tuesday night, Feb. 4, for a non-league game at Derby and the Panthers had little trouble dumping Mulvane, 77-71.

"Our defense was hideous," said Coach Dennis. "We came out flat. We played flat. We played with no emotion whatsoever. We would have been better off staying at home. We just played crappy defense. There's no nice way to say it, our defense just sucked."

It was at its worst in the third quarter when the Panthers were able to score 26 points to take an 18-point lead into the final stanza.

"We just decided to put some new kids in in the fourth quarter and they did pretty good," said Dennis. "Kassie (Hargrove) hit a couple of threes, Shelley (Richards) made five out of six from the stripe and Lindsay (Kendrick) hit eight for eight and Kristen (Buchanan) was three for four. That was about the only positive thing to come from the game. We hit our free throws." The Wildcats made 20 of 24 at the line.

Kendrick was top scorer for Mulvane with 15 points and Hughes finished with 14. Kristen Buchanan scored 9 points and Carpenter had 8.

17th Annual Wildcat Girls Classic

THIRD PLACE
Wellington 10 14 17 15-56
Mulvane 16 12 15 16-59
Wellington—Tara Strothman 12, Brandi Flisram 26, Tracy Bertrand 7, Megan Crisler 8, Natasha Ogden 3. FG 23 (1), FT 9-17, F 21.

Mulvane—Michelle Fowler 2, Lindsey Kendrick 7, Victoria Padilla 2, Crissy Carpenter 5, Dannelle Hughes 19, Melissa Buchanan 12, Kristen Buchanan 2. FG 26 (0), FT 7-16, F 19.

FIRST PLACE
Garden Plain 66, Andale 48

FIFTH PLACE
Campus 64, Andover 50

SEVENTH PLACE
Arkansas City 60, Clearwater 55

SEMIFINALS
Andale 16 15 8 12-51
Mulvane 7 10 10 19-46

Andale—Stacy Eck 4, Maggie Eck 15, Betsy Eck 2, Missi Eck 12, Julie Eck 3, Emmy Horvach 1, Christine Gorges 14. FG 20 (0), FT 11-27, F 21.

Mulvane—Melissa Buchanan 5, Dannelle Hughes 22, Crissy Carpenter 5, Kristen Buchanan 2, Jennifer McCoskey 4, Shelley Richards 5, Michelle Fowler 3. FG 18 (0), FT 10-21, F 22.

Garden Plain 85, Wellington 54
Campus 36, Arkansas City 32
Andover 67, Clearwater 64

The MHS junior varsity also got whacked, 62-29, by the Panthers. Rachel Rose led the MHS scoring with nine points, Heather Williams scored six and Kassie Hargrove five.



Mulvane's Dannelle Hughes (32) turns up the heat in the corner against Wellington

Mulvane Sports

Two Cats Picked For Classic Team

Two Mulvane High School players were selected to the all-tournament team Saturday, Feb. 1, at the conclusion of the 17th annual Wildcat Girls Classic at the Mulvane High School gym.

Senior center Dannelle Hughes and sophomore guard Lindsay Kendrick were selected to represent the Wildcat hosts on the all-tournament team. The two helped guide Mulvane to its best finish since 1991 when the Wildcats won their first and only Wildcat Girls Classic championship.

Hughes was one of the tourney's top scorers, scoring 58 points including 19 in the third place game. Kendrick finished with 19 points but was the floor leader for

Rausch is the undisputed "queen" of the tournament, making the all-tournament team for the fourth consecutive year. She's the only player to make the list four times.

She led the tournament in scoring and helped pace Garden Plain's Owls to their fourth championship.

Mulvane's drive to third place. Hughes was selected for the second year in a row.

Others selected include Jodi Rausch and Brekk Fisher, both of Garden Plain; Christine Gorges and Maggie Eck of Andale, Brandi Flisram of Wellington, Cassie Blair of Andover, Tara Pauly of Clearwater and Kristy Tabor and Stephanie Willig of Campus.

Varsity Girls

Mulvane	12	8	20	31-71
Derby	16	16	26	19-77

Mulvane—Crissy Carpenter 8, Lindsay Kendrick 15, Shelley Richards 5, Melissa Buchanan 4, Dannelle Hughes 14, Kristen Buchanan 9, Victoria Padilla 6, Kassie Hargrove 6, Jennifer McCoskey 4. FG 21 (3), FT 20-25, F 27.

Derby—Jamie Ruff 23, Lisa Bruno 4, Christy Wehman 14, Jamie Green 8, Stacy Buchanan 15, Rachel Peck 1, Kelly Goodwin 2, Brandi Schieber 1, Williams 2, Pearl Vasquez 1, Melanie Long 1. FG 44 (1), FT 22-37, F 23.

Junior Varsity Girls

Mulvane	14	2	5	8-29
Derby	15	24	14	7-62

Mulvane—Rachel Rose 9, Andrea Hufford 3, Kassie Hargrove 5, Shirah Craft 4, Kristal LaPlant 2, Heather Williams 6. FG 11 (2), FT 3-6, F 19.

Derby—Rachel Peck 3, Julie Kuhlman 4, Lisa Bruno 3, Kerri Bourous 2, Dawn Green 7, Brandi Schieber 4, Kelsie Kerr 1, Tricia O'Borny 1, Sara Hunt 10, Kelly Goodwin 5, Dana Ratherford 2, Pearl Vasquez 9. FG 22 (0), FT 7-17, F 14.