

Record Pt. Stream Powers 9th In Row

They just kept coming and coming. The steady stream of points by Mulvane standout Kendra Banzet ended up being a school record Tuesday night, Feb. 12, as the Wildcat girls thundered past Maize, 69-51, in a Chisholm Trail League game in Mulvane.

Banzet pumped in 37 points, eclipsing her own record of 35 set last year. "They tried to front her and Lisa Heersche did a great job dumping the ball over the top to Kendra," said MHS Coach Gregg Wolgast. "I didn't realize she had that many. It was just a steady stream."

Banzet hit 16 of 22 shots from the field. Heersche finished with 13 points, Ticia Nicholson had nine and Tricia Turner had four for Mulvane.

The girls improved their record to 13-3 overall and 7-2 in the league.

"Defensively, we did a good job on them," said Wolgast. "We started playing a man and had pretty good intensity, then we started switching up and it seems to bother them. That led to a few steals in the second quarter to get us going."

The girls made it eight in a row Friday night, Feb. 7, with a payback game. The Cats held off a furious rally by Augusta to hand the Orioles their first Chisholm Trail League loss of the season, a 60-56 triumph.

The win also got Mulvane back into the CTL chase. Augusta leads Division I with only one loss. The Wildcats have two, including an earlier 72-62 loss at Augusta.

"It was a big win for us," admitted Wolgast, who is trying to rope the team's second straight league championship. "Hopefully, somebody else can get them along the line. Also, we both have three losses now and we might be able to get the No. 1 seed in the sub-state. If we would have lost, we couldn't have because that would have let them with two losses and us with four."

The Wildcats, moving well, took control of the game in the 1st quarter and actually nursed an 11-point lead in the 3rd quarter before the Orioles started a comeback that got them to within one point in the 4th period.

However, a shot from the side by Heersche, a turnaround jumper on the baseline by Banzet, a bucket underneath by Kerri Taylor off a great pass from Tricia Turner and several free throws by Ticia Nicholson and Turner down the stretch stemmed the tide.

"The girls held on and that was good," said Wolgast. "They pulled themselves back together after Augusta made their run. Lisa's basket was big because it seemed to give us our confidence back when we needed it the most and Taylor's bucket seemed to put us back in charge."

Wolgast also felt the Wildcats showed a little more coming off the bench with Dawn Hicks, Jenny Ray, Sheila Mills and Kristen Kuniz playing well in short stints off the bench.

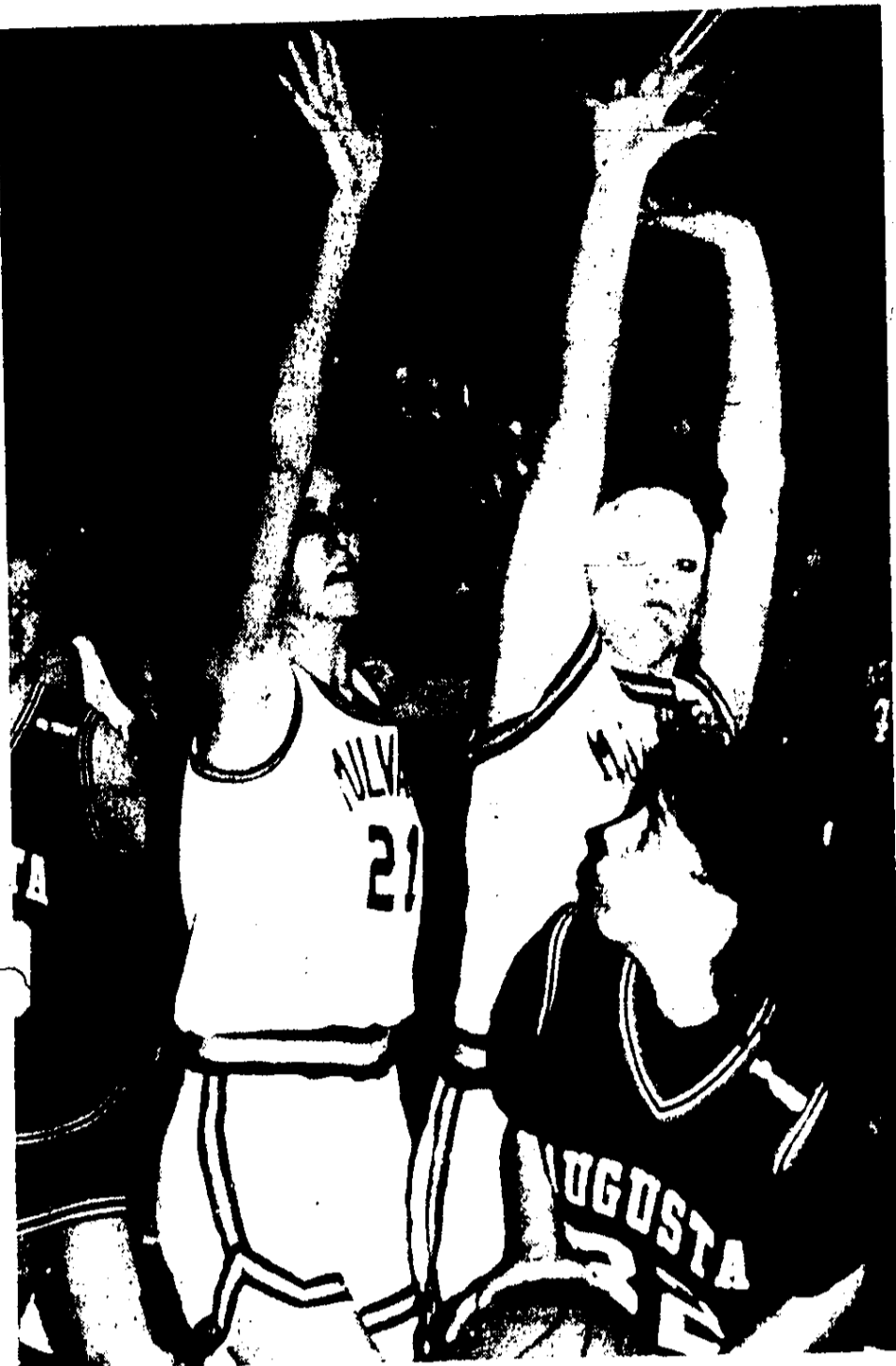
Augusta tried to shut Banzet down by playing behind her, then double-team with guards when the ball went in but that strategy didn't work and Banzet and Nicholson carried the load early. In the second half, Heersche came alive.

"We got a little careless on our press offense and they were able to get some steals," said Wolgast about the Augusta run to get back in the game. "We started doing a better job getting the ball down the floor and making something out of it."

Banzet finished with a team-high 18 points but balance was the key for the Cats. Heersche finished with 13 points, Nicholson scored 10, and guards Turner and Taylor scored seven and eight, respectively.

The Wildcat jayvees blistered Augusta in the preliminary game, 47-22, as the sophomore Mills poured in 24 points, Deva Lewis scored nine and Robin Smith and Hicks had six apiece.

The Cat girls will be playing four games in the next seven days. A game at home tonight (Feb. 14) against Goddard is a make-up contest from a Jan. 11th ice-out. Friday, Feb. 15, will be a giant game at Buhler in another revenge game for MHS, before the girls return home for their last two contests of the regular season. Wellington will be here Tuesday, Feb. 19, and Andale will be in town Thursday, Feb. 21, in a battle between two CTL heavyweights.



Wildcat seniors Lisa Heersche (41) and Kendra Banzet (21) turn up the heat

Varsity Girls

Maize 11 9 12 19-51

Mulvane 15 19 20 15-69

Maize—Meredith Whitmer 10, Jody Beggs 9, Jenny Shuster 8, Hope Dent 8, Cheri Dunkle 7, Susan Standiford 2, Melissa Martinez 2. FG 23-54 (0), FT 5-14, F 11.

Mulvane—Kendra Banzet 37, Lisa Heersche 13, Ticia Nicholson 9, Tricia Turner 4, Kerri Taylor 2, Jenny Ray 2, Robin Smith 2. FG 30-54 (0), FT 9-14, F 14.

Junior Varsity Girls

No junior varsity game played

Varsity Girls

Augusta 8 21 10 17-56

Mulvane 13 20 13 14-60

Augusta—Samantha Restivo 4, Bonni Jackson 6, Megan Little 26, Shannon Shryock 10, Heather McCalla 2, Paula Rodriguez 6. FG 20 (6), FT 10-21, F 32.

Mulvane—Tricia Turner 7, Kerri Taylor 8, Lisa Heersche 13, Kendra Banzet 18, Ticia Nicholson 10, Dawn Hicks 3, Sheila Mills 1. FG 20 (0), FT 20-38, F 26.

Junior Varsity Girls

Augusta 12 10-22

Mulvane 20 27-47

Augusta—Amber Markley 10, Becky Burleson 4, Annie Shelton 3, Elizabeth Canon 3, Vanessa Jones 2. FG 10-21, FT 2-7, F 5.

Mulvane—Sheila Mills 24, Deva Lewis 9, Robin Smith 6, Dawn Hicks 6, Anna Turner 2. FG 22-37, FT 3-5, F 9.