

2nd VC Haymaker Drops MHS Girls

The Mulvane High School girls can take a punch—but they can't take two.

Valley Center broke out to a double-digit lead in the first half then landed a haymaker in the 3rd quarter after the Wildcats had battled back to tie things Monday night, Feb. 11, in a make-up game at Valley Center. The 2nd punch decked the Cats and the Hornets stopped Mulvane, 62-45.

The game was made up Monday after being postponed from Feb. 1 because of bad weather.

"We took the first punch and came back but the second one came right as the 3rd quarter was winding down and that gave them too much momentum going into the last quarter," stressed Coach Jayson Miller. "They had an 11-point lead until we made a little run at them late in the 3rd quarter and tied the game at 30-30, but they turned it up a notch and started beating us down the floor for some easy baskets late in the quarter to get it back out to nine by the end of the quarter. They kept their run going early in the 4th quarter to put us away.

"We punched back and crawled back into the game by playing our style after being down by as many as 11 points, but they have a great team and they retaliated. They're second rush is what killed us. Until then, we were feeling pretty good about the way it was going. They have a fine ball club, one of the best in the area, and they got it back together and pulled away. At that point, the girls knew they would have to something pretty special to win the ball game."

But there was nothing "special." The Hornets, who raised their record to 8-1 in the league and 14-2 overall, completely shut down Mulvane's vaunted inside game. Cat senior center LaShelle Parker scored only three points and her sidekick inside, Kris Lazar, scored one. "We have been successful the last three years by showing a powerful inside game, but it wasn't there Monday night," said Miller. "The second half of the season, our post play has been really inconsistent. We just had very bad ball movement the whole game. If you want to get the ball inside, you have to have post people who can move to get open or good ball movement. Our inside people aren't going to move around and get open, we have to find them with good ball movement and we didn't have it."

The loss left Miller and the Cats still seeking that breakthrough victory against one of the top teams in the CTL.

Senior Sami Booth gunned in 19 points to highlight the MHS offense. Sophomore Shayna Duncan returned to the line-up and scored 10 points. Kim Mangus and Kari Leonard scored four points each.

The Lady Wildcats nearly were at the wrong end of a reversal Friday night, Feb. 8, during the Winter Homecoming festivities. The Cat girls had blistered Andover by 29 points back in December—at Andover—but Friday night, Coach Miller nearly watched Andover turn the tables before weathering the storm for a 37-31 victory at home.

"We just went stone-cold from the field at the wrong time," said Coach Miller. "We were up by 11 at the end of the 3rd quarter and I thought we were going to finish the game off, but we went cold. We made only one field goal in the last quarter and they made it a lot closer than it should have been at the end."

Miller said Mulvane went cold and Andover also did a better job keeping the Cats off the offensive boards. "We got one shot and that was it in the last quarter," said Miller. "That gave them the opportunity to get back in the game."

Mulvane owned the lead most of the way and charged ahead by 11 in the 3rd quarter by playing good ball. "We hit some shots, got a few extra rebounds and they had some turnovers which helped us get a little run together."

Varsity Girls

Mulvane	6	15	11	13—45
Valley Center	17	10	14	21—62
Mulvane—Shayna Duncan 10, LaShelle Parker 3, Sara McKnight 2, Kris Lazar 1, Sami Booth 19, Kim Mangus 4, Kari Leonard 4, Kayla Oblinger 2. FG 18 (1), FT 8-16, F 24.				

Valley Center—Kasey Porter 8, Megan Truman 2, Melissa Truman 1, Karah Covey 7, Janelle Klein 20, Tessa Morrow 9, Joanne Fluker 3, Kristen Welk 7, Courtney Smith 5. FG 21 (5), FT 15-23, F 18.

Andover	5	9	6	11—31
Mulvane	8	11	12	6—37

Andover—Jessica Hamilton 7, Britney Pennington 2, Jessica Wadsworth 12, Tristan Smades 7, Ashley Rigby 1, Kim Wadsworth 2. FG 10 (1), FT 10-23, F 18.

Mulvane—Sami Booth 14, Melissa Doerfer 5, Kayla Oblinger 2, Kari Leonard 2, Kris Lazar 3, LaShelle Parker 11. FG 15 (0), FT 7-16, F 19.

Junior Varsity Girls

Andover	6	13	4	13 (8)—44
Mulvane	9	5	12	10 (4)—40

Andover—Stephanie Boren 4, Shelley Pennington 2, Sarah Smith 5, Kim Wadsworth 9, Mica Land 1, Michelle Krumsey 15, Bra Burns 8. FG 18 (0), FT 8-25, F 25.

Mulvane—Kayla Linnebur 2, Kayla Oblinger 3, Nicole Hackley 2, Sara McKnight 2, Stephanie Tatum 9, Lacie Leatherman 12, Whitney Becker 2, Alysha Phillips 4, Melissa Doerfer 4. FG 14 (0), FT 12-25, F 26.

Booth led the MHS scoring with 14 points. Parker finished with 11 and guard Melissa Doerfer returned to the line-up after an injury two weeks ago and scored five points.

"We really needed a win pretty badly," admitted Miller. "Confidence-wise, we needed that one, especially with what we have left."

Miller said the Cats started the game with a head of steam. "We came out with a lot of energy, and that was a plus for us," said Miller. "Everybody was charged up because it was homecoming, but I was a little disappointed with our 4th quarter because I thought we got sloppy with our ball-handling and made some poor decisions that gave them an opportunity to get back in it. I thought we just lost our focus."

The win jumped the Cat record to 10-6 heading into the final 10 days of the regular season. The girls end the regular season with games Tuesday and Thursday against Buhler and Maize at home before lining up in the Class 5A Kapaun Mt. Carmel Sub-State beginning Thursday, Feb. 28.

The junior varsity girls lost a 44-40 overtime contest to Andover. High scorer for Coach Mike Heater's Cats was Lacie Leatherman, who scored 12 points. Stephanie Tatum had nine and both Alysha Phillips and Doerfer scored four points.

Chisholm Trail League Girls Basketball Standings

DIVISION I

Team	LEAGUE		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Buhler	10	0	14	2
Valley Center	8	1	15	2
Goddard	5	4	9	8
Mulvane	4	6	10	8
Maize	4	4	8	9
Andover	1	7	2	14
Augusta	0	10	0	18

DIVISION II

Andale	7	1	15	2
Circle	7	2	14	3
Clearwater	6	3	11	6
Kingman	4	4	8	9
Wellington	3	6	5	12
Andover Central	2	7	3	15
Rose Hill	1	8	5	12

Games Friday, Feb. 15

Maize at Augusta
Goddard at Andover
Buhler at Valley Center
Kingman at Rose Hill
Clearwater at Andale
Wellington at Circle

Games Saturday, Feb. 16

Andover at Andover Central
Rose Hill at Pratt

Games Tuesday, Feb. 19

Buhler at Mulvane
Goddard at Maize
Andover at Valley Center
Andale at Kingman
Clearwater at Circle
Rose Hill at Wellington

Games Thursday, Feb. 21

Maize at Mulvane
Valley Center at Goddard
Augusta at Andover
Wellington at Andale
Buhler at Andover Central
Kingman at Clearwater