

# Girls Make Sure Against Wellington

Improved free throwing by the Mulvane High girls paid more dividends Tuesday night, Feb. 15, when the Wildcats paid a visit to Wellington. The Cats cranked out 18 free throws in 26 attempts to pave the way for a 47-39 CTL victory.

The win improved Coach Ron McMahon's girls to 7-3 in the league.

"We hit 10 free throws in the last quarter and they didn't have any," said McMahon. "That was one of the big keys. We made our free throws. Another was the fact that we out-rebounded them. We pressed, then fell back in a zone to control the boards and Janelle Wenke, Cody Watson and Kristi McDowell did just that. We also got some good rebounding out of Heather Taylor on the weak side."

Mulvane used those free shots to pull away after nursing only a two-point lead into the last quarter. McDowell had another big offensive game with 13 points but Wenke posted a career-high 17 points to pace the MHS offense. Courtney Renfro scored seven points and both Shannon Reed and Watson had four points.

In the junior varsity contest, Heidi Parker scored 10 points and Valerie Larson and freshman Crissy Carpenter had six points but Wellington held off the Cats, 49-38.

This time, it was the Wildcat girls hitting the free throws down the stretch. This time, it was the Cat girls forcing turnovers in the final quarter. And this time, it was Mulvane erasing a big Valley Center lead Friday night, Feb. 11, to swoosh past the Hornets, 46-42, in a Chisholm Trail League

#### Varsity Girls

Mulvane	11	11	6	19-47
Wellington	5	11	10	13-39

Mulvane—Kristi McDowell 13, Janelle Wenke 17, Cody Watson 4, Courtney Renfro 7, Heather Taylor 2, Shannon Reed 4. FG 13 (0), FT 17-23, F 15.

Wellington—Misty Stallbaumer 5, Kecheia Griffin 12, Kristy Tencleve 3, Marsee Russell 4, Jan Nance 7, Vanessa Terry 2, Amy Keltch 6. FG 11 (5), FT 4-13, F 21.

#### Junior Varsity Girls

Mulvane	6	14	9	8-38
Wellington	8	15	12	14-49

Mulvane—Shannon Reed 2, Marcy Arnold 4, Heidi Parker 10, Valerie Larson 6, Carrie Burkhardt 4, Crissy Carpenter 6, Danielle Hughes 4, Courtney Renfro 1. FG 17 (0), FT 3-5, F 18.

Wellington—Meeker 1, Misak 2, Marsee Russell 22, Heersche 7, Durant 1, Reyes 4, J. Russell 12. FG 20 (0), FT 9-19, F 15.

#### Varsity Girls

Valley Center	2	22	11	7-42
Mulvane	13	9	7	17-46

Valley Center—Sarah Hanes 13, Heather Barbosa 7, Andrea Barbosa 1, Crawford 10, Katie Talbot 5, Christine Fowler 4, Diane Long 1, Laura Pavlyak 1. FG 16 (2), FT 8-19, F 25.

Mulvane—Kristi McDowell 11, Lee Banzet 7, Janelle Wenke 12, Cody Watson 9, Heather Taylor 5, Courtney Renfro 2. FG 13 (0), FT 20-29, F 18.

#### Junior Varsity Girls

No joyce game played

## Mulvane SPORTS

encounter in Mulvane.

Everything was turning up Wildcats in the final quarter as Coach McMahon's gals wiped out a 10-point VC lead behind a 17-7 fourth quarter surge. Two critical free throws by Kristi McDowell gave the Wildcats Mulvane the lead for good and junior Heather Taylor made two more to ice the victory in the last 30 seconds.

"We made some great free throws down the stretch that pulled us through," commented McMahon. "Heather Taylor and Kristi McDowell really hit some clutch free throws and that was the key. We beat a pretty good team. This is the type of thing we've been working for. Everybody is working together. It was just another super team win."

The Cats looked like they were going to get on "Easy Street" early when they put the press on and Valley crumbled in the first quarter, allowing MHS to rumble out to a 13-2 lead after one quarter, but veteran senior Lee Banzet, a key facet of the trap press Mulvane has used successfully this season, twisted an ankle and went to the bench.

"That hurt because she is a key ingredient on the wing," said McMahon. "We had to get out of it because they started breaking it pretty easily."

That led to VC taking the lead by half-time on the strength of a 22-9 run in the second quarter. The Hornets extended the lead to 10 points before Mulvane started chipping away. Valley still held a six-point lead midway into the last quarter before the Cats went back to the pressing tactics even though Banzet was slowed down with the ankle injury.

"We weren't too effective with Banzet out but we had to jump back into it when Banzet came back and it helped," said McMahon. "The injury effected her speed but not her anticipation."

Mulvane finally got within one before McDowell's two free throws fell through to give the Cats their first lead in more than

two quarters. In the last quarter, free throws were key. McDowell was 2-for-3, Banzet was 1-for-2, Taylor was 3-for-4 and Cody Watson was 3-for-4. "All of them were key," said McMahon. "You expect your seniors to come through for you down the stretch and that's what they did. We wound up 20 of 29 and that's an excellent game. We have worked on free throwing all year and it paid some dividends."

McMahon also praised Janelle Wenke for one of her better games. "She keeps getting better and better each game," said McMahon. "We beat a pretty good team. When we fell behind, I just told the girls 'this is your gym, this is your floor, it's our time and let's take this one home.'"

The victory gave Mulvane a 6-3 league record and a good shot at finishing in the top three in the league.

Wenke finished with a team-high 12 points. McDowell scored 11 points, Watson had nine and Banzet scored seven.