

Streak Snapped

Wildcat Girls Struggle On Offense

The Mulvane High School girls continued to ride the offensive roller coaster and at home no less. The Cat girls managed only 11 points in the second half and were bottled up in a 41-26 loss Tuesday night, Feb. 16, to Circle.

Earlier this year, Coach Jayson Miller's Wildcats had clipped the Thunderbirds, 41-40, at Circle, but who says turnabout is fair play? Not Miller.

"They switched up on us all night and came out and played an intense man-to-man defense," said Miller. "They got right up in our faces, they were intense and we didn't handle it well."

"That kind of took us right out of our offensive game plan," added the Wildcat girls mentor. "We did a good job in the first half but we simply didn't match their intensity in the second half. They came out and really got after it and we didn't."

Mulvane lost its edge in the second quarter, stumbled in the third and came apart in the fourth when the Cats scored only three points. The Thunderbirds out-scored Mulvane, 25-11, in the last half.

"There aren't too many games you can score 26 points and win," said Miller. "We're aware of that and working on it. Circle scouted us really good and came out and never let us get into our offense."

That kept the Cats away from the foul line, where they were 5-for-7. Circle shot 21 free throws and made only 10.

Senior guard Lindsay Kendrick continued to be Mulvane's key offensive threat, scoring eight points. Shiriah Craft chipped in with six points and point guard Jackie McColpin scored four.

In the junior varsity game, Mulvane held off the T-Birds, 24-20. Carisa Ward's 11 points topped the chart for the Cats. Kris Lazar and Natalie Turner scored four points each.

Earlier in the week, the Mulvane JV girls were swamped by Valley Center, 36-17. In that

one, Ward scored seven points and Andrea Valerio scored three.

It was a good streak while it lasted. We're talking about the MHS girls' streak of three wins in a row. That went by the wayside Friday night, Feb. 12, in Valley Center when the Hornet girls threw the Wildcats off-stride and took a 49-37 victory.

The loss dropped the Cats to 9-7 for the year but didn't hurt in the Chisholm Trail League since it came against a Division I team.

"They came out and had pretty good success against us with their half-court trap and that kind of threw our game off a little," said Miller. "We came back in the second half and did a lot better job after intermission, but by that time, we were in trouble. We were just too far down to make a run."

Valley raced out to a 23-16 lead after one half, then out-scored the Wildcats, 14-8, in the third quarter. Overall, the Hornets forced 22 turnovers from Mulvane.

"We've seen that press before but not in the last few games and I think the girls got a little frustrated with it when they shouldn't have," added Miller. "You need to show patience and we didn't for about three quarters. We were trying to beat it too much off the dribble and that led to turnovers. Once we did get into our offense, we didn't get the disbursement in the scoring that we have been getting lately."

The Hornets also took Mulvane senior Shelley Richards right out of the game and off the map. She didn't score a point. "That was part of their game plan and they took her away," said Miller. "Shelley had trouble getting into the flow of the game and we really missed her scoring. They did a nice job defensively on her. They just didn't let her get the opportunities where she likes to shoot from."

But Miller said what hurt the most was the turnovers which came at the absolutely

wrong times. "Every time we started to get a surge going, we'd have a turnover," said the Wildcat coach. "Turnovers are never wanted but to get them when we got them, it kept us from building any momentum. We'd get a couple of baskets in a row, then a turnover. They also kept us from getting many second shots, which really hurt the cause."

Senior Kristin Buchanan kept the Cats in the ball game most of the night, scoring 16 points inside the paint. Guard Lindsay Kendrick continued her hot shooting, finishing with 10 points. Arin Leonard scored seven points.

"We made a nice run at the end of the third quarter trying to get back in the game but we had to start picking up the pace in

Varsity Girls				
Circle	6	10	15	10-41
Mulvane	9	6	8	3-26
Circle—Tesa Avasthuth 1, Amber Laughlin 12, Sarah Mills 2, Danielle Hecker 14, Allison Berry 7, Gina Hall 5. FG 14 (3), FT 10-21, F 15.				

Mulvane—Kindsay Kendrick 8, Jackie McColpin 4, Kristin Buchanan 2, Arin Leonard 2, Shelley Richards 2, Shiriah Craft 6, Kassie Hargrove 2. FG 10 (1), FT 5-7, F 19.				
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Mulvane	9	7	8	13-37
Valley Center	10	13	14	12-49

Mulvane—Kristin Buchanan 16, Shiriah Craft 2, Jackie McColpin 2, Arin Leonard 7, Lindsay Kendrick 10. FG 16 (0), FT 5-8, F				
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Valley Center—Porter 2, Kristin Welk 10, Lisa Clary 4, Farrell 3, Covey 15, Crystal Wiechman 13, Oiler 2. FG 20 (3), FT 6-12, F				
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Junior Varsity Girls				
Circle	0	7	4	9-20
Mulvane	5	3	8	8-24
Circle—Cori Sullard 2, Melissa Wendell 2, Abby Davis 4, Kellie Krahn 1, Sandro Dugan 2, Megan Carson 7, Chelsea Allen 2. FG 7 (0), FT 6-19, F 16.				

Mulvane—Carisa Ward 11, Aubrey Benjamin 2, Kris Lazar 4, LaShelle Parker 2, Cindy Hartley 1, Natalie Turner 4. FG 11 (0), FT 2-9, F 19.				
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Mulvane	2	2	4	9-17
Valley Center	6	9	7	12-36

Mulvane—Andrea Valerio 3, Katie Bagby 2, Jackie Burkhart 2, Carisa Ward 7, Aubrey Benjamin 2, LaShelle Parker 1. FG 4 (0), FT 9-19, F 21.				
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Valley Center—Angelo 5, Ralph 3, Kablar 2, McVay 4, Stanley 4, Smith 7, Rumble 10, Covey 1. FG 13 (2), FT 8-21, F 19.				
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the fourth quarter and when we had to go quicker, it hurt us," pointed out Miller. "Being consistent is something we're trying to do but it doesn't happen overnight. Still, I feel like we're in good position and I like where we're at. I still feel we have our best basketball ahead of us."

The girls will have a huge test Friday night, Feb. 19, at Rose Hill. The Rockets are one of the hottest teams around. The Wildcats have split two previous games with Rose Hill this season.

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Goddard Jayvee Girls Tournament

THIRD PLACE

Andale	8	9	6	7-30
Mulvane	6	4	6	6-22
Andale—Jackie Reagan 13, Lacy Simon 2, Jackie Zogleman 1, Mandy Heimes 10, Kristen Faber 2, Shaila Hoheisel 2. FG 12 (1), FT 5-15, F 10.				

Mulvane—Natalie Turner 4, Jackie Burkhart 2, Danielle Vanderhoof 4, Kassie Hargrove 6, Carisa Ward 2, Kris Lazar 4. FG 10 (1), FT 1-2, F 20.				
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FIRST ROUND

Mulvane	3	10	6	4-23
Goddard	10	17	10	11-50
Mulvane—LaShelle Parker 4, Kris Lazar 4, Aubrey Benjamin 3, Carisa Ward 4, Natalie Turner 4, Danielle Vanderhoof 2, Katie Bagby 2. FG 10 (0), FT 3-5, F 18.				

Goddard—Laura Grant 5, Becky Rising 2, Audra Bell 6, Jaime Fairbank 6, Allison Dopps 4, Jessica Reyes 2, Jenny Reyes 4, Bailey Funke 2, Jessica Rising 5, Amanda Vossen 12, Natalie Thomas 2. FG 18 (3), FT 11-17, F 14.				
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