

# Good Times Are Due For Hard-Luck Cats

If it's true that close games kind of even out over the long haul, Mulvane High School girls basketball coach Bill Stinson is due for an unbelievable string of good fortune.

A three-point play by Wellington in the final 20 seconds gave the host Crusaders a 57-56 triumph over Mulvane's girls Tuesday night in a Chisholm Trail League clash at Wellington.

The loss marked the fourth this year by two points or less for Stinson's club. Andale and Valley Center started Mulvane's season with back-to-back two-point setbacks and a week ago, Augusta nipped the Cats by two.

~~"We're going to try to bounce back Friday night,"~~ said a determined Stinson, who saw his club's record dip to 9-8 overall and 3-5 in the league. "I don't think the girls are ready to quit and I'm not either. I still feel we have a good ball club. We could have been 12-5 very easily, but we're 9-8 and it doesn't sound nearly as good. We've lost several close games. They say those things even out over the year but I don't know."

Mulvane fell behind early but battled back to lead by as many as five points in the final four minutes. The Crusaders chewed away at the lead until reserve Jennifer Moore's three-point play produced the final score. With 10 seconds left, the Cats failed to get off a shot, much like the Augusta game when the Wildcats needed a bucket in the final 10 seconds but didn't even get off a shot.

"That's what's most frustrating," said Stinson of the two games. "We had nine or 10 seconds left to get a shot but didn't. I have to take the blame for that because we don't often set up a play in practice. We had a play worked out in the huddle (during a time out) but we tried to get the ball inside to Lori (Cox) and we forced it and threw it away."

Stinson also singled out two critical plays in the final minute and both went Wellington's way. The first occurred with about 30 seconds left when junior Rhonda Davis was whistled for a travelling call when Mulvane had the ball and the lead. The second was a

## Girls Varsity

Mulvane	8 17 16 15--56
Wellington	15 11 14 17--57

Mulvane--Lori Cox 23, Tiane Dossey 10, Tammy Haas 4, Rhonda Davis 3, Kathy Saxton 16. FG 22, FT 12-20, F 9.

Wellington--Shana Glick 2, Markie Russell 28, Tracy Cochran 4, Lisa Lusk 6, Lori Goodrum 10, Jennifer Moore 5, Julie Etter 2. FG 24, FT 9-13, F 20.

## Girls Junior Varsity

Wellington 49, Mulvane 26

## Girls Varsity

Buhler	8 22 21 16--67
Mulvane	10 10 12 13--45

Buhler--Diana Miller 30, Valery Rober's 4, Robin Baker 14, Holly Vonderohe 4, Kim Barger 11, Shelbi Bradley 4. FG 33, FT 1-3, F 15.

Mulvane--Lori Cox 15, Tiane Dossey 1, Sheila Mahland' 1, Tammy Haas 2, Rhonda Davis 10, Kathy Saxton 16. FG 20, FT 5-12, F 5.

missed free throw in the final moments.

One bright spot for MHS was the return to playing status of junior Terri Plotts, who was injured earlier this year.

Another was the play of senior Cox, who scored a career-high 23 points. Guard Tiane Dossey scored 10 points and Kathy Saxton scored 16 points. "Lori had a super game and Kathy had another consistently good game," said Stinson. "I guess it all goes back to the fact that we played good enough to win but we didn't do some of the things we needed to do to win."

The Wildcats jayvees were whipped, 49-26, by the Wellington junior varsity. No scoring summary was available.

The Wildcats also had some tough times at home Friday, Feb. 14, against league-leading Buhler. The Crusaders battered Mulvane, 67-45, as Diana Miller drilled in 30 points to make the difference. There was no jayvee game.

Saxton topped Mulvane's scoring with 16 points and Cox had 15. Davis chipped in 10 points.

"We played about as good a game as we could but we couldn't stop Miller," said Stinson. "She's just too physically strong and went right over the top of us."

The girls hope to get back on the winning track at home Friday night, Feb. 21, when Valley Center comes to town. The Hornets are second in the league.