

MHS Girls Bow Out Early



Mulvane girls Lori Cox [21] and Terri Plotts [40] await rebound

Being close is something that Mulvane High School girls basketball coach Bill Stinson doesn't usually like but it does have some advantages.

Stinson's Wildcats were "close" Monday night, Feb. 25, in the opening round of the Augusta Class 4A Girls Sub-State Tournament, almost nabbing an upset bid before losing by one point, 46-45, to Circle.

The game was played at Circle High School since the Thunderbirds were the No. 2 seed. The loss eliminated the Cats and ended their season at 9-12, but it did help sooth the feelings of a 51-41 defeat in the final game of regular season at Augusta Friday night, Feb. 22.

Mulvane senior guard Lisa Jones missed a shot from the corner with one second to tick to end Mulvane's chances. "It was a good shot and it was close but it didn't go in," said Stinson. "We played good basketball and we finished on a good note. That's something we didn't do at Augusta. We gave Circle, a good basketball team, everything it wanted. It would have been nice to pull off the upset but we just missed."

As senior Melody Carey came out smokin', the Wildcats stayed in the game against Circle, which improved its record to 16-3, in the first half, Carey running in 13 points as Circle managed a tight lead at intermission, 28-27. Jones shot in her fourth half-court shot at the horn and somehow you got the feeling it might be the Wildcats' game, especially when they came out to command a five-point margin in the first four minutes of the second half.

"We came out and had a couple of fastbreak baskets, took some good shots and looked like we were making our move but they came back and shut off Melody," said Stinson, who finished his third season as the MHS girls chief. "They came back to get a three-point lead in the last quarter, then went into a stall with three minutes to go. We could have easily lost by seven-to-10 points but we came down and made some shots that kept us in the ball game.

Too, it didn't hurt that Circle made only 2-of-6 free throws in the final quarter as the Cats were hanging tight. However, in the end, it was Mulvane's inability to get the ball to its hottest shooter--Carey--that hurt. Melody scored only two points after intermission.

A Thunderbird boo-boo nearly cost

CHISHOLM TRAIL LEAGUE FINAL GIRLS STANDINGS DIVISION I

TEAM	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
x-Buhler	10	0	19	1
Valley Center	6	4	8	12
Mulvane	5	5	9	12
Goddard	5	5	7	12
Augusta	2	8	3	16
Wellington	2	8	3	16
x-won league championship				
DIVISION II				
x-Chaparral	8	0	17	3
Circle	5	3	18	4
Andale	5	3	16	4
Andover	5	3	13	6
Kingman	4	4	13	6
Rose Hill	3	5	12	7
Haven	3	5	11	9
Clearwater	2	8	7	12
Maize	1	7	10	10
x-won league championship				

4A SUB-STATE FIRST ROUND

Mulvane	12	15	10	8-45
Circle	16	12	10	8-46
Mulvane--Melody Carey 15, Lisa Jones 14, Darla Reekle 2, Lori Cox 6, Tiane Dossey 6, Rhonda Davis 2. FG 21-45, FT 3-8, F 18.				
Circle--Seymour 2, Carter 7, Pettus 5, Hollinger 4, Hopkins 10, Shadoin 6, Tanquary 4, Wellner 4. FG 20-56, FT 6-11, F 9.				

Andale	70	Augusta	41
Rose Hill	58	Malze	57
Andover	58	Haven	43

Girls Varsity

Mulvane	7	8	14	14-43
Augusta	10	12	16	16-54
Mulvane--Melody Carey 12, Darla Reekle 4, Lori Cox 8, Tiane Dossey 8, Rhonda Davis 8, Terri Plotts 3, Tammy Haas 2. FG 18-54, FT 7-16, F 10.				
Augusta--Christy Marr 1, Stacy All 15, Tamara Smith 16, Kara Jackson 6, Angie Rodriguez 4, Angie Rash 12. FG 24-51, FT 6-15, F 17.				

Girls Junior Varsity

Mulvane	8	10	8	12 (2)-40
Augusta	4	7	11	16 (0)-38
Mulvane--Terri Plotts 6, Tammy Haas 9, Tanya Gerdes 11, Susie Quigley 4, Sheila Mahlandt 4, Kathy Saxton 4, Kim Prickett 2. FG 15-45, FT 10-21, F 19.				
Augusta--Cindy Turner 5, Robbin Bennett 6, Lisa Zajic 2, Kate Gosh 8, Debbie Blaasi 2, Christy Marr 7, Marsha Fowler 2, Kathy Moss 2, Dawn Veeman 2, Shelley Williams 4. FG 17-67, FT 4-18, F 20.				

Circle the victory. Mulvane had no time outs left and had the ball with three seconds left when a Circle player called time out. It gave the Wildcats an opportunity to get the ball to Jones for a decent shot.

"We played good basketball and didn't win, we have to feel good about that," claimed Stinson.

Carey closed out her stellar cage career with a game-high 15 points and Jones finished with 14 points. Both Lori Cox and Tiane Dossey, juniors, made six points.

It was a different story at Augusta, as Mulvane tried in vain to nail down a tie for second in the league with Valley Center. Instead, Augusta shoved the Cats into a third place tie with Goddard, both at 5-5 in the CTL.

The last-place Orioles were hot, hitting 76% from the field in the second half as they pulled away from Mulvane. Augusta made 6-of-8 fielders in the third quarter and 7-of-9 in the fourth period to win easily.

"We got there late (actually, Augusta officials decided to start the game 15 minutes sooner because the sophomore game ended quickly) and we just didn't have much time to prepare," said Stinson. "We weren't mentally ready or inspired. And when Augusta makes the kinds of shots they were making, it's something you don't expect. They were throwing them in from all over."

It was a poor regular season finale for the Wildcats, who scored only 15 points at halftime. Carey finished with 12 points and both Cox and Rhonda Davis, who was starting in place of Jones, who was out with an injured ankle, scored eight points each. Dossey finished with six points.

The Mulvane junior varsity continued its late-season surge by clipping Augusta in overtime, 40-38. The difference was a jumper by Tanya Gerdes, the only points scored in the extra three minutes.

Gerdes finished with 11 points. Tammy Haas scored nine points and Terri Plotts dumped in six for the Cat jayvees, who finished their season with a 9-5 record.