

Sub-State Crunch Time For Mulvane BB Girls

The Mulvane High School seniors are 0-2 this season against Goddard and probably 0-8 in their high school careers, but this is a new season coming Friday night, March 1, and the Wildcat girls get another shot at fulfilling their destiny.

It's sub-state time and Coach Jayson Miller's Cats have another date with that destiny with a first-round meeting at 7:30 p.m. against Goddard. The Cats are 10-10 on the year and Goddard is 11-9 on the season.

On the line is a trip into the championship game of the Bishop Carroll Class 5A Sub-State, which will be at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 2. Arkansas City (5-15) and Bishop Carroll (18-2) play in the 6 p.m. game Friday in the opening game.

"We're close to getting it together," said

Bishop Carroll 5A Girls Sub-State Pairings

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

Game 1 — Arkansas City (5-15) vs. Bishop Carroll (18-2), 6 p.m.

Game 2 — Mulvane (10-10) vs. Goddard (11-9), 7:30

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

Game 3 (Girls Championship)—winners of games 1 and 2, 6 p.m.

Varsity Girls

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|---------|----|----|---|-------|
| Maize | 15 | 14 | 5 | 18-51 |
| Mulvane | 8 | 13 | 2 | 15-38 |

Maize—Angela Jakubow 6, Liz Kramer 13, Betsy Martling 10, Madison Petrich 14, Brianna Wilhite 6, Nicole Vogt 2, Jessica Brucks 1. FG 17 (1), FT 17-25. F 14.

Mulvane—Shayna Duncan 2, Kim Mangus 4, Kris Lazar 8, Sami Booth 4, LaShelle Parker 15, Kayla Linnebur 2. FG 16 (1), FT 5-5, F 20.

Junior Varsity Girls

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|---------|---|----|----|------|
| Maize | 4 | 10 | 11 | 7-32 |
| Mulvane | 6 | 2 | 4 | 3-15 |

Maize—Katie McClellan 2, Dani Brucks 2, Shea Fairchild 6, Val Stephenson 3, Nicole Vogt 2, Jessica Brucks 6, Ashton Ayres 11. FG 12 (3), FT 5-7, F 10.

Mulvane—Nicole Hackley 8, Lacie Leatherman 2, Kayla Linnebur 2, Stephanie Tatum 2, Janie Wilkinson 1. FG 5 (0), FT 5-6, F 13.

Miller, whose Wildcats are on a three-game skid. "Every day, the girls know that they are close and that's a nice feeling. One thing I can say about this group is that they believe they can get the job done. I think they also want to get the job done.

"What it gets down to Friday night is doing the little things. It's not putting yourself in a bad position to defend. It's hanging tough the whole game. It's cutting down on turnovers. It's doing a good job on the boards. And we need to have some bounces go our way. If we get those things, we'll be in it."

All year long, Miller has been pushing for the one break-through victory—beating one of the "big dogs" at the top of the Chisholm Trail League standings. "If we're going to do anything in the tournament, we have to beat one of them right off the bat," said Miller. "The first time we played Goddard, it was our worst loss of the season. It was at our house and that was the only game I felt like we weren't in. The second time we played, we were down by only three points at the end of the 3rd quarter.

The Lions' game plan against the Wildcats has been pretty simple: pressure, pressure, pressure.

"We have to be able to handle their pressure," said Miller. "They're going to run half-court traps against us. The second time we played, we handled it a lot better, but then we would go down and miss open shots. It's going to get down to turnovers on our part. We have to have a clean game."

The Mulvane mentor is hoping the return of junior guard Melissa Doerfer to the starting line-up will help in that respect. Doerfer, a two-year starter, was knocked out by a bruised knee early in February and missed several games. She returned part-time last game and will be in the starting line-up Friday night.

The Wildcats ended the regular season with an unusual Thursday night game Feb. 21, at home against Maize. The Eagles showed why they were a top Chisholm Trail League team by throttling the Wildcats, 51-38. Mulvane finished 4-8 in the CTL and in 5th place.

Miller didn't have to look far to see where the difference was. Actually, it was the same difference in the last two home losses: the free throw line. Mulvane and Maize were separated by one field goal but Maize hit 27 out of 25 at the free throw stripe, Mulvane was 5-for-5.

"Our last two games at home, we've been out-shot 47-8 at the free throw line the last two games but I wasn't disappointed with the officiating in either game," said Miller. "We have a lot of trouble guarding speed on the perimeter and we also foul when people are shooting so they get the shots. When we get fouled, it's when we're not shooting. We just really hurt ourselves with that."

One thing Miller did like in the regular season finale was effort. "I think that was the hardest we've played top to bottom since December," said Miller, "so I was really pleased with that. I just tried to emphasize to the girls that that was the kind of play we needed to have in the sub-state."

Center LaShelle Parker came alive for 15 points. Kris Lazar had eight points and both Kim Mangus and Sami Booth scored four points.

The MHS junior varsity girls, coached by Mike Heater, ended the season with a 32-15 loss at home against Maize. That left the JV girls at for the season.

Nicole Hackley was the top scorer with eight points and Lacie Leatherman, Kayla Linnebur and Stephanie Tatum had two points each.