

MHS Girls Into Sub-State Semis

The easiest way to get beat by an underdog is to let her hang around.

There was no "hanging around" for Douglass Tuesday night, Feb. 27, in the opening round of the Augusta Class 4A Sub-State. Instead, the Bulldogs were simply hanging on as the host Mulvane Wildcats girls charged out of the starting blocks on their way to an easy 55-33 triumph over Douglass.

The Wildcats came into the game as the tournament's No. 1 seed. Douglass was No. 8 and sporting a 1-19 record. "That was our No. 1 goal," observed MHS girls coach Jayson Miller. "We talked before the game about coming out early and trying to put Douglass out of it, get up on them. I didn't want to let them hang around, and we didn't. I thought we did a good job right from the start of getting the momentum

going our way and not letting up."

The victory improved Mulvane's record to 10-11 and pointed the Cats in the direction of the semifinal round, which will be

Augusta Class 4A Girls Sub-State Results FIRST ROUND

Douglass 6 8 11 8-33
Mulvane 17 12 12 14-55
Douglass--Ericka Patterson 2, Crystal Seal 3, Tessa Keith 13, Whitney Coleman 2, Becky Cross 9, Amber Raver 4. FG 12 (0), FT 9.

Mulvane--Kris Lazar 12, Sami Booth 9, Melissa Doerfer 13, Michelle Dinkel 4, Jackie Burkhardt 6, Shayna Duncan 4, Nicole Hackley 6, Andrea Valerio 1. FG 21 (0), FT 13.

El Dorado girls 42, Rose Hill girls 26
Circle girls 54, Augusta girls 50
Wellington girls 46, Clearwater girls 33

Varsity Girls

Mulvane 11 9 4 17-41
Maize 11 7 14 24-56

Mulvane--Sami Booth 15, Andrea Valerio 4, Shayna Duncan 2, Melissa Doerfer 4, LaShelle Parker 11, Jackie Burkhardt 3, Nicole Hackley 2. FG 15 (1), FT 10-19, F 28.

Maize--Micki Soft 14, Stephanie Hearn 4, Michelle Rink 8, Abby Betzen 2, Ashley McClellan 6, Megan Marek 5, Betsy Martling 11, Val Jones 2, Liz Kramer 4. FG 17 (0), FT 22-39, F 21.

Mulvane 6 11 9 10-36
Buhler 19 10 13 12-54

Mulvane--LaShelle Parker 9, Kris Lazar 17, Jackie Burkhardt 0, Melissa Doerfer 6, Shayna Duncan 4. FG 14 (0), FT 8-14, F 24.

Buhler--Aubrey Cameron 13, Lisa Unruh 2, Annalisa Balero 9, Pam Shelite 6, Amber Hein 8, Amy Preston 3, Christina Hering 8, Tannee Balero 5. FG 20 (4), FT 10-25, F 17.

Junior Varsity Girls

No results reported

Friday, March 2, at Augusta High School. Mulvane will play the 7:30 p.m. game Friday night against the El Dorado girls (8-14). El Dorado marched into the next round by clipping Rose Hill, 42-25, in a first round game at Rose Hill.

Another reason for a solid start was that top scorer-rebounder LaShelle Parker was riding the bench the whole game with a back injury. "She could have gone in there if needed but we wanted to give her another two days or rest of get ready for Friday night," said Miller. "The other post people really picked it up. Kris (Lazar) really kicked it in and Shayna (Duncan), Nicole (Hackley) and Andrea (Valerio) all contributed to our game inside, so we didn't have to use Parker."

Mulvane answered the opening tip with a two-fisted flurry, jumping out nearly immediately to a 10-point edge with guard Melissa Doerfer and Lazar fuelling that fire. By intermission, the Wildcats were in the proverbial rocking chair, holding a 29-14 lead against a Bulldog team that had only one win to show for the season. That early surge, as Miller had hoped, kind of took the bite out of the Bulldogs.

"That early push really helped get things established for us," agreed Miller. "We went a little flat in the 3rd quarter and they made a little run at us but we got it right back up to 20 and held it there. I thought the game in the second half got a little sloppy on both sides of the ball. I think both teams tried to do some different things after it became apparent who was going to win the ball game."

Miller pointed to his early defense as being a difference-maker, too. "We really played defense well early," acknowledged the Wildcat coach. "We were quicker than they were and we got a lot of steals off our regular defensive sets. When they turned the ball over, we got more shots at the basket and when you get more chances to score, you're going to score more. That's pretty much what happened."

Mulvane's balance also "happened," too. Doerfer had a fine game, scoring 13 points. Lazar maintained her torrid pace, hitting 12 points and Sami Booth scored nine. Reserve Nicole Hackley had her biggest output of the season, scoring six points, and senior

Jackie Burkhardt finished with six. Also getting into the scoring column were reserves Michelle Dinkel and Duncan (four each) and Valerio with one.

Now, it's on to Augusta and another shot at El Dorado, coached by former Mulvane girls coach Kelly Dennis. Remember last season? The El Dorado girls ended Mulvane's season in the sub-state semifinals by a 48-33 count.

"We're looking forward to another shot at El Dorado," said Miller. "They beat us in the semifinals last year and kept us from going so we want to take that back."

Augusta Class 4A Sub-State Pairings

TODAY (MARCH 1)

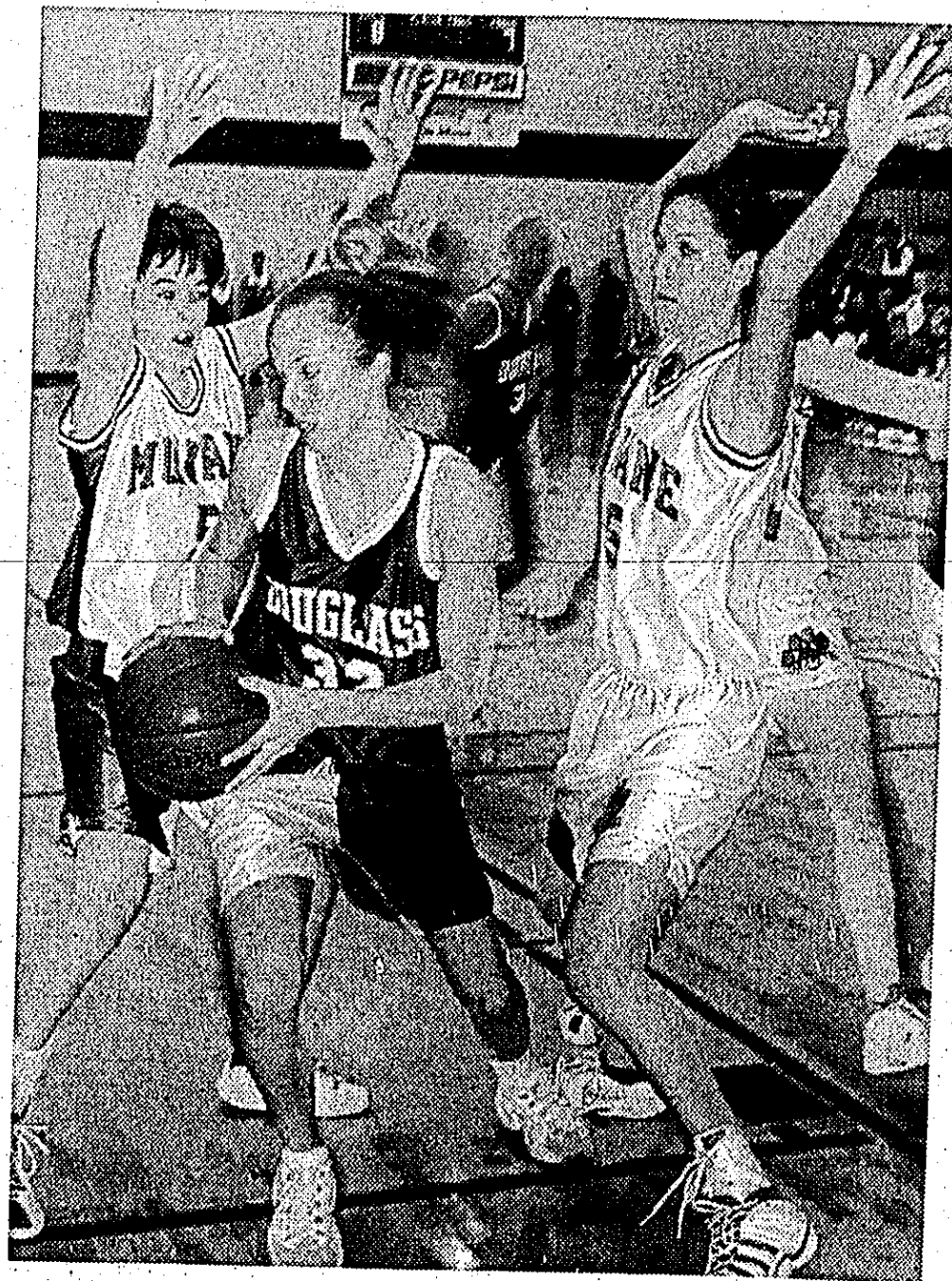
6 p.m.—Wellington boys (4-17) vs. Circle boys (12-9)
7:30 — El Dorado boys (10-11) vs. Douglass boys (14-7)

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

6 p.m.—Circle girls (10-11) vs. Wellington girls (8-13)
7:30 — Mulvane girls (10-11) vs. El Dorado girls (9-12)

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

6 p.m.—girls championship
7:30 — boys championship



Andrea Valerio (35) and Melissa Doerfer (5) bring pressure along the baseline