

# 'Second Season' Shortened By Augusta's Early Push

The "second season" for the Mulvane High School basketball girls lasted less than eight minutes.

That's how long it took Augusta's Orioles to establish themselves as the dominant team Friday night, March 5, in the semifinal round of the Chaparral Class 4A Girls Sub-State. By that time, the Orioles had the Wildcats down, 14-4, which was just a preview of things to come. Mulvane never was in the game and was eliminated by a 65-39 count.

Kingman's girls blistered Wellington in the early going, too, breezing out to a 20-0 lead on the way to a 74-32 thrashing of the Crusaders in the other semifinal. Kingman then blasted Augusta to take the sub-state championship Saturday night, 75-53, to advance to the Class 4A State Championship field at Salina this week. The Eagles (12-11) were seeded No. 8 at State and were to play

## Chaparral Class 4A Girls Sub-State Results

CHAMPIONSHIP				
Kingman	75	Augusta	53	
SEMIFINALS				
Mulvane	4	8	10	17-39
Augusta	17	15	19	14-65
Mulvane—Jackie McColpin 2, Shelley Richards 4, Kristin Buchanan 9, Lindsay Kendrick 10, Shiriiah Craft 4, Kassie Hargrove 2, Natalie Turner 2, Kris Lazar 3, Kristal LaPlant 1, Arin Leonard 2. FG 15 (0). FT 9-21. F				
Augusta—Sandy Smithson 12, Angela Harger 14, Rachel Critchfield 16, Misty Smithson 8, Stephanie Wallace 4, Kara Kappelmann 3, Julie Stowell 8. FG 22 (6). FT 15-18. F				

Kingman 74, Wellington 32

No. 1 seeded Santa Fe Trail (21-2) in the 3 p.m. game today (March 11) at the Salina Bicentennial Center.

Andale (19-4) was the only other CTL Division II team to make the State field and the Indians were scheduled to play Kansas

City Sumner (14-9) in a 6:30 p.m. game this evening.

The Wildcats ended their season 10-12 overall and 6-6 in Division II. But it was a disappointing ending to a first season for new Coach Jayson Miller.

"We didn't have any success against them at all," confessed Miller. "They were switching on defense and we just never did figure it out until the third quarter. By that time, it was long gone."

It was long gone after the first 24 minutes. The Orioles raced out to a 17-4 lead in the first quarter and by intermission, the game was in the books, Augusta leading by 20 points. And it got ugly when the Orioles outscored Mulvane, 19-10, in the third quarter.

In essence, it boiled down to the first quarter when Augusta had the Cats bewildered with a man-to-man defense that switched on every screen. "They switched on every screen and that seemed to give our girls problems, especially in the first half," said Miller. "It totally took us out of our offense. And we started getting frustrated. I think a lot of our frustration carried over to the other end of the court, to defense, because we gave them a lot of easy looks, which they made."

"I thought we would play a lot better than we did and I think our girls thought so, too," added Miller. "This has been a pretty strong group of girls who are good athletes, but they just couldn't get anything going. My hat's off to Augusta. They did what it took to win. They pushed the ball on us and got a lot of easy baskets. We wanted to slow it down and take our time, be patient. It was tough for us to play at their pace because they had more quickness than we did. Their starting guards had average speed but they did an excellent job getting the ball ahead of us by passing it down the floor quickly. That kept catching us by surprise."

The frustration mounted for the senior-laden Cat team. "The frustration we had on defense caused us to get frustrated on offense and we started taking a lot of tough shots instead of working the ball until we got the good shot," said Miller. "At the same time, when you have the other team hitting 55%, which is what they shot in the opening half, it really adds up quickly."

The MHS girls coach said Mulvane came out playing a half-court zone to start the game but had to change things when the Orioles started hitting shots. "We came out with the zone trying to spread out their shooters, then went to a full court man-to-man but then they just started hurting us inside," said Miller. "We never did really shut them down the whole night."

Down, 32-12, at halftime, Miller tried to re-group, re-load and re-fire, but the lead was simply too big.

"We kind of came out in the third quarter and finally got things figured out," said Miller. "The girls started understanding that when they switched, somebody had to be open and we started making better passes, better decisions and got some easy shots

## Chaparral Class 4A Boys Sub-State Results

CHAMPIONSHIP	
Augusta	41, Rose Hill 37
SEMIFINALS	
Rose Hill	71, Douglass 61
Augusta	62, Kingman 45

Until that time in the game, we never got an easy shot."

Mulvane's top two shooters, seniors Shelley Richards and Lindsay Kendrick, never could get into the proper flow. "Our offense struggled trying to get easy shots for Lindsay and Shelley," said Miller. "They had to work hard to get their shots. It makes it difficult to score when your two best scorers are having to take hard shots all night."

Kendrick did finish with 10 points and was the team scoring leader. Senior Kristin Buchanan finished with nine points. Shiriiah Craft and Richards scored four points each and freshman Kris Lazar scored three.

Down the stretch, it was time to "play for pride," though. Augusta was up by more than 25 much of the second half. "We finally made a little, tiny run in the third quarter, trying to get back into it but we never could get it down inside 15," said Miller. "Finally, we started subbing because I wanted to get some of the other girls some Sub-State experience."



Cats Shelley Richards (44) and Kassie Hargrove (31) scramble for a sub-state rebound

## Mulvane Sports



Jackie McColpin (30) looks for an opening along the baseline against Augusta

## Chisholm Trial League Girls Basketball Standings

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
xy-Andale	11	3	19	4
Rose Hill	8	4	14	7
Circle	7	5	14	8
y-Kingman	7	5	12	11
Mulvane	6	6	10	11
Chaparral	2	10	6	15
Clearwater	1	11	3	18
DIVISION I				
xz-Goddard	11	1	21	1
Buhler	9	3	17	5
Andover	7	5	15	7
Matze	8	4	12	9
Augusta	4	8	10	11
Valley Center	3	9	6	15
Wellington	0	12	3	19

x--won CTL championship; y--playing in 4A State Championship; z--playing in 5A State Championship