

Cat Girls' Poor Free Throwing

Kiss Of Death For Mulvane

Poor free throwing was the kiss of death for the Mulvane High School girls Monday night, Dec. 5, in the first round of the Maize Girls Basketball Tournament.

Mulvane dogged the heels of Maize all night before a tiny unanswered spurt in the final two minutes gave Maize a 49-43 decision and the right to move on in the championship bracket. The Cats fell into the consolation bracket, where they will meet the Chaparral junior varsity at 3 p.m. today (Dec. 8).

Andale smothered Chappy, 61-27, in the other first-round action Monday night.

"Free throws just killed us but we had the game tied with about two minutes left and let them off the hook," said Gregg Wolgast, the Cat girls coach. "We were in position to win and didn't have anybody step forward to take charge of the situation. Right now, we're trying to find someone for that leadership role on the floor."

The Eagles broke out of the tie with two buckets following two Mulvane turnovers then scored at the other end of the court as the Wildcats were trying to call a time out to basically wrap things up.

"They really clogged up the middle on Kendra (Banzet) and kept us from getting the ball in, but that left some great shots outside if the girls would have recognized that they had only to dribble in a step or two and shoot the ball," said Wolgast. "Tricia (Nicholson) and Nicole (Infinger) did a good job of that. We were almost overly conscious of getting the ball in to Kendra."

The other factor, free throwing, was bad. The Cats made only five of 16 from the free stripe while the Eagles were making 17 of 20.

The sophomore Nicholson had a career-high 19 points and Banzet finished with eight. Infinger scored six points while Bridget Horton and guard Kandi Miller had four points each.

MAIZE GIRLS TOURNAMENT

FIRST ROUND

Mulvane 14 13 8 8-43

Maize 14 16 5 14-49

Mulvane--Bridget Horton 4, Kendra Banzet 8, Ticia Nicholson 19, Kandi Miller 4, Nicole Infinger 6, Sharla Wages 2. FG 19-48 (0), FT 5-16, F 17.

Maize--Paul 24, Herman 12, Felder 5, Elliot 4, Davidson 2, Beggs 2. FG 18-40 (0), FT 17-20, F 18.

Andale 61, Chaparral JV 27

Varsity Girls

Mulvane 4 9 13 5-31

Andale 18 23 13 14-67

Mulvane--Kendra Banzet 16, Ticia Nicholson 6, Nancy Farber 4, Nicole Infinger 2, Bridget Horton 2, Sharla Wages 2. FG 11-31, FT 9-18, F 17.

Andale--Pam Knoblauch 16, Mary Nilles 14, Crystal Gorges 12, Melanie Delnes 9, Donna Spexarth 6, Tina Marx 4, Holly Martin 4, Donna Weninger 2. FG 31-74, FT 5-13, F 18.

Junior Varsity Girls

Mulvane 2 9 13 4-28

Andale 19 7 9 14-51

Mulvane--Ticia Nicholson 11, Jenny Ray 7, Holly Donaldson 3, Lawana Smith 2, Sharla Wages 2, Kristen Kuntz 2, Kim Rodriguez 1. FG 12-30, FT 4-17, F 17.

Andale--Lisa Marx 10, Holly Martin 6, Margaret Spexarth 6, Elizabeth Mejerus 6, Stephanie Simon 6, Andy Renteria 6, Gina Romero 4, Tina Marx 5. FG 21-42, FT 9-19, F 16.

It's not exactly the script Gregg Wolgast had hoped for. Andale called all the shots Friday night, Dec. 2, and drilled the Mulvane High School Wildcats, 67-31, in the girls basketball season-opener for both squads.

The script called for Wolgast's Wildcats to be in the thick of things most of the way, but Andale had a different script. The host Indians rolled to an 18-4 lead after one quarter, then put the game away early by out-scoring Mulvane, 23-9, in the second. By halftime, it was no contest: Andale 41, Mulvane 13.

"They put a lot of pressure on outside, making it difficult to get the ball inside to Kendra," said Wolgast. "We were mainly inconsistent and that's what hurt us the most. We did some things really well. At times, we ran our offense really well, but at other times, we didn't. Improving with consistent play is just one of the things we're going to have to improve on. I think that's something

that takes time, especially when you're playing a lot of people having their first varsity game."

Wolgast's script had called for the Cats to find the 6-foot, 3-inch sophomore, Banzet, inside at the low post but Andale made it difficult by over-playing the pass to the wing to disrupt the Mulvane offense.

"I think Kendra touched the ball 10 times and made eight baskets," said Wolgast. "I think she went to the free throw line the other two times. We've got to get it inside more to her but Andale was denying that first pass."

Wolgast said the most encouraging aspect of the opening contest was the potential he saw. "When we were able to execute offensively, they weren't able to stop us," said the Mulvane coach. "If we can get some consistency there, we'll be okay. I'm hoping our young players can make some big improvements there as we get into the season."

Mulvane statistics showed 43 turnovers for Mulvane and another 40 made by Andale.

Mulvane held its own on the boards. The Indians had 30 rebounds to 27 for Mulvane. Banzet had 11 boards and both senior Bridget Horton and sophomore Ticia Nicholson had five each.

Banzet finished with 16 points and her first-year mate, Nicholson was second-high with five points. Senior Nancy Farber scored four points and the rest of the crew scored six--two each for Nicole Infinger, Sharla Wages and Horton.

The Mulvane junior varsity also had a taste of the early blow-outs. The hosts raced to a 19-2 lead after one period, then coasted in a 51-28 victory.

For Mulvane, Nicholson was the only double-figure scorer with 11 points. Guard Jenny Ray scored seven points and Holly Donaldson had three.