

Cat Defense Can't Carry Whole Load

Defense may be 95 percent of the game but nobody ever won a 0-0 game. Mulvane girls basketball coach Bill Brown has found out that this old adage is true in the early section of the season.

Shooting woes continued to plague the squad Friday night, Dec. 5, at Kingman as the Eagles took advantage of 19 percent shooting by Mulvane to take a 47-29 decision.

The loss dropped Mulvane's record to 0-2.

The Wildcats put up more of a struggle in the junior varsity game before Kingman pulled out a 38-29 verdict.

"Everything was tremendously improved over our first game except the shooting," said Brown, noting that shooting was a big "except." "We out-boarded them, we had the shots right under the basket and couldn't put them down."

Overall, the Wildcats hit only 10 of 51 field attempts (19 percent) and dropped a miserable nine of 29 from the free throw stripe.

"I was encouraged about what happened Friday at Kingman from the standpoint of the girls playing but we just missed too many shots to make it up. You've got to shoot 35 percent and

we're shooting about 20. And the free throwing...it was just one of those nights. It all boils down to shooting 35 percent. Once we start shooting, we'll be as good as anybody around. It's kind of ironic because we do have the shooters."

Brown said he felt the poor field percentage was a direct result of lack of experience. "You have girls inside, getting the offensive rebound with defense on them and it's just a matter of getting it back up. It's not a case of putting up 15-footers and hope that they go in. We're getting the offensive rebounds but it's a problem of not being experienced enough to score under pressure."

The only returning veteran with experience is senior Arlene Reekie, who came through with eight points. Vicki Powell topped the scoring with nine points for the Cats and Carol Baker had four.

Reekie paced the club to a 43-39 edge in rebounding, as she came away with 16 rebounds. Powell had 13.

"We're not discouraged," emphasized Brown. "We have to accept the fact that we can score. Everything else (all other phases of the game) are as good as they were last year, I feel. The important thing now is we need a win. We need a win to keep enthusiasm up and get some confidence."

Brown promised his offense would get plenty of time working this week during practice getting ready for the gals' next game, their home opener Friday night, Dec. 12, against Clearwater.

A dry spell in the final four minutes of the game doomed the MHS junior varsity. The Cats scored only two points in the final quarter after being ahead all the way.

Guard Lori Melick scored 14 points to top the Mulvane effort and Nancy Gehring added four and Dee Dee Rather five.

Girls Varsity

Mulvane	6 6 9 8--29
Kingman	8 10 18 11--47

Mulvane--Vicki Powell 9, Arlene Reekie 8, Mary Cole 3, Carol Baker 4, Celia Rogers 3, Nancy Gehring 2. FG 10-51, FT 9-29, F 12.

Kingman--Angie Schrag 6, Karen Baker 2, Tanya Fillingim 13, Brenda Bales 6, Renee Fairchild 6, Annie Boyer 8, Charlene Zerger 4. FG 23-68, Ft 1-5, F 24.

Girls Junior Varsity

Mulvane	8 9 10 2--29
Kingman	12 4 10 12--38

Mulvane--Mary Cole 1, Stacy Shoemaker 3, Nancy Gehring 4, Dee Dee Rather 5, Celia Rogers 2, Lori Melick 14. FG 10-43, FT 9-21, F 11.

Kingman--Stacy Livingston 8, Janene Kaufman 6, Cynthia Blumenhorst 10, Mellissa Giefer 4, Catherin Winchester 6, Bobbi Jo Wallace 2, Sharon Buchanan 2. FG 17-54, FT 4-5, F 24.