

Cat Girls' Rally Falls Short

Mulvane High School's girls circled the wagons in the second half but couldn't overcome the first-half damage by a hot-shooting Rose Hill team as the Wildcats dropped their fifth in a row this season.

Coach Ron McMahon's Cats saw their second-half rally fall short in a 56-41 Rose Hill victory Tuesday night, Dec. 14, in a non-league game in Mulvane.

"There were a lot of positives, but we couldn't overcome the big lead Rose Hill grabbed in the first half," said McMahon. "We're getting more help from our bench. We're taking better shots than in previous games. Courtney Renfro did a good job on

Varsity Girls

Rose Hill	19	19	4	14-56
Mulvane	11	9	7	14-41

Rose Hill—Cheri Boettcher 5, Stephanie Kendall 19, Allison Cox 11, Arien Diamond 6, Cassidy Richards 6, Tammy Zuhars 4, Carrie Williams 3, Mandy Scantlin 2. FG 22 (1), FT 9-19, F 29.

Mulvane—Gemi Spatz 2, Jamie Martin 4, Lee Banzet 18, Lee Cates 2, Courtney Renfro 4, Cody Watson 10, Heidi Parker 1. FG 17 (1) FT 8-24, F 23.

Junior Varsity Girls

Rose Hill	11	8-19
Mulvane	2	22-24

Rose Hill—Lindsey Ewen 8, Cassidy Richards 3, Carolyn Karsolake 4, Liza Carnahan 4. FG 9 (1) FT 0-4, F 12.

Mulvane—Jamie Martin 8, Gemi Spatz 2, Shannon Reed 4, Lee Cates 2, Courtney Renfro 4, Heidi Parker 4. FG 8 (0), FT 6-12, F 10.

the bottom side of the blocks, and both Heather Taylor and Lee Cates really gave us a lot of good hustle."

RH rolled out to a 19-11 lead after one quarter and led, 38-20, by intermission on the strength of a 50% shooting mark from the field. In the second half, Mulvane out-scored the Rockets but it wasn't enough to come back.

Senior Lee Banzet had another big outing, scoring 18 points. Cody Watson had 10 points and both Jamie Martin and Renfro scored four points.

In the junior varsity game, the Wildcats exploded in the second and last quarter for 22 points on their way to a 24-19 comeback win. Martin led the Cats with eight points and Renfro, Heidi Parker and Shannon Reed scored four points each.

Close doesn't count for much, but the Wildcat girls played tough in the seventh place game before losing to Wellington Saturday afternoon, Dec. 11, in the Circle Thunderbird Girls Classic.

Coach McMahon's Wildcats rallied late in the game but fell short, 38-37, to the Crusaders, dropping their record to 0-4 for the year.

Mulvane was knocked into the seventh place game Thursday, Dec. 9, when Andover romped to a 71-41 winner. Wellington couldn't handle Sunrise in a semifinal match-up and lost, 55-41, to set up the Chisholm Trail League duel for seventh.

Circle ended up staking out its claim to the Thunderbird Classic championship Saturday night by edging Independence, 59-56, for the title.

"We didn't lack anything with respect to heart, hustle and desire," said McMahon.

"We played with a lot of intensity and desire. What happened was we made a few mistakes at the end of the game. We tried to put the ball up by forcing it and that hurt. And we had some turnovers. Wellington also made some threes throughout the game and that hurt. Wellington just converted on those mistakes. It was as simple as that."

Another factor was the outstanding defensive job the Crusaders did on Mulvane's top scorer, Cody Watson. She was held to only two points. "They keyed on our high scorer and that may have stopped her scoring but it didn't stop her in the defensive end or in rebounding because she did a great job," said McMahon. "She did a great job on both ends of the floor and her hustling was outstanding."

In a battle of winless teams, Wellington held on at the end. One of the big differences was that the Crusaders hit five three-point goals. Every time the Cats moved close, Wellington gunners hit a three to help gain momentum.

"Our defense really came through for us," said McMahon. "We ran a match-up. They had two good outside shooters but we did a good job covering them with Heather Taylor, Lee Cates and Jamie Martin.

"It was just a matter of two evenly-matched teams, and our inexperience finally showed up a little. When you have to starters on the bench and are still playing even with them, you have to be pleased with the job everybody is going."

McMahon said Martin became a spark-plug after coming in in the first quarter. He also praised the play at both ends of the floor of Heather Taylor. "Lee Banzet also had a totally great game," said McMahon.

Cates chipped in with 10 points and Martin and Taylor finished with six and four points, respectively, against the Crusaders.

In the semifinal loss to Andover, the Trojans got things rolling behind standout guard Susan Woolf by out-scoring MHS, 21-13, in the second quarter, then Woolf knocked down four straight three-pointers in the third quarter as the Trojans put the game away by out-scoring the Wildcats, 25-8.

Watson sparkled on the Cat offense, scoring 17 points before fouling out. Banzet finished with nine points, followed by Cates and Courtney Renfro with four points apiece.

Circle Thunderbird Girls Classic Results

SEVENTH PLACE

Mulvane	9	11	10	7-37
Wellington	10	9	11	8-38

Mulvane—Lee Banzet 15, Jamie Martin 6, Cody Watson 2, Lee Cates 10, Heather Taylor 4. FG 15 (0), FT 7-12, F 14.

Wellington—Marcee Russell 10, Amy Kelch 9, Misty Stallbaumer 4, Jan Nance 5, Kocheia Griffin 3, Jermifer Heersche 1, Kristy Tencleve 6. FG 15-40 (5), FT 3-8, F 16.

CHAMPIONSHIP

Circle 59, Independence 56

THIRD PLACE

Arkansas City 47, El Dorado 39

FIFTH PLACE

Andover 68, Sunrise 21

SEMIFINALS

Andover	15	21	25	10-71
Mulvane	6	13	8	14-41

Andover—Susan Woolf 27, Krista Tiller 13, Nicki Martens 10, Misty Minton 4, Kelly Watson 4, Sharon Johnson 5, Emily Winkleman 2, Abi Dethloff 4, Jana Lee 2. FG 26 (4), FT 7-11, F 15.

Mulvane—Kendra Banzet 8, Cody Watson 17, Kristi McDowell 2, Marcy Arnold 3, Lee Cates 4, Courtney Renfro 4. FG 19 (0), FT 3-9, F 15.

Sunrise 55, Wellington 41
Circle 49, Arkansas City 33
Independence 51, El Dorado 36

MULVANE
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