

Improved Girls Raise Cole's Hopes, Consistent Play Needed Next

A rotten first half when only 10 points went up on the boards for Mulvane didn't spoil the rest of the game as the Mulvane High School Wildcat girls came on strong but still lost a 56-36 decision to Maize in a non-league game Tuesday night, Dec. 16.

The loss dropped Mulvane's record to 0-5 but it didn't phase Cat bench chief Rod Cole. "We've had three in a row where we were in the ball game most of the way," said Cole. "It seems like we have flashes where we look real good but we don't play with consistency. We can play ball with people. I just hope we get one soon."

In the junior varsity game, the Wildcat jayvees nearly did, as coach Kristi Visor's gals were trimmed, 36-33.

Last week, Maize pounded Mulvane by a 54-28 count. "I think we played better than we did a week ago and so did they," said Cole. "I feel like we're getting closer and closer to winning one. We rebounded well at times. We got a few second shots, which is something we've been having difficulty getting."

Varsity Girls

Maize 16 8 16 16-56
Mulvane 4 6 10 14-36

Maize—Laura Paul 15, Diana Paul 14, Tamra Voegelé 10, Michelle Baker 2, Tami Vansteenburgh 6, Diane Ford 9. FG 25, FT 6-10, F 13.

Mulvane—Angela Cox 2, Bridget Horton 2, Kim Prickett 2, Nancy Farber 4, Rhonda Reekie 4, Kandi Miller 8, Kathy Saxton 12. FG 15, FT 4-8, F 10.

Junior Varsity Girls

Maize 8 14 5 9-36
Mulvane 10 3 11 9-33

Maize—Gretchen Herrman 6, Laura Paul 4, Teri Stiverson 6, Michelle Baker 9, Julie Wisdom 5, Gwyn Felder 4, Paula Lamb 2. FG 16, FT 4-15, F 17.

Mulvane—Bridget Horton 5, Toni Wayman 6, Heather Donaldson 8, Helen Christian 2, Karen Lewis 5, Kandi Miller 2, Angela Cox 5. FG 12, FT 9-22, F 19.

MAIZE GIRLS TOURNAMENT CONSOLATION THIRD PLACE

Mulvane 10 14 11 9-44
Pratt 19 5 11 16-51

Mulvane—Kathy Saxton 16, Kim Prickett 4, Kandi Miller 3, Nancy Farber 1, Kim Millerskow 8, Rhonda Reekie 12. FG 19-48, FT 6-18, F 12.

Pratt—Goss 8, Woodbrim 7, Payne 4, Hoena 10, Meganity 12, James 2, Menwarren 8. FG 23, FT 5-10, F 17.

CHAMPIONSHIP

Liberal 52, Maize 17

THIRD PLACE

Canton Galva 53, Valley Center 52

CONSOLATION FIRST

Andale 53, Nickerson 48 (OT)

Semifinals

Nickerson 19 9 16 11-55
Mulvane 10 15 4 18-47

Nickerson—Lawson 9, Mary Ulsaker 17, Shannon Thomason 7, Sturgeon 4, Sneed 4, Runge 2, Graber 8. FG 21, FT 9-14, F 12.

Mulvane—Kathy Saxton 24, Kim Prickett 8, Angela Cox 6, Kandi Miller 3, Rhonda Reekie 6. FG 20-54, FT 7-11, F 14.

Andale 47, Pratt 32

Maize 46, Canton Galva 42

Liberal 44, Valley Center 41

Mulvane battled back to within 12 points with about four minutes remaining but the Eagles spurted out after a three-turnover binge by MHS.

Junior pivot Kathy Saxton had 12 points and seven rebounds and sophomore Kandi Miller was the No. 2 scorer with eight points. Rhonda Reekie and Nancy Farber each scored four points for the Cats.

In the jayvee game, the Wildcats rallied in the third quarter after the visiting Eagles out-scored Mulvane, 14-3, in the second quarter but the rally died in the fading moments of the game.

Heather Donaldson paced the Mulvane scorers with eight points. Guard Toni Wayman scored six and Bridget Horton, Angela Cox and Karen Lewis all had five points.

The Maize Girls Tournament offered little comfort for the Wildcat gals. They lost three straight and finished in last place. Pratt dumped the Cats in the game for last place, 51-44, Saturday afternoon, Dec. 13. In Mulvane's opening game, Maize pounded Mulvane, 54-28, and that was followed by Thursday, Dec. 11, with a 55-47 verdict to Nickerson.

"We had a lot of opportunities but we just didn't capitalize on them," said Cole. "We again played a pretty good game against Pratt, hustling every inch of the way. We have had back-to-back good games and put some points on the board, and that's a vast improvement from our first two games."

"Our inexperience showed, though, when it got tough. You can tell the inexperienced players because it's not there when the pressure situations are. We didn't handle it, but it wasn't for lack of effort."

The Cats fell behind in the first quarter but out-pointed the Greenbacks, 14-5, in the second quarter behind a seven-point burst by Rhonda Reekie and a couple buckets by Kim Millerskow to measure out a 24-24 halftime tie.

The teams still were tied after three quarters but Pratt spurted ahead in the fourth as Mulvane missed five free throws. "We had been shooting really good from the free throw line but we only hit 35% against Pratt and those down the stretch really hurt. We just went a little cold in the fourth quarter."

The junior Saxton paced the squad again, hitting 16 points. She also had seven rebounds. Reekie finished with her best game, a 12-point effort, and Millerskow scored eight points.

Mulvane had another decent shooting night against Nickerson, hitting 37% from the field, but watched a fourth quarter rally fall a bit short. Nickerson jumped out to an early 19-10 lead but Mulvane rallied behind Saxton's 10-point outburst in the second quarter to trail only 28-25 at intermission. Then, a four-point third quarter put the Cats back in a hole that even a 16-point final frame couldn't extract them from.

"We were much improved," said Cole. "We passed the ball up the court and got the good shots, which shows in our point production. We rebounded better and we made some defensive changes that I think will help."

Saxton helped, too, scoring a career-high 24 points with 12 rebounds. Overall, the Wildcat girls pulled down 31 rebounds with Reekie getting eight and Kandi Miller seven. The No. 2 scorer for MHS was guard Kim Prickett, who scored eight points. Guard Angela Cox scored six, as did Reekie.