

## Three Straight One-Pointers

# Cat Girls Play It Close

Even a new coach didn't deter the Mulvane High School girls from making it interesting for the fans Saturday afternoon, Dec. 16, in the last round of the Chaparral Girls Round Robin.

The Wildcat girls (3-1) chalked up their third straight heart-stopper but it was only the first in a row for Mulvane High School boys basketball coach, Charlie Mason, who was coaching the Cat gals in the tournament in the absence of both regular girls coach, Gregg Wolgast, and his aide, Scott Swaney. The game was supposed to have been a week earlier but snow altered the schedule and both coaches were scheduled to be in weddings—Wolgast in Council Grove and Swaney in Rose Hill.

No matter. The results were the same. Mulvane hung on for a 52-51 decision over Wellington to take second place in the four-team meet. Garden Plain went through undefeated to win first place.

A night earlier, the Wildcat had risen from the ashes for a 43-42 overtime verdict over Goddard in their opening Chisholm Trail League game in Mulvane. And in their previous game, the Wildcat girls had rallied to clip Chaparral, 42-41.

"I'm really pleased with this start," admitted Wolgast. "The girls are playing with a lot of confidence. We still have some things to improve on but this will do. We need to be able to play like we're capable of playing all the time. We shouldn't be in the position of having to depend on last-second shots, but I do agree it is really developing a sense of confidence."

In wrapping up the Roadrunner round-robin with a 2-1 record, Mason guided the girls back from a 14-point deficit in the second quarter, finally taking charge in the fourth period. With junior Kendra Banzet saddled with three fouls, junior Ticia Nicholson heated up, scoring eight points in the second quarter to keep Mulvane from getting blown out. She came up with seven more and Nicole Infinger had three as the Cats chewed the lead down to 10 points in the third quarter. Banzet then took over, scoring 11 points in the last period as Mulvane grabbed the lead and held on.

The girls had to survive a missed free throw with three seconds left by Wellington to keep the win secure.

Nicholson finished with 19 points and Banzet scored 15. Denise Wilson and Tricia Turner, two sophomores, were next high with four points each.

The Cats also took care of the boards with Nicholson getting 11 of the team's 30 rebounds. The Crusaders had 22 rebounds.

In a regular season game Friday night, Dec. 15, against Goddard, a new hero stepped forward. Junior Kim Rodriguez came up with a rebound off a missed free throw in the lane and put it back in to give the Cats an uphill, 43-42, victory in overtime.

A fielder with three seconds left by sophomore guard Tammy Withrow sent the game into overtime by tying the count at 38-all.

"The Chaparral game was a big influence here," stressed Wolgast. "The girls knew they could come back."

The Lions appeared to have this one in the bag with a two-point lead and the ball but a Lion missed the front end of a one-and-one and Mulvane got the board. A time out gave Wolgast time to set up Withrow along the baseline and she hit it.

In the overtime, Goddard again appeared in charge with a 42-40 lead when Banzet missed a shot with five seconds left, but she got her own rebound and was fouled. Three Goddard time outs followed and Banzet missed the second of two shots, but Rodriguez was there for the carom.

"Against Goddard, it was a matter of us finally being able to execute against their press," said Wolgast. "They built up their lead when we weren't functioning against their press. We finally got settled down and stopped giving them the easy bucket and that allowed us to come back."

Nicholson has been carrying the hot

## Chaparral Girls Round-Robin Tourney

### THIRD ROUND

(Delayed because of bad weather)

Mulvane 8 12 13 19-52  
Wellington 16 11 16 8-51

Mulvane—Tammy Withrow 3, Tricia Turner 4, Lisa Heersche 3, Ticia Nicholson 19, Nicole Infinger 3, Denise Wilson 4, Kendra Banzet 15. FG 18-41(0), FT 16-28, F22.

Wellington—Anna Heimer 8, Marci Becheisen 6, DeeAnna Hubbard 13, Marti Stayton 4, Kelly Silcott 14, Debbie Nickel 2, Heather McAlister 4. FG 19-46 (0), FT 13-25, F 21.

Garden Plain 46, Chaparral 37

### Regular Season Results

#### Varsity Girls

Goddard 11 10 6 11 (4)-42  
Mulvane 9 10 6 13 (5)-43  
Goddard—Carla Craig 10, Erika Plagge 3, Nancy Summers 14, April Jatzlau 4, Brandi Murray 9, Annette Henley 2. FG 13-38 (0), FT 16-23, F 17.

Mulvane—Tammy Withrow 8, Ticia Nicholson 16, Lisa Heersche 3, Nicole Infinger 2, Kendra Banzet 11, Kim Rodriguez 4. FG 18-41 (0), FT 7-15, F 22.

#### Junior Varsity Girls

Goddard 11 4 21 10-46  
Mulvane 8 10 3 12-33  
Goddard—Shannon Jaxx 9, Amy Major 8, Lori Cunningham 2, Kristen Hawks 8, Brandy Murray 10, Ann Arnold 2, Marni Hamson 7. FG 21-56 (0), FT 4-7, F 17.

Mulvane—Tricia Turner 13, Tammy Withrow 2, Kim Rodriguez 2, Jenny Ray 1, Michael Gore 6, Kristen Kuntz 2, Dawn Hicks 3, Denise Wilson 4. FG 13-30 (0), F 7-12, F 12.

hand lately and she did it again against the Lions, scoring a game-high 16 points. Banzet finished with 11, Withrow scored eight and Rodriguez had four.

The Mulvane junior varsity had its hands full with Goddard Friday night in the preliminary game, the Lions roasting the Cats, 46-33, behind a 21-3 run in the third quarter to break the game open. Mulvane had held an 18-15 halftime lead.

Tricia Turner, playing for the first time since November surgery, scored 13 points and Michael Gore and Wilson were next with six and four points, respectively. Dawn Hicks scored three for the MHS jayvees.



MHS's Tammy Withrow (10) and Ticia Nicholson get there too late to prevent shot