

# MHS Tires Out Loses To Valley

Being consistent is something that comes with time, experience and success and it's still something the Mulvane High School girls basketball squad is searching for.

The Wildcats made a game of it Friday night, Dec. 18, in the opening half at home against Valley Center but the hornets pulled away in the second half to take a handy 67-38 triumph in a Chisholm Trail League Division I game.

"We were in the ball game in the first half but I think we just tired out and we weren't consistent enough to win it," said new coach Gregg Wolgast. "The girls just tired out in the stretch. They would make a run at us and we didn't react to their runs and stop them. We had (Kim) Kysar out sick so we were back to five or six girls. Our inconsistent play really hurt us, though. The girls made a couple good runs at them, then let down and let Valley make three or four buckets on us. We're just not consistent enough, and that means at both ends of the floor."

For the first two quarters, the Cats, riding a two-game winning streak, were definitely in the game against VC, a team picked to be among the top two in the league. Valley rolled out to an 18-12 lead in the first quarter but was ahead, 33-22, with one minute remaining in the first half and Mulvane had the ball. The Cats failed to score and VC did but it wasn't until the third quarter that the visiting Hornets were able to shake the spunky Mulvane gals, out-scoring the Wildcats, 18-10, in the third quarter to take firm control.

The Hornets put the clamps on the inside game and Mulvane couldn't knock 'em in from the perimeter. "They shut down the middle pretty good on us," said Wolgast. "It was pretty effective and they put a half-court trap on us that bothered us some. We didn't show any consistency attacking it."

"Packing down the middle, though, hurt because our outside shooters couldn't make anything. They wanted to shut down Kathy (Saxton) and they packed things tight and also fronted her to deny her the ball. Using a zone defense made it even easier to shut us down inside. If the girls would have been able to throw in a couple outside, I think it might have been different, but I was proud of the girls for recongizing

what to do when they went to that defense. We went right into the correct offense."

Another factor which hurt the Wildcats was balance. Only three girls scored and while the Hornets were shutting Saxton down a notch, they couldn't shut her off totally as the Mulvane scoring leader hit 12 points. Guard Amy Arnold was the top Mulvane scorer with 16 points, several coming off the fast break bucket. The third Cat scorer was junior Nancy Farber, who scored 10.

"Valley Center did a good job and they're a good ball club, but I thought we were right in there with them until the second half," added Wolgast. "We had a bunch of turnovers right toward the end of the period that let them build a pretty good lead (49-28) and we never could recover."

Wolgast feels his club is at the crucial point of the season and hopes to rebound in the next outing. "We're at a very pivotal point," he stressed. "We're improving but we need to jump up to the next plateau. We can't dwell on this level. We need to turn it up a couple notches to get better so that we can play with the better teams in the league."

The Mulvane junior varsity had a miserable start which led to an even worse game. Valley racked Mulvane 73-6.

The only scorers for the Cats were Angie Wheeler, a guard who scored four points and Bridget Horton, who had a pair.

After a game Tuesday night, Dec. 22, at Augusta, the Wildcats will be idle until after the Christmas break. Buhler will be in Mulvane for a game Friday, Jan. 5.

## Girls Varsity

Valley Center	18 17 18 14-67
Mulvane	12 10 10 6-38
Valley Center--Nikki Epley 13, Roni Gordon 4, Kristen Ruth 8, Shelly Nordstedt 12, Cindy Nordstedt 8, Stacy Briscoe 8, Kristi Nordstedt 14. FG 33-61 (0), FT 1-4, F 12.	
Mulvane--Nancy Farber 10, Kim Prickett 0, Kathy Saxton 12, Bridget Horton 0, Amy Arnold 16. FG 19-47, FT 0-3, F 8.	

## Junior Varsity Girls

Valley Center	20 23 18 12-73
Mulvane	0 2 2 2-6
Valley Center--Julie Flores 8, Paula Alford 4, Sandy Smith 2, Jana Freed 4, Roni Gordon 8, Janel Zellers 4, Amy Dellinger 4, Lisa Horning 12, Heather Jernigan 19, Marcella Oliverius 8. FG 33-69 (0), FT 7-15, F 8.	
Mulvane--Angie Wheeler 4, Holly Donaldson 0, Nicole Infinger 0, Bridget Horton 2, Desiree Smithhiser 0. FG 3-21 (0), FT 0-2, F 12.	