

# Fourth Quarter For Girls; Nervous Time For Coach

The fourth quarter has been Mulvane's quarter, but it's making Mulvane Girls Basketball Coach Kelly Dennis a nervous wreck.

The Wildcat girls played "Let's Make Coach Nervous" for three quarters Friday night, Dec. 19, when Kingman came to town but pulled out the victory, 53-42, by out-scoring the Eagles, 12-4, in the last quarter. The victory evened the girls' record at 3-3 overall and gave Dennis her first CTL win this season.

"It came down to the fourth quarter again," said Dennis. "We seem to play our best basketball in the fourth quarter in the games we've won. We finally started hitting some shots and Kingman finally started missing some. Plus, I felt our defensive intensity started picking up in that quarter."

Kingman came into the game sporting a 3-0 record and after the Eagles jumped ahead, 14-4, in the first quarter, it looked like fourth quarter heroics wouldn't be needed, but Mulvane battled back in the second half and finally took their first lead with slightly more than a minute to play. Kristin Buchanan hit two free throws to put the Wildcats ahead, 40-39. "We changed defenses a couple times in that quarter but I felt the real key was that the girls played with more urgency," said Dennis. "They got their intensity going. Kassie (Hargrove) hit a three and that jump-started our team."

Neither team could put the game away in the last minute with each missing a couple good opportunities.

"I don't know about our poor start," said Dennis. "We came out that way last week and got behind big time to Rose Hill. I just think we're not being very patient at the

beginning of the game when our shots aren't falling. The encouraging thing, though, is that I don't think we've played even close to our best. What counts is on the scoreboard and that's where we need to start getting things together."

Guard Lindsay Kendrick was the lone Wildcat in double figures. She had 10 points against Kingman. Guards Michelle Fowler and Jackie McColpin chipped in seven and six points, respectively, and Hargrove tossed in eight.

In the jayvee game against the Eagles, Mulvane jumped on Kingman early and held on for a 34-24 triumph. Top scorers for the Cat JV's were Jana Smith with eight points, Aubrey Benjamin with six and Shiriah Craft and Piper Roy with five each.

It was a different story Tuesday, Dec. 16, when Circle visited Mulvane. The Thunderbirds held off a late push by the Wildcats to record a 38-29 decision.

"Turnovers really hurt us," emphasized Dennis. "We had 13 by halftime and finished the game with 33. You're not going to win many games with that many turnovers.

It was just crazy. Our goal is to have 15 or below. We just need to concentrate on doing the things we can do well not not trying to do the things we don't do well. And we also have to start shooting better. We have several girls hitting 10% from the field. They just have to step up and make the shots."

The Wildcats didn't have a player in double figures against the T-Birds. Fowler, Shelley Richards and Melissa Buchanan were high with six points apiece. Kendrick finished with five and Kristin Buchanan scored four points.

Circle also won the junior varsity outing, halting a late rally by the Wildcats for a 36-32 margin. Kristal LaPlant and Jana Smith with six points each were the top scorers for Coach Dale Landes' JV team. Arin Leonard scored five points and Andrea Hufford hooked up for four.

The girls are idle until 1998 when they start the new year at home against an old foe, Rose Hill. The Rockets will come to town Tuesday, Jan. 6, for a league game.

### Varsity Girls

Kingman	14	11	10	4-39
Mulvane	4	11	14	12-41

Kingman—Dana Parsons 7, Jennifer McGinnis 9, Cindy Hageman 4, Sherri Hageman 4, Sarah Knapic 6, Carrie Miller 6, Amber Stucky 1, Abby Young 2. FG 12 (0), FT 15-22, F 21.

Mulvane—Lindsay Kendrick 10, Jackie McColpin 6, Michelle Fowler 7, Melissa Buchanan 5, Kassie Hargrove 8, Shelley Richards 5. FG 14 (3), FT 10-21, F 21.

Circle	14	11	6	7-38
Mulvane	3	9	10	7-29

Circle—Keri Seidl 10, Allison Berry 12, Amber Laughlin 5, Mary Hocker 9, Mica Hammer 2. FG 16 (2), FT 4-14, F 14.

Mulvane—Lindsay Kendrick 5, Michelle Fowler 6, Shelley Richards 6, Melissa Buchanan 6, Kassie Hargrove 2, Kristin Buchanan 4. FG 12 (2), FT 3-4, F 20.

### Junior Varsity Girls

Kingman	4	6	11	3-24
Mulvane	10	10	7	7-34

Kingman—Amber Stucky 10, Holly Messenger 2, Tracy Lunsford 4, Carrie Miller 6, Sarah Pitman 2. FG 10 (2), FT 2-4, F 18.

Mulvane—Jana Smith 8, Shiriah Craft 5, Andrea Hufford 2, Kristal LaPlant 4, Piper Roy 5, Aubrey Benjamin 6, Arin Leonard 4. FG 14 (1), FT 5-16, F 13.

Circle	6	11	8	11-36
Mulvane	4	6	6	16-32

Circle—Megan Carson 5, Cori Sullard 1, Tracey Purwell 10, Mandi Lee 2, Sandra Dugan 2, Laine Pond 9, Michelle Todd 7. FG 15 (2), FT 4-14, F 10.

Mulvane—Andrea Hufford 4, Jana Smith 6, Shiriah Craft 2, Kristal LaPlant 6, Erin French 2, Piper Roy 3, Aubrey Benjamin 2, Arin Leonard 5, Natalie Turner 2. FG 15 (1), FT 1-5, F 14.