

Boys Can't Stay Consistent

Mulvane High School boys basketball coach Ryan Herra is still waiting for the "real" Wildcat team to stand up.

His MHS boys appear to be on their game one moment and in another world the next. That's the way the week-long Mulvane Early Season Boys Basketball Tournament went. The Cats went 1-2 but started brilliantly in the tournament finale against Andale, faded out, then bounced back at the end. They played extremely poorly the whole game against Rose Hill, but started the round-robin tourney playing

good ball against Douglass.

The Cats took care of Douglass, 53-44, Tuesday night, Dec. 9, but lost miserably to Rose Hill, 49-29, Friday, Dec. 12. Against Andale, the Cats looked like world-beaters in the first quarter as they blitzed the Indians in a 22-6 start. Andale came back to take the lead in the second half and held off Mulvane, 58-55, Saturday night, Dec. 13.

"This bunch is weird," said Coach Herra. "There is no consistency. We're capable of being very, very good; it's just a matter of us doing it."

The tournament left the Cats with a 1-3 record for this season and left Herra scratching his head. "I'm not sure how far we've come," noted Herra. "We played very good against Andale. That's an aggressive team we looked at."

Mulvane was indeed on fire in the opening quarter. Senior Brad Enoch knocked down a couple of three-pointers. Nick Hansen hit one and so did Zach Kimble. Mulvane was running and hitting shots inside, too, with Grant Snider and Gavin Snider each scoring. It ended up 28-10 at the quarter break.

"We played like we wanted to play," emphasized Herra. "The Cats were pushing the basketball, they were scoring, they were shooting. Grant and Gavin were taking it right to the 6-foot Gerard Spevartle. And they were knocking down the shot."

The rest of the game, however, the Wildcats were only trying to regain that magic, and Andale out-scored them in each of the last three quarters. The Cats had a chance to tie on a three-point shot at the gun

but missed.

"Our kids started getting less and less aggressive after that first quarter," said Herra. "At times, it looks like they lay back and hope somebody else shoots it. It's kind of the team psyche. Sometimes, I think it is just the way they view their game but we want them to go at a high speed, run the floor, score and have fun playing the game. These kids are talented enough to do that but there's something there that doesn't let that happen. And it's kind of a group thing—they feed off each other."

The Indians started the long road back by slowing things down and getting the ball to their scorers. "They started getting the ball to Paul Eck and he's great," said Herra. "Zach, I thought, really did a great job on him defensively, an excellent job, but he still scored 29 points."

Kimble finished with 17 points. Greg Flores scored 13 points and Enoch had a career-high 10 points. Hansen finished with eight.

"The kids battled down the stretch and that's something you like to see," said Herra. "The kids competed with a chance to win and that's what I want. We can compete against anybody but the inconsistency just drives me nuts."

A night earlier, against Rose Hill, the Cats played a game Herra would just as soon forget. "We didn't compete at all against Rose Hill," said the Cat coach. "We refused to be aggressive offensively. And 29 points is very disappointing. We had 20 turnovers and that didn't help any. What is really the problem is that we were much bigger inside then they were but we just didn't score. It's all about playing with confidence and playing with aggressiveness, and we did neither."

The Rockets took off from the opening tip. It was 15-6, after one quarter and Mulvane didn't score in double digits in any quarter until the 4th, when the Cats scored 15.

Kimble finished with 15 points and reserve Logan Sorensen and Gavin Snider had five points apiece.

The Cats played better in the tourney opener against the Bulldogs, out-scoring Douglass, 31-26, in the final half to maintain a nice lead.

Gavin Snider scored 16 points in that game and Hansen tossed in 12. Grant Snider scored nine points, Kimble had seven and J.D. Sorensen finished with five.

The final game of 2003 finds the Wildcats at home against Augusta's Orioles. The game will be held Friday, Dec. 19, and is the first Chisholm Trail League game for both teams.

Mulvane Early Season Boys Tournament

THIRD ROUND

Andale 10-16-17-15—58
Mulvane 25-12-16-6—55
Andale: Luke Posch 6, Paul Eck 29, Alex Fox 4, Gerard Spevartle 15, Matt Lawson 2. FG 20 (6), FT 13-14 F 13.

Mulvane: Zach Kimble 17, Nick Hansen 8, Gavin Snider 4, Brad Enoch 10, Greg Flores 13, Grant Snider 3. FG 21 (8), FT 5-12, F 14.

Rose Hill 59, Douglass 58
(Rose Hill went 3-0 and won the boys tournament championship)

SECOND ROUND

Rose Hill 15-10-11-13—49
Mulvane 6-5-3-15—29

Rose Hill: Caleb House 4, James Hensley 7, Brandon Crowe 3, Dennis Shirley 11, Jared McRae 6, Josh Stanley 2, Blake Ringwall 5, Tyler Wilson 11. FG 18 (3), FT 10 (8), F 18.

Mulvane: Nick Hansen 2, Greg Flores 1, Zach Kimble 15, Grant Snider 1, Logan Sorensen 5, Gavin Snider 5. FG FG 10 (1), FT 8 (9), F 16.

Andale 67, Douglass 54

FIRST ROUND

Douglass 7-11-13-13—44
Mulvane 13-9-14-17—53

Douglass: Tyler Condon 5, Derrick Keith 8, Jake Rapp 12, Travis Faught 16, Drew Logsdon 1, Jake Valenne 2. FG 14 (4), FT 12-19, F 16.

Mulvane: J.D. Sorensen 5, Grant Snider 9, Zach Kimble 7, Nick Hansen 12, Cris Stephens 2, Gavin Snider 16, Kyle Womacks 2. FG 22 (2), FT 7-16, F 18.

Rose Hill 70, Andale 63

Chisholm Trail League Boys 2002-03 Basketball Standings

DIVISION I

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Rose Hill	3	0	5	0
Buhler	0	0	0	0
Maze	0	0	0	0
Mulvane	0	0	2	3
Augusta	0	0	0	0
Goddard	0	0	0	0
Valley Center	0	0	0	0

DIVISION II

Andover Central	0	0	0	0
Kingman	0	0	0	0
Andale	0	0	0	0
Andover	0	0	0	0
Clearwater	0	0	0	0
Wellington	0	0	0	0
Circle	0	0	0	0

Games Scheduled Tonight (Dec. 18):
Maze at Derby

Games Scheduled Friday, Dec. 19
(Final games before Christmas Break)

Augusta at Mulvane
Kingman at Andover
Andale at Valley Center
Wellington at Clearwater

Kimble Lone Wildcat On Tourney Team

Senior Zach Kimble was the only Mulvane High School eager named to the all-tournament team Saturday night, Dec. 13, following the conclusion of the Mulvane Early Season Boys Tournament at the MHS gym.

Kimble sparked the Cats offensively, scoring 29 points, hitting double figures in the last two games for the Cats. The 6-foot, 4-inch Kimble had a high of 17 points in the finale against Andale. Mulvane went 1-2 in the "early bird tourney."

Rose Hill's Rockets won the tournament title by sweeping the other three teams in the round-robin meet. Three Rockets, all juniors, also were selected to the six-member tournament team by tournament officials. They were center Dennis Shirley, who scored 44 points, Blake Ringwall and James Hensley. They scored 22 apiece in the week-long event.

The final two all-tournament selections were Andale's Paul Eck, who scored a tournament high 70 points, and Derrick Keith of Douglass, who scored 45.