

Streaks Take Heat; Boys Blitz Two

MULVANE Sports

So, where are all those folks talking about streaks now. THE STREAK is 2-0.

The Mulvane High School basketball boys silenced the doubters Friday night, Jan. 3, then left them dumfounded Tuesday, Jan. 7, as they broke out of a three-year slump with a pair of victories to start the new year off right.

The Wildcats of Coach Charlie Mason shattered a 52-game losing streak at Andale Friday, throttling the host Indians, 44-34, then won their first Chisholm Trail League game Tuesday at home, rallying past Augusta, 55-50. It was the Cats' first CTL victory since Feb. 7, 1989 at Andover in a 50-41 triumph, ending a string of 28 consecutive CTL losses.

"I'm just really proud of these kids," said the veteran coach Mason. "The Andale game was a very bizarre game but we overcame all of that. Then, against Augusta, they had a chance to revert to the old ways, but they didn't. That shows the progress we're making. It's not just one or two people, it's everybody we're putting in there. They're all doing the job."

Against the favored Orioles, Mulvane fell behind by nine points in the early stages of the

4th quarter but came on to get the job done."

The double dose of winning also gave Mason some personal satisfaction. The 52-game losing streak has taken its toll on the man who guided the MHS banner to the 4A state championship in 1984. "I just felt relieved," admitted Mason. "That's about all you can say. It's not as if the kids haven't been trying. It's not as if I haven't been trying. It's not as if the others on the staff haven't been trying. We first wanted to get over the hump—break the string. Then, the next hump to get over was to win a league game and Augusta was that next hump. I've told the kids that they would get there. Now they have."

Once down by nine in the last quarter against Augusta, the Cats started putting things together. They made nine of 13 from the line in the period, keying the win.

Senior Jarrod Oldridge had his best game in quite some time with 17 points. J.J. Dunn scored 15 and center Chad Carpenter and junior Brian Strack scored eight points each.

Mulvane couldn't match up against the Augusta team in the junior varsity game and dropped a 55-43 decision. Guard Larry Dixon led the MHS offense with 12 points. Center Jason DeWald scored seven points and Jeremy Kendrick and Strack scored six apiece.

At Andale, the Cats snapped a 52-game losing streak which had extended since winning that 1989 game at Andover.

Mulvane started the game with a technical for getting to the floor late and eventually stumbled behind, 6-0, before scoring 18 consecutive points against the winless Indians.

More strange facts: the Wildcats didn't score at all in the third quarter but Andale couldn't take full advantage and just got to within three, 26-23, after three quarters. Mulvane made only eight of 28 free throws—but still managed to break the streak.

"One thing we have been preaching is consistent defense and that's what carried us in that third quarter," said Mason, noting the Indians scored only six points in the quarter.

Another factor Mason singled out was

the defensive played by Carpenter on Andale's top scoring threat, holding him to only seven points.

Meanwhile, Dunn had a big game as did Oldridge, each hitting 12 points. Strack knocked down eight points and senior Jeff Parson scored five.

Varsity Boys

Augusta	12	11	17	10—50
Mulvane	8	16	14	17—55

Augusta—Chris Grill 15, Nick Kelley 5, Brock Kappelmann 6, Jason Goeken 4, Eric Buggeln 2, Kyle Hirschfield 15, Ryan Miller 3. FG 22-61 (1), FT 5-9, F 19.

Mulvane—Jeff Parson 2, Steve Nelson 5, Brian Strack 8, Jarrod Oldridge 17, Chad Carpenter 8, J.J. Dunn 15. FG 21-48 (3), FT 10-15, F 15.

Junior Varsity Boys

Augusta	13	18	13	11—55
Mulvane	10	14	9	10—43

Augusta—Bob VanMeter 8, Eric Buggeln 3, Dan Hawkins 14, Jeff Stowell 6, Travis Hurd 2, Jeff Prothro 10, Scott Sledge 10, Justin Kufahl 2. FG 20 (0), FT 15-22, F 10.

Mulvane—Steve Nelson 3, Larry Dixon 12, J.J. Dunn 2, Brian Strack 6, Jeremy Kendrick 6, Jason DeWald 7, Dan Smith 4, Shawn Ebersole 3. FG 17 (2), FT 3-6, F 22.

Sophomore Boys

Augusta	10	7	16	4 (9)—46
Mulvane	6	6	9	16 (4)—41

Augusta—Kennedy Nesler 15, Justin Garst 2, Nathan VanDever 1, Travis Hurd 3, Chris Howard 4, Duncan 4, Turpin 5, Hubbard 5, Buell 7. FG 17 (4), FT 8-13, F 20.

Mulvane—Chris Heersche 10, Shay Vangas 7, Jamie Belden 5, Jason DeWald 7, Dan Smith 8, Griff Comejo 4. FG 17 (1), FT 6-19, F 15.

Varsity Boys

Mulvane	11	15	0	18—44
Andale	6	11	6	11—34

Mulvane—Brian Strack 8, J.J. Dunn 12, Jarrod Oldridge 12, Chad Carpenter 3, Jeff Parson 5, Steve Nelson 4. FG 16 (4), FT 8-28, F 19.

Andale—Tom Lubbers 7, Keith Eck 7, Jeremy McFadden 8, Bill Molitor 4, Adam Hays 2, Tom Rausch 2, Pete May 4. FG 11 (4), FT 8-15, F 30.

Junior Varsity Boys

Mulvane	12	8	4	16—40
Andale	7	8	19	11—45

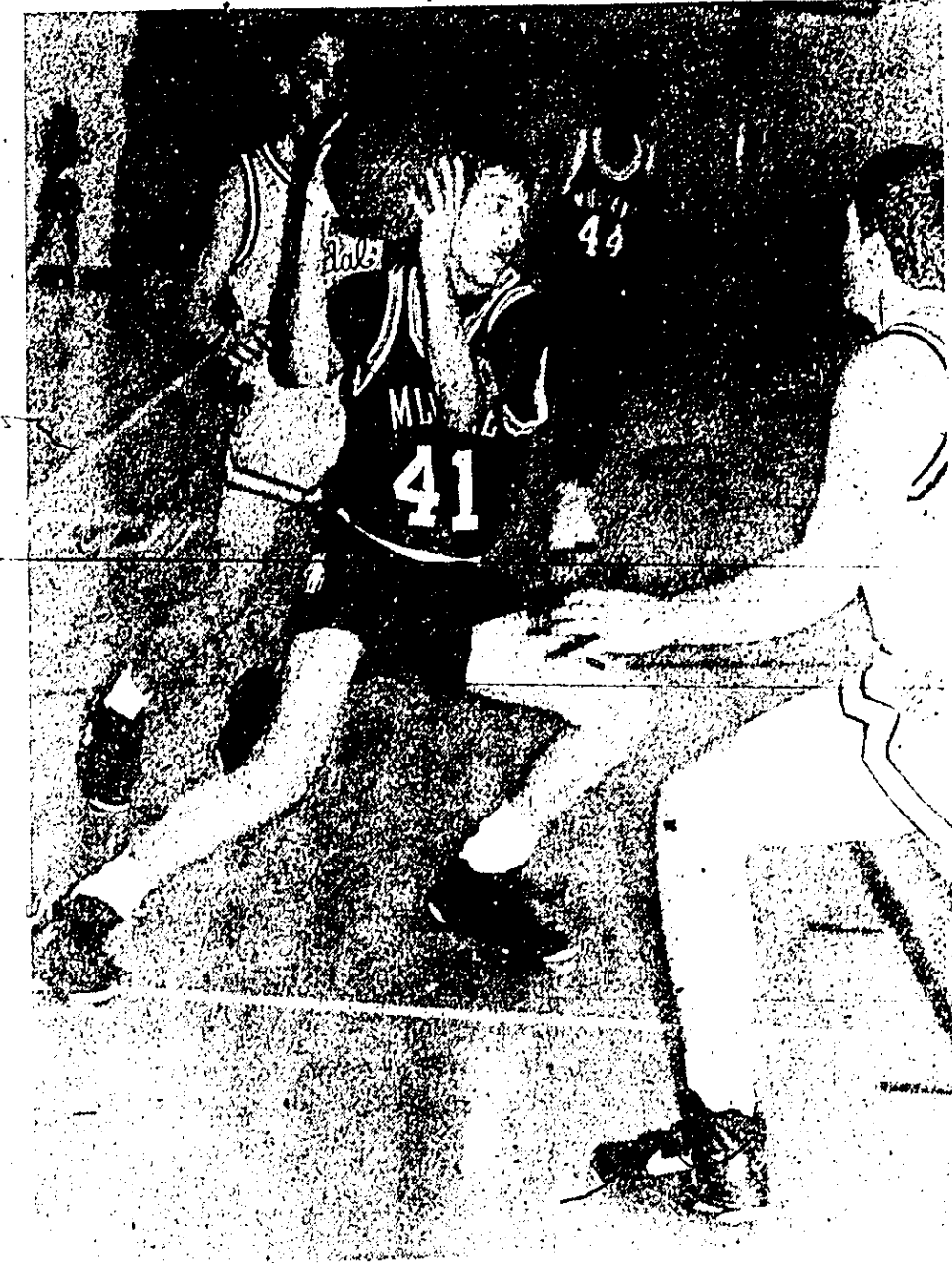
Mulvane—Steve Nelson 12, Larry Dixon 4, Chris Heersche 2, Shay Vangas 2, Jeremy Kendrick 3, Jamie Belden 2, Jason DeWald 9, Dan Smith 6. FG 17 (2), FT 4-7, F 25.

Andale—David Stuever 8, Bill Molitor 8, Chad Moltr 11, Lance Marx 5, Tom Rausch 3, Kyle Gorges 2, Jimmy Aylward 1, Jeremy Spexarth 7. FG 15 (1), FT 14-27, F 15.

Mulvane had its troubles in the 3rd quarter in the junior varsity game, too, which paved the way for a 45-40 verdict for the host Indians. Andale out-scored Mulvane in

that period, 19-4, to wipe out a 20-15 edge.

Steve Nelson led the Mulvane jayvees with 12 points. DeWald scored nine points and Smith scored six.



Cats' J.J. Dunn (41) cuts for the basket at Andale