

Wildcats In Dark In 7th Straight Defeat

The difference was like day and night. In the first half, the Mulvane High School boys played well, had the lead and appeared to be poised to record victory No. 1.

Then night descended. The second half Tuesday night, Jan. 7, at Rose Hill, the Wildcats were in the dark as Rose Hill pulled away for a 79-62 winner in a Chisholm Trail League game.

The loss left Coach Todd Barker's Cats at 0-7 overall and 0-4 in the CTL.

"We played a great first half," said Barker. We came out in the second half and didn't shoot well and they pulled away in the last quarter when fouls started taking their toll. Rose Hill turned it up a notch and we didn't. They went to the glass really well and got the rebounds and we quit shooting the ball like we did in the first half. We scored 40 points in the first half and only 22 in the second half."

Sure, Barker was disappointed. He came into the season with high hopes but those hopes have turned to dust in the wake of seven straight losses.

The Rockets switched to a zone defense

after intermission which seemed to give the Wildcats trouble as RH took the lead for good in the third quarter. The fourth quarter saw Rose Hill camping on the free throw line and pulling away by hitting 20 of 27, 12 of those points coming in the fourth quarter.

"The game was a lot closer than it looks until they started hitting free throws in the last quarter," said Barker. "And we were out-rebounded pretty badly. I don't know what the figures say but in the second half, we didn't board with them. We seemed to get winded and had our big kids inside just standing around while Rose Hill went to the boards.

"We've played two pretty good halves the last two games," added Barker. "We just can't seem to put a full game together."

The Cats were terrific in the opening two quarters, working their way out to a 40-38 lead. "In the first half, we were doing all those things you need to do to win a ball game," said Barker. "We were shooting the ball well, we were rebounding and we were playing good defense. That changed, though, in the second half."

The streak has the MHS coach wonder-

ing about his club's the desire to get better. "The kids just have to do a big gut check now," stressed Barker. "We have some people who are really starting to play ball, and we have others who are standing around watching. Those standing around watching are going to find their time being limited."

Guard Darrin Erbert had his best offensive game, scoring a game-high 22 points. Senior Raymond Lazier was the only other Cat in double figures, scoring 12. Junior Bryce Schumacher had nine points, Dan McElroy, another junior, scored seven while 6-7 senior center Brad Canfield finished with six.

The Wildcats turned the tables on the Rose Hill junior varsity in the preliminary game. Mulvane rallied from a 15-point half-time deficit to sock the Rockets, 75-71, in the jayvee game.

Ryan McCarty pumped in 24 points for the MHS jayvees. Ryan Lowe finished with 12 points for Mulvane, Ryan Rogers scored 10 while teammates Rob Parker and Sean

Varsity Boys				
Mulvane	18	22	10	12--62
Rose Hill	13	25	17	24--79
Mulvane—Raymond Lazier 12, Sean Holman 2, Darrin Erbert 22, Bryce Schumacher 9, Neil Gosch 4, Dan McElroy 7, Brad Canfield 6. FG 26 (2), FT 5-6, F 24.				

Rose Hill—Troy Powell 2, Johnny Simmons 9, John Rodgers 5, Chad Thomison 2, Josh Roy 20, Dustin Thomas 4, David Rowden 4, Brett Mohr 22, Jason Rose 2, Rhet Hansen 6, Zeb Jolly 3. FG 27 (5), FT 20-27, F 18.

Junior Varsity Boys				
Mulvane	19	12	21	23--75
Rose Hill	13	33	15	10--71
Mulvane—Ryan McCarty 24, Doug Grow 3, Sean Holman 7, Ryan Lowe 12, Bryce Schumacher 4, Robbie Parker 7, Ryan Rogers 10, Clint Cox 4, Garrett Hennes 4. FG 27 (9), FT 12-20, F 23.				

Rose Hill—Troy Powell 11, Brenden Taylor 5, Spencer Holland 2, John Rodgers 5, Devin Rutledge 4, Josh Roy 6, Ryan Armstrong 6, Phil Ring 8, Zeb Jolly 22. FG 29 (2), FT 11-26, F 22.
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Varsity Boys				
Andale	19	22	26	25--92
Mulvane	18	13	6	18--55
Andale—Keith Weber 14, Jarod Eck 28, Bart Winter 13, Steve Stanhope 7, Garrett Cutler 2, Luke May 9, Zack Steven 4, Joe Patry 3, Adam Spexarth 2, Joe Gullin 4, Pete Molitor 2. FG 38 (3), FT 13-19, F 20.				

Mulvane—Neil Gosch 11, Brad Canfield 2, Raymond Lazier 5, Chad Gerwick 4, Darrin Erbert 8, Sean Holman 3, Dan McElroy 4, Luke Cox 4, Doug Grow 3, Bryce Schumacher 7, Ryan Rogers 2. FG 19 (4), FT 13-22, F 19.

Junior Varsity Boys				
Andale	14	13	16	10--53
Mulvane	8	5	23	14--50
Andale—Gary McNett 5, Luke May 3, Scott Weber 14, Kent Brand 12, Joe Patry 7, Brandon Blocker 2, Zack Steven 6, Zac Richards 4. FG 24 (0), FT 5-14, F 24.				

Mulvane—Ryan McCarty 7, Doug Grow 3, Sean Holman 3, Ryan Lowe 8, Bryce Schumacher 7, Robbie Parker 6, Keene Hargrove 10, Clint Cox 5, Jacob Wilkinson 2. FG 19 (0), FT 12-27, F 18.

Sophomore Boys				
Andale	22	18	14	16--70
Mulvane	12	9	14	13--48
Andale—Brandon Caselman 13, Nathan Simon 2, Jared Winter 6, Lucas Hatten 4, Nathan Temca 6, Luke Eck 6, Matt Amos 10, Zac Richards 17, Dean Leahy 6. FG 29 (0), FT 12-18, F 21.				

Mulvane—Jacob Wilkinson 4, Lucas Powell 2, Randy Johnson 3, Tom Anderson 3, Brian McColpin 19, Philip Ward 6, Josh Sears 4, Garrett Hennes 7. FG 16 (4), FT 4-16, F 17.

Holman finished with seven apiece.

Having to play Andale after the Christmas holiday is kind of like the Grinch coming before Christmas. Yuck!

The Indians brought the reality of the new year home to the Wildcats Friday night, Jan. 3, by easily throttling Mulvane, 92-55, in their first contest of 1997.

"If we could play the whole game like we did the first 14 minutes, we would be okay," said Coach Barker. "We would set the world on fire then. We went cold shooting-wise in the second half and they hit everything they threw up."

Andale squirted out to a quick lead, then buried the Cats in a shower of points in the third quarter, out-gunning Barker's troops, 26-6, to blow the lid off. That sent Mulvane to its sixth straight defeat this season.

The Wildcat hung in there early, using their quickness and trapping defense to keep Andale in turmoil. "Our half-court trap was giving them fits early but they made some adjustments and then really blew us right on out of there once they started hitting," said Barker. "They got hot from the field. I don't think they missed a shot in the 4th quarter and finished with a 62% shooting mark from the field. I feel Andale is the best team we've faced this year...and none of them have been weak sisters."

The visiting Indians made a small move in the second quarter after Mulvane held tight after one quarter, 19-18. After intermission, things were pretty much settled as Andale went crazy in the third quarter.

"Their shooting really lifted them," said Barker. "We took a little breather there in the second quarter and that coupled with their excellent shooting and that was the ball game. I don't know what they shot in that quarter but it seemed like they didn't miss and we couldn't by a bucket."

Senior Neil Gosch was the only MHS player in double figures. He scored 11 points. Guard Darrin Erbert scored eight points, Bryce Schumacher had seven, Raymond Lazier scored five and Luke Cox, Dan McElroy and Chad Gerwick scored four points each.

The Mulvane junior varsity rallied in the 4th quarter but couldn't overtake Andale in a 53-50 loss in the B-team game. Coach Scott Swaney's jayvee players were led on offense by Keene Hargrove's 10 points. Ryan Lowe pumped in eight points and both Ryan McCarty and Schumacher had seven points apiece.

In the first sophomore game of the season for the Wildcat sophs, Andale took advantage of numbers and raced to a 70-48 victory in the MHS gym in the early game Friday.

Guard Brian McColpin dumped in 19 points to pace the Cat sophs. Garrett Hennes was second-high with seven points and Philip Ward scored six.