

MHS Boys Drop

Winless Lions

Mulvane blew open Tuesday night's game against Goddard in a hurry, then had to survive a late run by the Lions to claim a 70-54 victory in a Chisholm Trail League outing at home.

The Mulvane boys jumped all over the visitors in the first two quarters, taking a 31-16 halftime lead and held winless Goddard off down the home stretch to notch their second straight win to improve their record to 3-6 overall and 2-3 in the Chisholm Trail.

"It was a case of getting up too much too early and we lost our concentration" confessed Mason. "We had trouble in the second half with their man-to-man pressure and let them back in the game, but we made our free throws down the stretch. I told the kids before the season started that we could be the best free throw shooting team Mulvane's had in a long time but when the first league statistics came out we were last. The last two games, though, we've shot pretty good at the line."

Against the 0-8 Lions, the Wildcats dropped 24 of 36 through the hoop and it proved to be the difference.

The Cats were again paced by seniors Shay Cornejo and Toby Butcher. Cornejo scored 25 points and Butcher had 22. "Toby's really had some good games inside lately," said Mason, "even though he's been out-manned about every time out. He's done an excellent job for us this year inside."

Guard Neal Hamilton was next-high with 11 points and forward Larry Lambrecht, a junior, popped in eight points.

The Mulvane boys played their best game to date Friday, Jan. 8, at Wellington, where they toppled the hot Crusaders, 83-70, in a Chisholm Trail League game. It was the first CTL win for Mulvane this season.

"It was an important victory, but they all start to become important now," stressed Mason. "We need seven or eight wins to insure us of a home game for the first round of the sub-state, and we have nine left. We need to have at least five more before they seed, so they're all important."

Mason also was looking at the league angle. "We needed a league win in the worst way," said Mason. "Plus, we needed to beat somebody good, so we would know we could beat somebody good. Wellington had won four in a row and have probably the best single big kid in the league in Matt McIntire. And anytime you win on the road, it's a tough win, especially at Wellington."

The Wildcats, who were beaten, 69-64, in the Maize Tournament by Wellington, wasted little time getting after business. The Cats used their pressure defense and some fine play by Cornejo to open up an 18-12 lead after one quarter, and by intermission, Mulvane held a 10-point lead and the momentum.

"We played much, much better, probably our best game of the year for a full 32 minutes," said the MHS coach. "There have been times when we played better for spurts but this time, we met every challenge they threw at us."

"There was no denying we were going to win the ball game," continued Mason. "The kids weren't about to let that big lead slip away. We always play a tough ball game with Wellington, if they're not emotionally tough, they're physically tough."

Mulvane maintained a double-figure lead most of the way with everybody who played contributing in some way. Cornejo finished with a team-high 26 and he had numerous assists and rebounds. Center Toby Butcher looked good inside, scoring 19 points. Guard Neal Hamilton had a fine floor night and pumped in 17 points. Russell Norden had a career-high 15 points, hitting some key free throws down the stretch.

"It was a good team effort, our best," added Mason. "We got some things out of people we needed to get. I think we caught them by surprise, too, because we ran a totally different man offense and press against them than we had earlier this year. It's something we prepared during the Christmas break for Wellington."

Mason also was pleased with his club's free throwing, too. The Cats made 20 of 30 free tosses, their best of the year. "When you're last in the league in free throwing, you can expect to be fouled," said Mason. "They fouled us a lot but it was a pleasure to see us making them."

The Wildcat junior varsity had its troubles, blowing an early lead and losing a 69-45 game to the Crusaders. The Cats sophomores also were thumped, 65-47.

For the Mulvane jayvees, Sean Gillespie's eight points led the way. John Heinrichs scored seven points and Mike Higgins had five.

For the Mulvane sophs, guard Andy Church and Bill Harrington were high men with 12 points. Curtis Norden scored six points, as did Jeff Sisco.

Boys Varsity

Goddard	8 10 16 22-54
Mulvane	14 17 18 21-70
Goddard--Jim Girrens 4, Tim Dougherty 1, Brent Delfenbacher 2, Curt Howell 2, Jeff Berblinger 7, Brent Paul 16, Shawn Klein 8, Brian Burgess 4, David Enright 10. FG 23 (0), FT 8-18, F 25.	
Mulvane--Russell Norden 2, Neal Hamilton 11, Toby Butcher 22, Shay Cornejo 25, Larry Lambrecht 8, John Melick 2. FG 20 (2), FT 24-36, F 17.	

Boys Varsity

Mulvane	18 19 20 26-83
Wellington	12 15 20 23-70
Mulvane--Toby Butcher 19, Neal Hamilton 17, Russell Norden 15, Shay Cornejo 26, John Melick 2, Larry Lambrecht 4. FG 30-61 (3), FT 20-30, F 15.	
Wellington--Billy Mott 11, Eric Adams 8, Matt McIntire 31, Joel Bacon 4, Clint Whitney 7, Mickey Rusk 9. FG 29-49 (2), FT 10-17, F 18.	

Boys Junior Varsity

Mulvane	12 10 8 15-45
Wellington	7 16 17 29-69
Mulvane--Derek Donaldson 4, Sean Gillespie 8, Mike Higgins 5, Andrew Hodges 4, John Melick 2, John Heinrichs 7, Jeff Sisco 4, Bruce Brashear 2, Curtis Norden 2, Larry Lambrecht 4, Todd Hedstrom 2, Tom Simrell 1. FG 15-65 (1), FT 8-20, F 22.	
Wellington--Doug Mericle 13, Jeff Willis 13, Lance Oldridge 10, Tagg Heasty 9, Jason Barker 8, Jason White 2, Rick McConnell 7, Frank Cornejo 4, Jim Harris 3. FG 26-54 (0), FT 17-30, F 18.	

Sophomore Boys

Mulvane	18 8 5 16-47
Wellington	10 20 16 19-65
Mulvane--Todd Butcher 3, Todd Hedstrom 2, Jeff Sisco 8, Andy Church 12, Curtis Norden 8, Bruce Brashear 4, Bill Harrington 12, Scott Young 2. FG 14 (4), FT 7-13, F 17.	
Wellington--Frank Cornejo 12, Mark Hays 10, James Hill 12, Justin Gracy 8, Rick McConnell 15, Jeff Harris 8. FG 27 (0), FT 11-17, F 15.	

CHISHOLM TRAIL LEAGUE BOYS BASKETBALL STANDINGS

DIVISION I

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Buhler	4	0	6	2
Wellington	3	1	5	4
Valley Center	2	2	2	5
Andover	2	2	2	6
Mulvane	2	3	3	6
Augusta	1	3	3	5
Goddard	0	4	0	8

DIVISION II

Kingman	4	0	6	1
Maize	3	1	7	1
Chaparral	2	1	6	1
Circle	2	2	4	3
Andale	1	2	3	4
Rose Hill	1	4	2	7
Clearwater	0	3	2	3

Games Friday, Jan. 15

Mulvane at Andover
Rose Hill, Idle
Kingman at Maize
Augusta at Wellington
Circle at Clearwater
Valley Center at Goddard
Buhler at Campus
Chaparral at Andale

Next Week's Tournament

Chaparral Roadrunner Classic--Mulvane, Clearwater, Kingman, Wellington, Chaparral.
El Dorado Bluestem Classic--Rose Hill, Augusta, Circle.
Valley Center Invitational--Andale, Andover, Maize, Valley Center.
McPherson Invitational--Buhler, Goddard.

Results Tuesday, Jan. 12

Mulvane 70, Goddard 54
Circle 84, Rose Hill 71
Buhler 57, Augusta 49

Results Friday, Jan. 8

Mulvane 83, Wellington 70
Chaparral 55, Rose Hill 52
Kingman 72, Andale 47
Maize 89, Clearwater 71
Andover 80, Goddard 52
Buhler 81, Valley Center 34