

# MHS Jubilation Short Lived

With their first win under their belt, the Mulvane High School boys had high hopes of adding Wellington to the list Tuesday night, Jan. 12, at Wellington, but the Crusaders schooled Mulvane in an 84-59 rout.

The Crusaders' Darin Miller proved to be too much as he poured in 40 points, his second-40-point game of the year.

"Too much Darin Miller," admitted MHS coach Dale Landes. "We couldn't stop him and we also had an off-shooting night by our guards. For us to be successful, we have to have our guards more active on the floor.

"We also found out we had to play hard for 32 minutes both on offense and defense if we're going to be successful," added Landes. "It paid off against Valley Center, but we didn't play a high intensity game for 32 minutes against Wellington and that's something we need to do every single time out to be competitive."

Defensively, Mulvane couldn't match up with the 6-foot, 7-inch Miller. "We wanted to double down on him every time he got the ball and either force him to take a bad shot or to pass off," pointed out Landes. "What happened is he started passing off and their other people started hitting three-pointers. They had six of them in the first two quarters. When we adjusted for that, Miller took advantage of it."

Senior J.J. Dunn had his best scoring night of the year, which was one positive for the Cats. He finished with 15 points. Senior Brian Heinrichs scored 14 points, Dan Smith and Brian Strack had eight apiece and Steve Nelson scored five.

"Nelson had a pretty good game with eight assists and only one turnover, and I was glad to see J.J. and Brian (Heinrichs) step up, but we have to have that kind of scoring from everybody," added Landes.

Mulvane returned the favor in the junior varsity game. The Wildcats held on for a 55-47 victory after taking a 14-point lead into the last eight minutes of play.

Chris Heersche topped Mulvane's jayvee scorers. He had 14 points. Shay Vangas finished with 11 points and both Shawn Erbert and Dexter Carpenter had 10-point games.

The Wildcat boys punctuated their finest high intensity effort with an exclamation

#### Varsity Boys

Mulvane	10	18	15	16-59
Wellington	20	19	10	25-84

Mulvane—J.J. Dunn 15, Brian Heinrichs 14, Steve Nelson 5, Brian Strack 8, Dan Smith 8, Jeremy Kendrick 4, Dexter Carpenter 1, Shawn Erbert 4. FG 25-62 (4), FT 5-12, F 14.

Wellington—Darin Miller 40, Lance Russell 12, Jeremy Troutman 10, Josh Lewis 2, Jesse Cornejo 3, John Thatcher 4, Chaney Kiball 8, Josh Darby 3, Dustin Costello 2. FG 35-60 (8), FT 6-11, F 14.

#### Junior Varsity Boys

Mulvane	17	15	10	13-55
Wellington	7	12	9	19-47

Mulvane—Chris Heersche 14, Jeff Parker 6, Shay Vangas 11, Shawn Erbert 10, Dexter Carpenter 10, Tom Nienke 2, Martin Dody 2. FG 22 (0), FT 11-17, F 18.

Wellington—Zeka 10, Biles 3, C. Farley 4, Dustin Costello 10, Jesse Cornejo 2, D. Farley 10, Tracy 4, Leftwich 2, Gerberding 2. FG 20 (1), FT 6-16, F 18.

#### Sophomore Boys

No game played

#### Varsity Boys

Valley Center	11	14	14	17-56
Mulvane	11	18	12	16-57

Valley Center—Dee Wilson 21, Quinn Cravens 9, Marcus Williams 12, Greg Drumright 7, Scott Carter 2, Darin Gleason 3, David Rutachman 2. FG 23 (2), FT 8-20, F 15.

Mulvane—Jeremy Kendrick 11, Brian Strack 13, Steve Nelson 6, Larry Dixon 4, Chris Heersche 4, Jeff Parker 2, J.J. Dunn 7, Brian Heinrichs 8, Dan Smith 2. FG 25 (4), FT 3-5, F 19.

#### Junior Varsity Boys

Valley Center	19	13	28	20-80
Mulvane	10	6	20	11-47

Valley Center—Bobby Vendetti 10, Mark Whitaker 3, Brad Tideman 4, Jason Perry 2, Greg Meyer 2, Quinton Ellis 18, Danny Cross 19, Greg Drumright 15, Justin Zellers 1, Jess Riopel 4, Scott Carlson 2. FG 31 (2), FT 16-23, F 17.

Mulvane—Chris Heersche 12, Jeff Parker 2, Shay Vangas 7, Shawn Erbert 4, Dexter Carpenter 10, Griff Cornejo 8, Tom Nienke 2, Martin Dody 2. FG 18 (0), FT 11-17, F 17.

#### Sophomore Boys

Valley Center	4	10	8	22-44
Mulvane	18	10	10	14-52

Valley Center—Jason Perry 6, Greg Meyer 2, Marco Sandoval 2, Justin Zellers 12, Chad Moon 6, Jess Riopel 7, Scott Carlson 9. FG 15 (2), FT 12-26, F 20.

Mulvane—Sean Younger 4, Shawn Erbert 10, Kevin Diller 9, Dexter Carpenter 5, Casey Mills 2, Rick Maxwell 8, Tom Nienke 9, Martin Dody 5. FG 21 (0), FT 10-21, F 24.

point Friday night, Jan. 8, by freezing out Valley Center, 57-56, for their first victory of the season.

That exclamation point was a three-point goal by senior Jeremy Kendrick, followed by two free throws with nine seconds left, giving Mulvane its first victory since last January's Roadrunner Classic winner over Chaparral, a 50-45 decision.

The game also afforded Coach Landes with his first head coaching victory after seven straight setbacks and gave the Cat seniors their first victory ever over Valley Center.

"It was obviously a big, big win for our program and for the seniors," said Landes, whose Wildcats improved to 1-7 overall and 1-2 in the Chisholm Trail. "We would have liked to have had a couple wins at the Circle

tournament but it didn't happen, but it's still good to get one against Valley."

Landes said the biggest single factor was that his Wildcats played high intensity basketball for 32 minutes. "That's a first," said Landes. "We have played in spurts at a high intensity level but never the whole game. We took advantage of their ball handling skills and pressed the whole game."

The MHS coach also felt his team executed on offense for the first time this season. "That goes back to intensity, too," said Landes. "As long as we stay focused and intense, it shows on the offensive and defensive ends, and it showed Friday night."

Getting back to Kendrick, the senior had his "finest hour." He came off the bench and scored 11 points, including three three-pointers, two of them coming in the fourth quarter when Mulvane was pushing to regain the lead. His three-point goal brought the Cats back to within one, 56-55, then Kendrick frosted the celebration cake by hitting both ends of the one-and one for the

winning points.

"Jeremy also did it with his defense, taking a charge late in the game, so he really stepped up defensively," added Landes.

With big center Jason DeWald sidelined because of illness, Landes went to a three-guard motion offense and the Mulvane guards came through. Strack finished with a team-high 13 points. Behind Kendrick's 11 points, Nelson had six, J.J. Dunn had seven and Brian Heinrichs had eight. Reserves Chris Heersche and Larry Dixon had four points each.

The MHS junior varsity stumbled early against the Valley jayvees, and the visiting Hornets blitzed the Cats, 80-47. Heersche's 12 points highlighted the Mulvane offense. Dexter Carpenter finished with 10 points, Griff Cornejo scored eight and Shay Vangas had seven for coach Scott Swaney's jayvees.

Mulvane made it a 2-1 night, however, when the Mulvane sophomores held on against a furious VC rally in the fourth quarter to claim a 52-44 victory. Mulvane bolted to the head of the class in the first quarter, out-scoring the Hornets, 18-4, behind Tom Nienke's seven points and five by Carpenter.

Top scorer for the Cat sophs was Shawn Erbert with 10 points. Kevin Diller scored nine points as did Nienke, and Rick Maxwell had eight points before fouling out.

The Wildcats will be on the road Friday night, Jan. 15, with Maize as the host.