

Mason Clings To 'One-Step' Theory

A step at a time. That's what Mulvane boys basketball coach Charlie Mason is clinging to. "We are shooting for a step at a time, improving a step each game," said Mason.

The Wildcats tried to take it a step at a time but Valley Center said "no," stretching out to a hard-earned 53-42 verdict over the Cats in a Chisholm Trail League Division I game in Mulvane Friday night, Jan. 9.

The loss sent the Wildcats skidding to their seventh consecutive defeat.

Mason's early strategy of slowing the game down with an offense which spread from sideline-to-sideline. Mulvane stay in the game strictly because of the game plan. "We couldn't match up with them and we couldn't run with them or they would have beaten us 30 points," said Mason of the highly-ranked Hornets. "We were in it until the very end."

Mason made a line-up change, inserting Greg Hamilton, in an effort to get his best ballhandling crew on the floor and for three periods, the Hornets were under control.

"We had a couple of turnovers at a crucial time and missed the basket when we really needed it," said Mason. "Otherwise, it's a six-point ball game. We had to shut their fast break down and we did. I don't think they ran on us many times. We played our ball game most of the way but we couldn't capitalize on it enough to win the game."

What it came down to, for the second consecutive game, was free throwing. Valley canned 17 of 24 free throws while Mulvane cashed only eight of 12 attempts. "And we didn't do a good job on the offensive boards," added Mason. "They got 10 offensive rebounds and several of them turned into points."

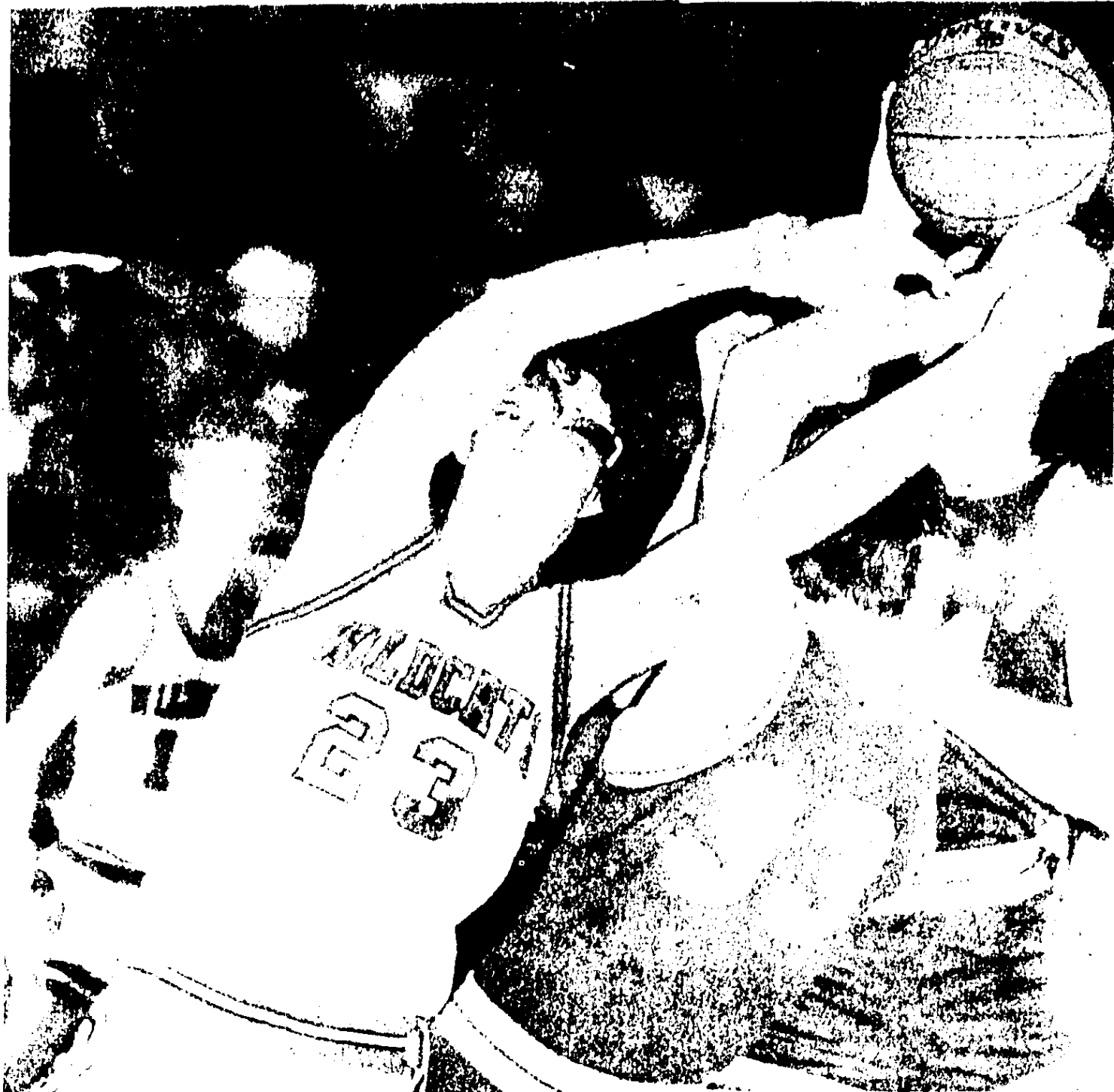
Overall, the Hornets nipped Mulvane, 27-26, in the battle off the glass. Six-foot-three senior Kevin Burke led Mulvane with 11 rebounds and Brent Iverson added seven, including five offensive bounds.

Burke, the club's top scorer this year, and Iverson also topped the Cats' scoring effort, hitting 10 points each. Hamilton added eight points.

"I still consider it (the narrow defeat) a step forward," said Mason. "We're taking it ball game to ball game. One of these nights, it's going to be put all together."

The Mulvane B-team, coached by Rick Erickson, fell behind early and never caught up as Valley Center posted a 61-46 triumph. The Mulvane sophomore team made it unanimous with a 76-28 shelling at the hands of Derby's sophomores.

Tim Warren scored 14 points and Joey Belden nine for the Mulvane B-team. Top scorer for the Cat sophomores were Robert Turner with 10 points and Chris Hicks with six.



Sophomore David Hagerman [23] grimaces as he battles tooth, nail and eyeglasses with two Valley Center players

Boys Varsity

Valley Center	8	11	12	22-53
Mulvane	4	7	12	19-42
Valley Center--Bob Daniels 3, Randy Emler 13, Gary Alford 12, Scott Hinkle 14, Russell Siemens 8, David Kingsbury 2, David Mellinger 1. FG 18-47, FT 17-24, F 14.				
Mulvane--Darryl Brueggeman 2, Kevin Burke 10, Mark Fox 2, Greg Hamilton 8, Brent Iverson 10, Dale Landes 4, Vic Marcelle 2, Davie Hagerman 4. FG 17-46, FT 8-12, F 18.				

Boys Junior Varsity

Valley Center	17	20	10	14-61
Mulvane	10	17	9	10-46
Valley Center--David Mellinger 8, Brian Schooler 8, Bud Higgs 11, Kenny Hinds 12, Jay Elliott 9, Rod Tormey 10, John Yates 2. FG 21-46, FT 19-35, F 21.				
Mulvane--Mike Coffey 8, Joey Belden 9, Tim Warren 14, Brian Pope 6, Allen Whitmer 2, Danny Harvey 3, Greg Wilcox 4. FG 19-67, FT 8-17, F 29.				

Sophomore Boys

Derby	15	20	24	17-76
Mulvane	6	7	6	9-28
Derby--Pharorchit 3, Miller 12, Lidia 13, Watkins 16, Allen 9, McClelland 1, Hansen 5, Houser 12, Moreland 5. FG 32, FT 12-24, F 17.				
Mulvane--Wayne Rich 4, Allen Whitmer 2, Greg Wilcox 2, Chris Hicks 6, Robert Turner 10, Kevin Butler 4. FG 11, FT 8-19, F 18.				

CHISHOLM TRAIL BOYS BASKETBALL STANDINGS

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Division I				
Goddard	3	0	5	0
Buhler	2	1	6	1
Valley Center	2	1	6	2
Augusta	1	3	2	5
Mulvane	0	3	0	7
Division II				
Kingman	4	1	5	2
Chaparral	4	1	5	2
Clearwater	4	2	5	2
Andale	4	2	5	3
Haven	2	3	2	4
Andover	1	5	3	5
Circle	1	6	1	7