

Wildcat Rally Falls Short,

Pressing Defense Sparks Boys

A scrappy band of Mulvane High School boys nearly pulled the plug on Buhler's victory party but the host Crusaders held on for a 77-67 decision Friday night, Jan. 10, in a Chisholm Trail League Division I game.

Coach Charlie Mason's Wildcats fell out of contention through the first three quarters by almost 20 points, but the Cats applied the heat in the final quarter and rallied to within three points, 68-65, with under 2:30 left. Buhler then made its free throws and pulled away in the final 30 seconds.

The next game for the Cats will be tonight (Jan. 16) at Maize in a make-up game. The game originally had been scheduled for Dec. 10 but was weathered out.

"You hate to lose, especially when you come so close," admitted Mason, whose band of cagers tumbled to 2-4 for the year and 0-2 in the CTL. "But we improved. We came close to beating

them, which is something we didn't do the last two years. I didn't know, quite honestly, if we could press them. When we tried it early in the game, they went right through us but we picked up the intensity in the 4th quarter and worked harder."

Early, the Crusaders (4-4) built up a big lead as Mulvane had all sorts of trouble rebounding against the taller Buhler team. Buhler finished with a 39-27 edge in rebounding, including 16 rebounds which helped the hosts shoot 59% from the field. Off-setting that, however, was 30 forced turnovers by Buhler and only 18 for MHS.

"I'll tell you one thing, it wasn't a 10-point ball game," added Mason. "We were bucking a lot of size and we didn't get any breaks, especially late in the game. We went to our pressure defense and the kids really did a good job with it. The difference in the game was their size. We stressed blocking out and worked hard at it but sometimes the bigger kids get away with going over the top of our smaller kids and Buhler did. Still, I can't be too unhappy with the effort. We improved quite a bit. It was our first game since the Christmas break and Buhler already has played once since then."

CHISHOLM TRAIL LEAGUE BOYS BASKETBALL STANDINGS DIVISION I

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

DIVISION II

Rose Hill	2	0	6	2
Clearwater	1	0	6	1
Andale	1	0	4	4
Kingman	1	0	3	5
Maize	1	1	5	4
Andover	0	1	1	6
Circle	0	2	2	6
Chaparral	0	2	0	7

Tonight's (Jan. 10) Game

Mulvane at Maize, make-up game from 12/10/85

Friday, Jan. 17, Games

Wellington at Mulvane, MHS homecoming

Valley Center at Buhler

Goddard at Augusta

Rose Hill at Clearwater

Andale at Circle

Andover at Chaparral

Tournaments Next Week

Chaparral Roadrunner Classic—Mulvane, Clearwater, Chaparral, Kingman, Wellington (see tournament pairings elsewhere on sports pages)

Valley Center Invitational—Maize, Andale, Andover, Valley Center

McPherson Tournament—Goddard, Buhler

El Dorado Bluesiem Classic—Rose Hill, Circle, Augusta

Results Friday, Jan. 10

Buhler 77, Mulvane 67

Valley Center 46, Augusta 42

Wellington 65, Goddard 46

Rose Hill 60, Circle 45

Andale 68, Chaparral 38

Clearwater 54, Maize 47

Boys Varsity

Mulvane 16 12 16 24-67
Buhler 20 15 23 19-77

Mulvane--Reese Brown 6, Wes Moore 6, Bryson Butts 2, Todd Fox 22, Curtis Hicks 14, Morgan LeClair 13, Andrew Swayne 4. FG 30-74, FT 7-12, F 21.

Buhler--Jed Bargaen 21, Sam Schwerdtfeger 2, David Howell 20, Doug Martens 23, Rick Frye 7, Wade Tucker 2, Greg Lackey 2. FG 32-54, FT 13-25, F 14.

Boys Junior Varsity

Mulvane 15 7 23 14-59
Buhler 14 19 20 21-74

Mulvane--Ken Baer 2, Nick Fortin 4, Lyle Graybeal 12, Jeff Williams 4, Bryson Butts 9, Kyle Steadman 14, Toby Butcher 2, Shay Cornejo 4, Dan LeClair 4. FG 26-71, FT 7-22, F 19.

Buhler--Chad Comley 10, Shane Wiehl 15, Brad Williams 11, Greg Lackey 11, Eric White 18, Tim Lane 7, Sheldon Mitchell 2. FG 32-71, FT 10-18, F 18.

Sophomore Boys

Mulvane 14 10 12 22-58
Buhler 12 14 5 22-53

Mulvane--Neal Hamilton 14, Toby Butcher 12, Russell Norden 2, Jeremy Hoenscheldt 2, Dan LeClair 12, Shay Cornejo 10, Ken Baer 6. FG 24-55, FT 10-18, F 19.

Buhler--James Regehr 6, Greg Zeller 10, Corey Henning 8, Doug Martens 13, Sheldon Mitchell 14, Stacey Roberts 2. FG 22-53, FT 9-21, F 20.

It also helps to have at least one hot hand during a stretch run. Junior Todd Fox made 18 points in the second half and Curtis Hicks and Morgan LeClair each had a double of buckets as the Cats edged back into the game in the fourth quarter.

Junior Todd Fox paced the Mulvane offense once the Wildcats started swarming toward their comeback. Fox scored a team-high 22 points and junior guard Curtis Hicks was next with 14 points. Senior Reese Brown had one of his better games, scoring six points, as did senior Wes Moore. Junior Morgan LeClair was the third Wildcat in double figures, scoring 13 points.

The MHS junior varsity also ran into out-of-town trouble as the Crusader jayvees romped to a 74-59 victory over Coach Dennis Tegethoff's boys.

Juniors Kyle Steadman and Lyle Graybeal were the only two MHS players in double figures. Steadman finished with 14 points and Graybeal scored 12. Bryson Butts finished with nine points.

In the sophomore game, the only winning effort for Mulvane Friday night, the Cat sophs smothered a late rally by Buhler to take a 58-53 victory. Neal Hamilton led four players in double figures for Mulvane. He had 14 points. Toby Butcher and Dan LeClair each scored 12 points, and guard Shay Cornejo added 10 points.

The Wildcats will be back on the hardwoods Friday night, Jan. 17, when Wellington comes to town for a Chisholm Trail League game. The game is basketball homecoming for Mulvane.