

Still Playing Hard

Boys Ready For Chappy

Down but not out. That's how Mulvane High School boys basketball coach Ryan Herra likes to think about it.

The Wildcat boys haven't had a lot to cheer about this season but Herra has them still scrapping for loose balls, still hitting the floor and still hoping for good things to happen.

The Cats tumbled to 0-8 when Andale trounced them Friday night, 69-40, in a cross-divisional game in the Chisholm Trail League. Two teams going in opposite directions. The host Indians are leading the Division II race and have a 7-3 record. The Wildcats are still trying to win their first one for the new coach, Herra.

"Andale's tough. When they get the shots, they hit them," said Herra. "Our offense, we can't get it rolling, but we did a better job against Andale. We had more assists than any game this year, which means we're moving the ball better. And I liked what I saw early in the third quarter. The kids came out of the locker room and really worked hard and went after them. We had a lot of intensity. We really looked like a basketball team out there."

The Indians pulled away later in the third quarter but it was the first half of the quarter that has been giving the MHS boys fits this season. "The third quarter has been rough on us this year," said Herra. "We have been out-scored and out-played every game. As I see it one of the problems is that it's tough to be down like we are and come out after the break. You've stopped momentum and you're getting beat. When you haven't had much success like these guys, it's hard to go back out there with a lot of intensity, but we did it Friday night at Andale."

Senior guard Jason Wilson found the range again, scoring 16 points and Ryan McKnight had 11 points on the inside. Brian Love scored four points and Luke Gunter had three points.

One of the biggest problems Herra sees on offense is turnovers. "We continue to have 30-some a game and people keep pressing us because of it," said Herra. "Our post people are shooting over 60% from the field but we're not getting them the ball enough. Consequently, we're not taking enough shots. You add 30 more opportunities on offense and our scoring will go up."

Herra felt the Cat defense had sporadic moments. "I thought our defense looked good at times and looked bad at times," said Herra. "When we looked bad, we were giving up way too much penetration on their shots. They'd drive the baseline and we didn't have good baseline defense at all. We just weren't rotating properly, so guess what we worked on this week in practice."

"What I saw when we were looking good on defense is Brian Love really working his tail off and our big guys inside working hard to stop the drives," added Herra. "The kids were going to the floor all the time and that shows we're still hustling and putting the past behind us. I was really proud of our kids for that kind of play. We've been fighting all season and when you're 0-8, it's tough to keep hustling, but we're doing it."

Varsity Boys

Mulvane 3 16 10 11-40
Andale 17 14 20 18-69
Mulvane—Jason Wilson 16, Brian Love 4, Chris Gerhardt 2, Andy Hixson 1, Ryan McKnight 11, Luke Gunter 3, Caleb Alexander 2, Jason Phillips 1. FG 13 (5), FT 9-13, F 15.
Andale—Scott Patry 6, Chris Purkey 2, Kurt Eck 10, Francis Baalman 11, Steven Baker 6, Dylan Schmidt 19, Josh Seiler 1, Nick Eck 13, Brian Spexarth 1. FG 28 (6), FT 7-13, F 15.

Junior Varsity Boys

Mulvane 8 16 15 28-65
Andale 26 22 20 25-94
Mulvane—Caleb Alexander 12, Dusty Sorensen 22, Kale Regier 14, Luke Gunter 1, Jeremy Adams 8, Tyler Hennes 8. FG 24 (4), FT 13-21, F 16.
Andale—Kurt Seiler 24, Steven Baker 27, Chris Parkey 18, Scott Patry 2, Michael Spexarth 3, Tyler Winter 3, Stewart Hein 2, Kyle Zenna 8, Shawn Kerschen 3, Josh Seiler 6. FG 41 (8), FT 4-12, F 17.
Mulvane 10 7 5 11-33.
Goddard 19 14 5 22-65
Mulvane—Dusty Sorensen 14, Kale Regier 10, Caleb Alexander 3, Luke Gunter 2, Tyler Hennes 4. FG 12 (3), FT 3-5, F 15.
Goddard—Herd 2, Richards 3, Burns 5, Brown 9, Ellington 1, Dietz 2, Womacks 11, Evengren 4, Frey 3, Touchatt 6, Hatter 4, Seymore 11. FG 19 (5), FT 18-25, F 8.

30th Annual Roadrunner

Classic Boys Pairings

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17

Game 1 — Prait (3-4) vs. Andover JV (3-4), 6 p.m.

Game 2 — Chaparral (4-4) vs. Clearwater (4-5), 8

TONIGHT (JAN. 18)

Game 3 — Campus (3-6) vs. Mulvane (0-8), 6 p.m.

Game 4 — Arkansas City (3-5) vs. Conway Springs (4-5), 8

FRIDAY, JAN. 19

Game 5 — losers of games 1 and 2, 3 p.m.

Game 6 — losers of games 3 and 4, 4:30

Game 7 — winners of games 1 and 2, 6:30

Game 8 — winners of games 3 and 4, 8

SATURDAY, JAN. 20

Game 9 (Seventh Place)—losers of game 5 and 6, 2 p.m.

Game 10 (Fifth Place)—winners of games 5 and 6, 3:30

Game 11 (Third Place)—losers of games 7 and 8, 5:30

Game 12 (First Place)—winners of games 7 and 8, 7

The Wildcats were in the road Tuesday night, Jan. 9, at Goddard and came away with a 60-21 thumping against the undefeated Lions. Wilson topped the offense with eight points. Jason Phillips and McKnight scored three points apiece.

The MHS junior varsity lost two games last week. Andale out-gunned the Cat JVs, 94-65, Friday night and the Cats lost at Goddard, 65-33, on Tuesday, Jan. 18.

At Andale, three players were in double figures for Mulvane. Dusty Sorensen had a career-high 22 points, Kale Regier scored 14 and Caleb Alexander had 12. Tyler Hennes and Jeremy Adams had eight each.

Sorensen and Regier were the scoring leaders at Goddard, too. Sorensen scored 14 points and Regier finished with 10.

Chisholm Trail League Boys Basketball Standings

DIVISION I

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Goddard	4	0	8	0
Buhler	4	1	7	2
Maize	3	1	5	3
Valley Center	2	2	3	5
Andover	1	3	2	5
Augusta	1	4	5	5
Mulvane	0	4	0	8

DIVISION II

Andale	3	0	7	3
Kingman	2	1	8	2
Circle	2	2	7	2
Rose Hill	2	2	5	5
Clearwater	1	2	4	5
Wellington	0	3	1	6

This Week's Tournament Sites

30th Annual Chaparral Roadrunner Classic--Mulvane, Clearwater, Andover JV
Halstead Adolph Rupp Tournament--Rose Hill, Andale
McPherson Invitational Tournament--Andover
Baldwin Tournament--Augusta
Dodge City Tournament of Champions--Buhler
El Dorado Bluestem Classic--Circle, Kingman, Wellington
Valley Center January Jam--Goddard, Valley Center
Wichita Southeast Tournament--Maize