

Tough Times Continue For Wildcats

It's been a rough week for the Mulvane High School Wildcats. The Cats, plagued by cold shooting and the loss of a starter due to illness, dropped contests to Valley Center and Andale.

Mulvane's record for the year dropped to 0-8. The Wildcats were without Mark Cranston, 6-4 senior center-forward, due to illness. Despite all their problems, the Cats displayed streaks of excellent, hustling basketball. Summaries of the games follow.

LOSE TO ANDALE

The Mulvane High School Wildcats staged a spirited second half rally which fell short as Andale took an 82-58 non-league win, here, on Tuesday.

Much of the Cats undoing was centered in a 39-point performance by the Indians' Joe Horseh. The 6-3 senior dominated the Andale offense and was always good for a couple of baskets when Mulvane moved within striking distance.

Andale jumped off to a 10-0 lead in the early going. Mulvane was held scoreless until the 4:25 mark when Mike Nichols canned a short jumper to break the ice. At the end of the period, Andale led, 26-11.

The Cats came alive in the last part of the second quarter and battled back into contention. At intermission, Andale had a 44-33 lead.

Utilizing a pressing defense, Mulvane came within six points twice during the third period. However, the Indian fast-break proved to be too much in the long run. Also, Mulvane lost David McKinney and Jim Carr via the foul route.

Again, Mulvane was plagued by cold shooting. The Cats hit 25 or 76 for 33 percent. On the plus side, Mulvane had a balanced scoring attack for the first time this season. Kent Hughes paced the Cats with 14 points, while Mike Nichols and Jim Carr had 12 points each.

The box score: Kent Hughes 5-4-1; Mike Nichols 6-0-2; Jim Carr 5-2-5; Mark Brozek 2-0-1;

David McKinney 3-0-5; Robbie Fry 3-2-2; Sterling Borthwick 0-0-0; Forrest Wise 1-0-3; Rick Owens 0-0-1; Mike Alumbaugh 0-0-0.

Forrest Wise and Robbie Fry led the rebounders with 10 each. McKinney had eight boards while Kent Hughes and Mike Nichols contributed five each.

"B TEAM LOSES"

Andale won the reserve game defeating Mulvane 65-53. Rick McKinney and Brad Sorenson paced the Mulvane attack with 13 points and 11 points respectively.

The box score: Mike Alumbaugh 1-1-5; Kelly Kerns 1-3-4; Ed Stunkel 2-0-5; Robbie Fry 2-0-0; Jeff Crawford 2-3-4; Brad Sorenson 4-3-5; Dan Lawless 0-1-4; Rick McKinney 4-5-3; Dennis Moon; 0-0-1; Leon Hicks 1-0-1; Don Fairchild 1-1-1.

VALLEY WINS

The Mulvane High School Wildcats followed what has become a pattern in losing to the Valley Center Hornets, 69-44, last Friday at Valley.

The Wildcats played an extremely good first quarter and trailed just 15-14. However, the Cats became extremely cold in the second quarter and scored just nine points as Valley raced out to a 39-23 lead. That's the trend that has haunted Mulvane throughout the season. In the second stanza, the Cats went 3 minutes without scoring.

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Mulvane roared back in the second half to scramble back into contention. Mulvane displayed a sticky pressing defense which caused the Hornets to make mistakes. Mulvane came within eight points of Valley in the waning seconds of the period, however at the gun Valley led, 48-38.

And, again somebody turned off the lights as far as Mulvane's shooting was concerned. The Cats were shutout for the first two minutes of the period, before Dave McKinney hit a free throw. Then, it was four more minutes before Mulvane could muster a field goal — a short jumper by Robbie Fry. In that time, Valley Center put the game on ice with 20 points.

Again, it was extremely cold shooting that plagued Mulvane. The Wildcats could connect on just 18 or 57 for 30 percent. Things weren't too much better at the free throw line. Mulvane made eight free throws on 18 attempts for 44 percent. Both percentage's are far below what's necessary to win.

Kent Hughes paced the attack for Mulvane with 16 points. Hughes hit 10 points in the first period. The box score: Kent Hughes 7-2-2; Mike Nichols 1-0-0; Jim Carr 1-0-0; Ed Stunkel 0-0-0; Mark Brozek 2-1-1; Rick Owens 0-0-1; David McKinney 3-1-4; Robbie Fry 3-2-5; Forrest Wise 1-0-3; Sterling Borthwick 0-0-0; Mike Alumbaugh 0-2-1; Jeff Crawford 0-0-0.

Valley Center held a big rebounding edge. The Hornets gathered in 45 rebounds to just 27 for Mulvane. In addition, Mulvane had 14 turnovers. David McKinney led the rebounding with eight. Others on the rebounding chart were, Forrest Wise 7; Robbie Fry 6; Jim Carr 3; Kent Hughes 2; Ed Stunkel 1; Mark Brozek 1.

"B" TEAM LOSES

The Valley Center reserves exploded in the final period to defeat Mulvane, 75-59 in the preliminary game.

The score was tied at half time, 31-31. By the end of the third stanza, Valley had forged a 48-43 lead. During the final period the Junior Hornets scored 27 points to ice the win.

Mike Nichols paced Mulvane with 27 points and Jeff Crawford added 10 points. The box score: Mike Nichols 11-5-1; Mike Alumbaugh 1-0-3; Ed Stunkel 4-1-5; Robbie Fry 0-1-0; Jeff Crawford 3-4-5; Brad Sorenson 1-2-4; Kelly Kerns 0-2-1; Dan Lawless 1-0-0; Leon Hicks 1-0-0.

Mike Alumbaugh was the leading rebounder with seven. Stunkel had six rebounds.