

Offense Fizzles In Cat Losses

An offense that started out the year with the promise of a cannon has turned into a popgun.

As Mulvane High School basketball coach Rod Pock surveyed his Wildcats' first four or five games, a potent offense appeared in the making, but after the last three outings, Pock isn't so sure anymore. All three have been losses and all three have one common link--Mulvane's inability to mount a sustained offense.

The latest came Monday night in the first round of the Bluestem Classic at El Dorado. Mulvane opened against Columbus and found its big guns once again shooting with wet powder in a 69-53 loss.

Now in the loser's bracket, Mulvane will meet Chase County at 6:15 p.m. tonight (Jan. 25) in a consolation semifinal. Chase County was struck down by Sedan, 76-67, Monday.

In Mulvane's last three games, Pock's offense has generated 151 points, 50.3 per game.

"Guess we have to hang in there and hope to get the next one," said Pock. "I still feel we have the kids who can do it but they haven't yet. Offensively, we haven't got the ball going. We don't move it. When we need to get down and get after it, we turn the ball over or take a bad shot."

Pock, whose club slumped to 2-6 with its third loss in succession, blamed turnovers and lack of offensive direction for Columbus' conquest.

"We had too many turnovers," declared Pock. "We through the ball away, had eight bad passes and they had one."

"We could have beaten them if we would have run our offense better in the second half. We pulled to within three points in the third quarter (45-42) then just fell by the wayside."

Courtney Gammon, a 6-2 senior, capped Mulvane's scoring along with senior Grant Sorensen, each scoring 12 points. Next high for Mulvane were Mark Smith and Mark Storey, both juniors, with eight points.

Friday night, Jan. 19, the Andale Indians raided Mulvane's basketball gymnasium and rode off with a 54-48 victory in a Chisholm Trail League

BLUESTEM CLASSIC

First Round

Columbus	20 18 10 21 -- 69
Mulvane	13 17 12 11 -- 53
Columbus --	Steve Siebuhr 10, Kerry Sahetta 22, Craig Bell 16, Larry Zuhm 3, Roger Shuler 6, Brad Stover 6, Doug Hall 6. FG 28-63, FT 13-15, F 16.
Mulvane --	Grant Sorensen 12, Tom Fagan 4, Mark Smith 8, Troy Wayman 5, Courtney Gammon 12, Mark Storey 8, Gary Fortner 4. FG 22-63, FT 9-16, F 16.

Boys A-Team

Andale	7 11 16 19 -- 53
Mulvane	12 11 4 21 -- 48
Andale --	Steve Bahr 5, Wayne Arndt 1, Jeff Jaax 16, Tracy Lind 10, Andy Seiler 6, Tim Lies 11, Stan Hieger 4. FG 18-45, FT 17-32, F 22.
Mulvane --	Mark Smith 15, Tom Fagan 8, Mark Storey 4, Courtney Gammon 12, Gary Fortner 6, Troy Wayman 5. FG 16-47, FT 16-24, F 27.

Boys B-Team

Andale	15 5 13 10 (2) (4) -- 49
Mulvane	8 14 8 15 (2) (7) -- 52
Andale --	Steve Siggs 10, Greg Neuguay 11, Alan Burgher 6, Tim Lies 6, David Aat 4, Carl Hermreck 4, Tony Brand 8. FG 18-56, FT 13-30, F 22.
Mulvane --	Troy Phillips 6, Troy Dossey 2, Jeff Staska 6, Dwight Landis 1, Ed Nelson 19, Greg Hamilton 10, Darryl Brueggeman 6, Brent Iverson 2. FT 21-51, FT 10-20, F 26.

Again, Pock blamed the Cats' inability to stay in the offense for the loss. "In the third quarter (when Andale outscored Mulvane, 16-4) we had no movement," said Pock. "We've got to learn to stay in our offense."

Against Andale, Smith scored 15 points and Gammon added 12, the only two in double figures.

The Mulvane B-team provided all the thrills for the night on the court, squeaking out a 52-49 double-overtime victory over the Andale B-teamers.

Jeff Staska's 18-foot jumper with two seconds left in regulation tied the game at 43-43. The Cats won it in the second overtime when Troy Dossey hit a bucket to give Mulvane a 48-47 lead. After an Andale bucket, Troy Phillips' basket made it 50-49 and Brent Iverson's two free throws with four seconds left iced the triumph.

Ed Nelson led the scorers for Mulvane with 19 points, Greg Hamilton added 10 points.