

Derby Rides Freebees Past Old Rival Cats

You might be able to call it a "free throw offense." Derby used it to perfection Tuesday night, Jan. 30, as the Panthers edged past the Mulvane High School boys, 83-78, in an exciting non-league contest in Mulvane.

The two old rivals hadn't played any sport for many years, but the Panthers made the most of this visit, hitting 28 points at the free throw stripe to nose out Coach Todd Barker's Wildcats. Mulvane only went to the line 13 times.

The loss dropped Mulvane's record to 6-8.

"We had about a two-minute lapse in the third quarter that hurt us and the free throwing hurt us," noted Barker. "Derby put a half-court trap on us in the third quarter and we didn't respond to it. They got up about six points before we could get a time out. We came right back at them, though. It was a really good game."

The Cats trailed by only three with two minutes left but the Panthers pulled away by sinking their free throws. "It wasn't over til the buzzer went off," said Barker. "They just had too many free throws to overcome, especially down the stretch. They shot 18 in the fourth quarter. I don't know why we seem to have so many fouls and nobody ever seems to foul us."

Varsity Boys

Derby	22	12	20	29-83
Mulvane	17	19	17	25-78

Derby—Nic Slayton 10, Terrell Benton 31, Troy Glazer 9, Kelly Bradfield 9, Mike Watkins 12, Chris Devore 6, Cory Stewart 2, Jon Bell 4. FG 20 (5), FT 28-41, F 16.

Mulvane—James Baker 10, Jeremy Brown 16, Mike Abasolo 25, Brad Canfield 8, Matt Hendren 4, Raymond Lazier 3, Bryce Schumacher 5. FG 26 (6), FT 8-13, F 29.

Varsity Boys

Mulvane	2	22	15	11-50
Augusta	25	22	26	10-83

Mulvane—Mike Abasolo 12, Darrin Erbert 5, Jeremy Brown 8, Bryce Schumacher 5, James Baker 8, Neil Gosch 4, Brad Canfield 4, Matt Hendren 4. FG 20 (1), FT 9-13, F 27.

Augusta—Todd Kappelmann 15, Brett Kappelmann 24, Sims 16, Shellar 2, Nickel 14, Craddock 2, McClure 2, Walker 3, Skidmore 3, Taton 2. FG 31 (3), FT 18-30, F 19.

The Panthers hit 28 of the 41 freebees. Mulvane was 8-of-13 at the stripe. Hummm.

Mike Abasolo had a big outing for the Wildcats, hitting for 25 points. Jeremy Brown scored 16 points, James Baker had 10 points and 6-7 junior center Brad Canfield finished with eight.

The Cats ran into a buzz saw Friday night, Jan. 26, on their trip through Augusta. The Orioles, one of the top 4A teams in the state, blistered Mulvane, 83-50, as they boosted their record to 12-1.

It didn't take the Orioles long to establish a game plan. After one quarter, they were ahead, 25-2.

"Augusta's the best team we have played all season," said Barker. "They had everything going. They have size, they shot the ball extremely well and we had one of those nights when we couldn't throw the ball into the ocean. We out-scored them in two quarters but that first quarter put the handwriting on the wall."

Barker said what happened is the host Orioles came out and intimidated the Cats. "They converted and we shot very poorly in the first half," said Barker. "We got a little intimidated and rattled. After we calmed down, we played basketball with them the rest of the way. We still only hit 30% from the field and you can't win shooting that poorly."

Abasolo's 12 points was the only double-figure number posted by Mulvane that night. Baker and Brown finished with eight points each and sophomores Darrin Erbert and Bryce Schumacher had five points apiece.

The Wildcats will be at home Friday night, Feb. 2, for their annual winter homecoming game. Kingman will be in town for the CTL contest.