Dunn Scores 24

Lions Terrorize Boys

When the bombs started falling, the Mulvane High School boys dashed for the bomb shelter instead of the trigger.

The Wildcat boys tried to have a happy homecoming Friday night, Jan. 29, when top-notch Goddard came to town but the Lions, spoil-sports that they are, threw cold water on the celebration as they drained nine "threes" on the way to a 73-53 thumping of the Wildcats.

"We came out slow and I don't know why," confessed Dale Landes, the Mulvane High boys cage coach. "We knew going into the game that it was going to be a tough one. Goddard is a very talented team and they shoot three-pointers about as good as anybody."

What Coach Landes meant was that they shoot the three about like Kentucky (the university) does. And before the Wildcats could catch their breath, the Lions had staked themselves to a 20-point lead they never lost.

Goddard hit nine threes, six of them coming in the first 16 minutes of the game. Mulvane didn't have one the whole game.

"The key was coming out of the gate," said Landes, whose Wildcats tumbled to 3-11 for the season as they gear up for the next test Friday night, Feb. 5, at Buhler. "Goddard came out flat and couldn't hit early, but so did we. We missed a lot of short chip shots, two-or-three-footers, and that really got us off on the wrong foot. The whole first half, we played like we were out of sync. It wasn't that our offense was breaking down or anything, but we were just missing the shots that we needed to make to stay in the game."

The Lions raced into over-drive in the second quarter after taking a five-point lead with the help of a three-pointer as the hom sounded. By the end of the second quarter, Goddard had out-scored Mulvane, 25-10, to give the Chisholm Trail League Division I leaders a 40-20 advantage.

"We tried to adjust at halftime and I think the kids responded," noted Landes, whose warriors were coming off back-to-back wins in the Roadrunner Classic. "We brought a little more motion into the offense in the second half. They threw a 1-3-1 against us and it worked a lot better in the second half. We moved J.J. Dunn into the high post to get him the ball. Normally, he's on the perimeter but we swung him up to the top and that was effective. It gave our offense a lot more offense."

It also helped Dunn hit a season-high 24 points to gear the Wildcat offense. Senior Brian Heinrichs finished with seven points, junior center Dan Smith scored eight and Steve Nelson had four points.

The Cat coach also was disappointed in the MHS boys not cashing in on the one area where they had the advantage, inside. "I don't think Dan (Smith) and Jason (DeWald) had one of their better performances, either," added Landes. "We felt like our two kids could take advantage of Goddard's two inside players. That's the one area where I felt like we had the talent edge, but we just didn't have the performance there and couldn't take advantage of our edge."

After intermission, the Wildcats played a little stronger game. "We got it down to 12

Varsity Boys

Goddard 15 25 15 18—73 Mulvane 10 10 19 14—53 Goddard—Travis Ford 12, Troy Schneider 7, Rory Hamilton 18, Chris Durham 16, Brian Buchanan 9, Mark Cowel 8, Ryan Heisel 3, FG 26 (9), FT 12-18, F 11.

Mulvane—J.J. Dunn 24, Brian Strack 2, Brian Heinrichs 7, Jason DeWald 3, Steve Nelson 4, Jeremy Kendrick 3, Dan Smith 8, Chris Heensche 2, FG 24 (0), FT 5-13, F 14.

Goddard 10 11 18 8—47
Mulvane 10 12 13 16—51
Goddard—Brad Harris 2, Justin Meng 4, Jeremy
Durham 8, David Hughes 4, Chad Bowles 2, Andy
Stemmons 21, Scott Schneider 6, FG 20 (1), FT 6-16, F

Mulvano—Chris Heersche 5, Jeff Parker 14, Shay Vangas 12, Shawn Erbert 2, Dexter Carpenter 5, Griff Comejo 13, PG 22 (0), FT 7-13, F18.

points with about 30 seconds left in the third quarter and they had two straight possessions without scoring, so we had an opportunity to cut it to single digits but didn't make smart decisions," said Landes.

The Goddard junior varsity couldn't match the Lion varsity and Mulvane came from behind for a stellar 51-47 victory in the preliminary game.

Coach Scott Swaney's jayvees outscored the Lions, 16-8, in the final eight minutes to wipe out a Goddard lead behind a flurry of free throws. Griff Cornejo hit five of six down the stretch.

Sophomore Jeff Parker headed the Cat offense with 14 points and Cornejo finished with 13. Junior Shay Vangas gave the jayvees three in double figures with 12 points. Both Chris Heersche and Dexter Carpenter had five-point games.