

# Mulvane Boys Step Up; Lions Too Tough For Cats

For three quarters, you would have never been able to tell who was leading the Chisholm Trail League Division I standings.

The Mulvane High School Wildcats were playing shoulder-to-shoulder with Goddard Friday, Jan. 31, at Goddard before the Lions finally started putting some distance between themselves and the Cats in a 59-34 Goddard triumph.

"We played right there with them for three quarters," said veteran Wildcat coach Charlie Mason. "It was a nine-point game going into the fourth quarter. And it really was a good effort. We were right there with them until they hit the threes. We went into the game trying to force them to shoot the three-pointers, figuring that was our best percentage play, and they finally started hitting them late in the game."

That enabled the Lions to pull away and stay on top in the CTL Division I standings. Goddard is 5-1 in the loop and 13-1 overall. The Wildcats fell to 1-5 in the league and 3-

11 overall as they head into another CTL tester Friday night, Feb. 7, at home against Buhler. The Crusaders ripped Mulvane by 27 in the first game of the year.

"We played Goddard as well as we could for most of the game," added Mason. "As long as we stayed in the zone, we could stay with them. Once we went to a man-to-man, they kind of picked us apart. They just have too much size and quickness."

And what forced the Cats out of its zone defense was the three-point shooting by the Lions, which started finding the range in the last eight minutes. "They came down and hit four threes and we had to go to the man-to-man," said Mason. "I knew we were in trouble when they hit those three-pointers."

Mulvane and Goddard actually battled to a 6-6 draw in the first quarter but the Lions stretched it out by intermission, taking a 19-10 lead. Both teams scored 13 points in the 3rd quarter but Goddard made things go in the 4th to pull away.

"They have too much size to keep up," said the MHS coach. "I watched them Tuesday night and they shot 76% against a fine Kingman team that has a lot more quickness than we do. It's tough when you're going against a 1-3-1 that is as big as Goddard's. We also didn't pass the ball as good as we're capable of. Add the fact that we were getting only one shot and you can see how difficult Goddard made things for us. The pressure finally just wore us down. They aren't the best team in the league for nothing."

The Lions ended up hitting 50% from the field (22-44) while Mulvane was shooting around 33% (13-39).

That enabled the Lions to out-score Mulvane, 27-11, to pull away.

Junior J.J. Dunn paced the Cat assault with 19 points. Senior Jeff Parson was next with five points and senior Judson Spicer had four points off the bench.

In the junior varsity game, Mulvane went cold in overtime and the Lions survived a scare, 57-54. The Cats missed a shot at the buzzer to send the game into an extra period.

Guards Larry Dixon and Steve Nelson powered a well-balanced offense for Coach Dale Landes' JV group. Dixon scored 11 points and Nelson had 10. Center Jason DeWald scored eight points and so did Griff Cornejo off the bench. Chris Heersche scored five points.

**Varsity Boys**

Mulvane	6	4	13	11-34
Goddard	6	13	13	27-59

Mulvane—Jeff Parson 5, J.J. Dunn 19, Jarrod Oldridge 2, Brian Strack 2, Brian Heinrichs 2, Judson Spicer 4. FG 13-39 (0), FT 8-12, F 15.

Goddard—Brian Buchanan 10, Bryan Hardesty 8, Scott Hardesty 6, Jeremy Berblinger 14, Rory Hamilton 8, Cary Hayes 2, Karl Staats 4, Chris Durham 5. FG 22-44 (4), FT 11-16, F 12.

**Junior Varsity Boys**

Mulvane	15	11	11	13 (4)—54
Goddard	12	15	14	9 (7)—57

Mulvane—Steve Nelson 10, Larry Dixon 11, Chris Heersche 5, Shay Vargas 1, Jeremy Kendrick 4, Jamie Belden 3, Jason DeWald 8, Dan Smith 2, Griff Cornejo 8, Shawn Ebersole 2. FG 22 (1), FT 7-16, F 26.

Goddard—Hayes 2, Harris 4, Winters 3, Helsel 10, Bowles 6, Simmons 4, Strunk 2, Schwarzon 1, Ford 20, Cowell 5. FG 19 (1), FT 16-31, F 18.

**Sophomore Boys**  
No game played