

Intensity Lasts Whole Game

Intensity on the basketball floor is a game-long goal, not just a five-minute spurt, and Mulvane High School boys basketball coach Ryan Herra finally got the game-long treatment Friday night, Jan. 31, when Rose Hill knocked on the Wildcat door.

"The key was not just that we came out with great intensity. The key was that we continued to stay intense the whole game," observed Herra.

The result: Mulvane avenged a five-point loss earlier in the season as the Cats edged past Rose Hill's Rockets, 52-47, to win their first Chisholm Trail League game of the season. The Rockets nipped the Cats, 51-45, in the first week of the season.

"I was very proud of our kids, so proud because they overcame a long list of distractions that day and battled and stayed focused," said Herra. Their focus was very good the whole way. They focused on one play, then focused on the very next play and the next."

The Cats took the lead in the 3rd quarter by out-scoring RH, 17-12, but they didn't put the game away until the last six seconds. "We were in backcourt with a three-point lead (50-47) and had a time out," said Herra. "We didn't even have to go across the half-court line. It was 'Zach Time.' We got Zach the ball. He got fouled with two seconds left and hit them both. What was good, though, is that the kids knew this. They knew they wanted to just hold the ball, not shoot and get fouled. It was a huge job."

"The entire game was close," added Herra. "It's fun to play one like that because you know every play you run is important. It's fun, especially when you can come away from it successfully."

It must have been "Senior Night" for the Wildcats. The senior Kimble finished with a game-high 16 points, most of those coming down the stretch. He only had three or four points at intermission. Senior Luke Gunter scored 10 points and senior Dusty Sorensen scored eight off the bench. Junior Gavin Snider also had eight points and junior Greg Flores scored six.

Sorensen was particularly key early in the game and also igniting an eight-point spurt in the 3rd quarter with a three-pointer. "We also

Boys Varsity

Rose Hill	9	14	12	12	47
Mulvane	7	14	17	14	52
Rose Hill	Steve Parker 8	Brad Hoglund 13	Lance Frey 12	Ben Karlake 10	Steve Hatcher 2
Mulvane	Luke Gunter 10	Dusty Sorensen 8	Greg Flores 6	Gavin Snider 8	Tyler Hennes 4
	Zach Kimble 16	GG 19 (4)	FT 12 20	F 14	

Junior Varsity Boys

Rose Hill	17	17	21	11	66
Mulvane	9	10	13	10	42
Rose Hill	James Hensley 18	Lared McRae 12	Tyler Wilson 11	Dennis Shirley 6	Caleb Louse 4
Mulvane	Jason Turner 9	Grant Snider 2	Karl Mangus 2	Logan Sorensen 8	Cris Stephens 6
	Cody Morton 3	Mason Leonard 9	Chris Simon 1	Josh Trevitt 1	Tyler Dale 1
	GG 13 (4)	FT 12 22	F 16		

got a few turnovers to help and we also started to get the ball to Zach down low and he put up some big points, too," said Herra.

The MHS boys junior varsity couldn't keep up with the RH jayvees and lost by a 66-42 count. The Rockets rolled to a 34-19 lead by intermission and iced things with a 21-point 3rd quarter. Top scorers for Coach Jeff Beckwith's JV Cats were Jason Turner and Mason Leonard, both with nine points. Logan Sorensen scored eight points and Cris Stephens had six.

It doesn't get any easier in the C.T.L. Mulvane will be at home facing Augusta Friday night, Feb. 7, before going to Rose Hill Tuesday, Feb. 11, for a rematch.