

Mulvane Cagers Still Work Hard

If hard work and hustle mean anything, the Mulvane High School boys have the inside track at being No. 1.

Trouble is, that's not all it takes and the Cats keep coming up short for first-year coach Ryan Herra. Progress can be measured good deeds and that's what Herra is looking for during a 1-14 season.

The Wildcats suffered through another sluggish start Tuesday night, Feb. 6, at Augusta and lost a 77-41 game to the Orioles, who had the game locked up by halftime with a 38-14 lead.

Senior Jason Wilson headed up the scoring for the Cats. He had 13 points. Ryan McKnight, Andy Hixson and Jason Phillips chipped in six points each, and Chris Gerhardt and Luke Gunter had four points apiece.

The Wildcats played a fairly good game Homecoming Night Friday, Feb. 2, against Valley Center. The Hornets swarmed all over Mulvane, 55-34, but it was a good deal better than their first meeting, which VC won by 37 points.

The Cats played hard, they battled for loose balls and they hustled. "We're still trying to put a whole game together," said Herra. "They tried to take Ryan McKnight out of the offense in the first half and our guards weren't knocking down the shots. In the second half, we started hitting those same shots and we played right along side them."

Valley outscored Mulvane by only a 30-27 count in the second half. "We had some moments," pointed out Herra. "I was really proud of the way Caleb Alexander came out and handled the ball, and Andy Hixson came off the bench and really played some defense for us. He was aggressive, very aggressive, and that's what we needed. He told me at halftime that he was going to hold that Wilmott kid down and he did. The kid scored 17 in the first half and didn't score in the second half. Andy backed up what he said by playing some great defense."

Herra also liked the ballhandling job by sophomore Luke Gunter and the scrappiness of both Jonathan Reed and Jason Wilson. "I was just very proud of the way our kids

Varsity Boys

Mulvane	6	8	10	17-41
Augusta	18	20	21	18-77
Mulvane—	Jason Phillips 6,	Ryan McKnight 6,	Jason Wilson 13,	Brian Love 2,
	Luke Gunter 4,	Andy Hixson 6,	Chris Gerhardt 4.	FG 17 (3), FT 4-7.
Augusta—	Taylor 12,	Landers 4,	Little 7,	Steve Oltman 8,
	Matt Sims 19,	John Maier 15,	Scott Slade 4,	Jake Sims 6,
	Hans Nickel 2.	FG 33 (4),	FT 7-15.	
Valley Center	8	17	18	12-55
Mulvane	2	5	13	14-34
Valley Center—	Brent Buchholz 1,	Matt Coleman 5,	Chad Wilmott 17,	Jared Ensey 11,
	Edwards 3,	Austin Powers 8,	Michael Campbell 4,	Tyler Hewitt 2,
	Garret Konen 2,	Chase Ishman 2.	FG 23 (2),	FT 7-14, F 12.
Mulvane—	Brian Love 4,	Chris Gerhardt 5,	Andy Hixson 8,	Jason Phillips 7,
	Ryan McKnight 4,	Jonathan Reed 4,	Jason Wilson 2.	FG 15 (0),
	FT 4-9,	F 14.		

Junior Varsity Boys

Valley Center	18	13	24	27-82
Mulvane	7	14	11	19-51
Valley Center—	Matt Opliger 15,	Jared Simon 6,	Garret Konen 2,	Chris Wheeler 5,
	Ryan Nutter 18,	Travis Riffel 2,	Matt McCormick 2,	Lance Kincheloe 6,
	Pat Edwards 6,	Brent Buchholz 6,	Tyler Hewitt 14.	FG 33 (4),
	FT 12-14,	F 19.		
Mulvane—	Kale Regier 13,	Caleb Alexander 11,	Jeremy Adams 12,	Luke Gunter 8,
	Dusty Sorensen 7.	FG 19 (6),	FT 7-14,	F 14.

worked out there," said the Cat coach. "I get on their tails really good, and I have to keep reminding them that its nothing personal. I just want them to be better basketball players. They have a big, big hill to climb going into Division I this year, but they're still out there battling all the time."

Hixson also finished with a team-leading eight points. Reserve Jason Phillips scored seven, Chris Gerhardt had five and Brian Love, Reed and McKnight finished with four points.

In the junior varsity outing, Valley ran away with an 82-51 contest despite three players in double figures for Mulvane. Kale Regier scored 13 points, Jeremy Adams had 12 and Alexander scored 11.