

Cat Boys Spice Up Game

For three and one-half quarters Tuesday night, Feb. 9, the Mulvane High School boys and Clearwater were playing and everybody was yawning.

Then it got serious. "It was pretty boring most of the game," agreed Coach Todd Barker. "We sat back, they sat back. We pressed a little. They pressed a little, then, they got within two points of us in the last two minutes and it was a barn burner."

The Wildcats pulled away in the final moments by hitting their free throws in a 56-50 triumph over Clearwater in a Chisholm Trail League Division II game in Mulvane. The Cats improved their status to 7-8 overall and 4-4 in the league.

"We were ahead, 33-22, at halftime and our offense just went dead in the third quarter," said Barker. "we couldn't hit a thing. But just as suddenly, it came back in the

Varsity Boys

Clearwater	13	9	15	13	50
Mulvane	19	14	6	17	56

Clearwater: Josh Davis 7, Chad Ayila 4, Andy Hastings 4, Jim Wallace 9, Travis Peitz 6, Jerry Rausch 2, Matt Allenbach 8, Collin Peck 10. FG 22 (2), FT 4 (1), FT 1.

Mulvane: Jesse Marksberry 25, Jake Wilkinson 11, Brian McColpin 9, Randy Johnson 3, Garrett Hennes 6, Brian Dunkel 1, Nick Pope 1. FG 20 (4), FT 12 (8), FT 12.

Mulvane	9	11	16	12	56
Chaparral	15	8	8	16	48

Mulvane: Jake Wilkinson 4, Brian Dunkel 4, Randy Johnson 6, Jesse Marksberry 27, Garrett Hennes 10, Brian McColpin 3, Nick Pope 2. FG 16 (4), FT 12 (22), FT 17.

Chaparral: Eric Redgate 6, AJ Catherwood 10, Ross Cleveland 2, Alan Patterson 13, Lance Rucke 11, David Dicker 4, Greg Warner 2. FG 13 (5), FT 7 (5), FT 24.

Junior Varsity Boys

Clearwater	16	12	12	2	44
Mulvane	10	13	9	14	46

Clearwater: Chad Ayila 8, Jason Unrein 2, Luke Doll 5, Phil Daley 10, James Lang 4, Chad Mills 1, Scott Klausmeyer 9, Billy Hamilton 4, Jeff Fleming 1. FG 17 (2), FT 8 (9), FT 22.

Mulvane: Andy Hixson 4, Chris Brannon 7, Jason Wilson 8, Nick Pope 9, Brian Love 2, Kyle McGuire 1, Jonathan Reed 9, Chris Gerhardt 4, Derek Paul 2. FG 15 (1), FT 15 (26), FT 18.

Mulvane	3	14	9	20	46
Chaparral	7	10	13	20	56

Mulvane: Nick Pope 2, James MacKay 2, Andy Hixson 8, Jared Rice 5, Jason Wilson 11, Chris Brannon 1, Kyle McGuire 2, Ryan McKnight 6, Chris Gerhardt 8. FG 16 (1), FT 13 (37), FT 26.

Chaparral: Dreker 18, Hess 3, Schulte 13, Easter 5, Hostetler 2, Robinson 3, Wedeman 10. FG 16 (1), FT 23 (33), FT 22.

Kingman	21	9	25	25	80
Mulvane	13	9	6	10	38

Kingman: Cooper Cozart 10, Jim Beatherman 10, Jarrod Smith 6, Travis DeWeese 2, Cody Young 10, Jeremy Orlb 6, Aaron Baldwin 26, Aaron Hook 10. FG 33 (4), FT 19 (35), FT 10.

Mulvane: Nick Pope 13, Chris Brannon 5, Derek Paul 2, Jared Rice 10, James MacKay 2, Jonathan Reed 2. FG 18 (2), FT 9 (2), FT 16.

Sophomore Boys

Mulvane	12	8	11	18	49
Derby	16	15	14	20	65

Mulvane: Kyle McGuire 9, Jason Wilson 2, Chris Gerhardt 5, Matt Cozart 4, Travis Johnson 4, Andy Hixson 10, Ryan McKnight 13. FG 19 (9), FT 9 (9), FT 14.

Derby: Brandon Sears 15, Travis Peck 20, Carlos Rivera 4, Aaron Stone 6, Kevin Appleton 3, Mark Ogden 10, Tony Amer 2. FG 27 (8), FT 6 (7), FT 18.

fourth quarter. We started to execute a little better and things started falling for us."

It's funny how things start going your way the harder you work.

"We actually got some big play out of a couple kids," said Barker. "Jake Wilkinson had a very good game, getting some big rebounds for us, and Brian McColpin shot the ball really well in the first half. He had all nine of his points off the bench in the first half and that really gave us a pick-up."

Barker also singled out Jesse Marksberry, a junior who is one of the top two scorers in Division II. "He's been shooting the ball a lot better," explained Barker. "He got shook up earlier in the year but I kept telling him to don't give up on himself because I knew he could do it. Well, he's finally doing it. He's had several nice games in a row."

The difference in the game was at the free throw line where the Cats went 12 of 18 and the Indians hit only four of eight.

Marksberry finished with a game-high 25 points. Wilkinson had 11 for the Cats and McColpin scored nine.

Mulvane rallied behind a 14-2 spurt in the final quarter to nick the Indians, 46-44, in the junior varsity game Tuesday night. Nick Pope and Jonathan Reed scored nine points each and Jason Wilson had eight to power the MHS jayvee offense.

Look for Barker to try and schedule Chaparral for more games next year. The Wildcat boys mopped up on the Roadrunners for the third time this season Friday night, completely spoiling the Chaparral homecoming when they gave the Wildcats a sweep for the night.

The Mulvane girls dusted off the Roadrunner girls, 54-39, before the Cat boys took over and popped Chappy, 56-48, with a comeback win. The victory snapped a two-game losing streak for Barker's troops and gave the Cats only their second victory in the last eight games, both over the Roadrunners.

Mulvane had to overcome an early hot streak by Chaparral to start the game. "They came out and they were smoking," said Barker. "It was their homecoming and they were up for the game. We decided to change defenses on them and that seemed to slow them down. We started in a 1-2-2 match-up zone but switched to a 1-3-1 zone. That kind of shut them down. They were successful getting the ball inside on us and getting cheap shots. The switch took care of that."

The Roadrunners were red hot out of the gate, racing to a 16-9 lead in the first quarter before the 1-3-1 stopped all that nonsense. "That first quarter, they were all pumped up and their crowd was going, too, but we took them out of the game when we

started hitting. We're not really a three-point shooting team but the kids were wide open, so they shot 'em. Chaparral was more interested in crowding the inside, which gave us plenty of open area behind the three-point line."

It didn't hurt that Mulvane's No. 1 scorer, junior Jesse Marksberry, got his motor running, too. Marksberry launched three successful three-pointers in a row and Brian Dunkel hit one trey as the Wildcats gained the momentum in the second quarter. By halftime, Chappy was still ahead, 24-20, but the Cats had the momentum and that showed up in the third quarter when Mulvane took the lead for good with a 16-8 edge.

"We started getting more opportunities in the third quarter and actually had one of our best shooting nights," pointed out Barker. "We shot over 50% for the game (16 out of 34 and 4 of 6 from beyond the arc). When we hit all those three-pointers,

that seemed to send them a signal that sparked our team."

Good shooting was the whole game for Mulvane since Chaparral won the battle for rebounds, 30-28. Marksberry had nine boards for the Cats and senior Randy Johnson finished with seven.

"With us hitting so good, there weren't a lot of rebounds for the gathering," emphasized Barker. "They were running a man-to-man defense at us the whole game and I think our overall quickness was our advantage."

Down the stretch, Mulvane held off the Roadrunners with good free throwing. The Cats hit 14 of 16 from the line in the final quarter to coast to victory.

The MHS junior varsity, Chaparral used a 23-free throw night to stop Mulvane's JVs, 56-46. Wilson's 11 points highlighted the MHS offense. Sophomores Chris Gerhardt and Andy Hixson popped in eight apiece.