

# Crusaders Crush MHS Hopes

It was a gloomy night outdoors at Wellington Tuesday night, Feb. 18, but it couldn't have been any more gloomy than it was indoors for the Mulvane High School boys.

The host Crusaders crushed the Wildcats, 62-37, like an empty tin can, sending the visiting MHS team home with a 3-15 overall mark and a 1-7 Chisholm Trail League record heading into the final 10 days of the regular season.

"It was dismal on offense," said MHS coach Charlie Mason. "Even though we were down 10 at halftime, we played good defensive ball. If we could have scored anything at all, we would have been in the ball game. We really struggled at getting the ball in the basket. It was about as poor an offensive game as we've had all season."

Yes, "poorer" than the 23-point game against Arkansas City. Yes, "poorer" than the 34-point outing against Goddard.

"They had the big Miller kid inside and he had five blocks, which helped make us a little tentative," added Mason. "Their defense pushed us out of our offense all night, pushed

#### Varsity Boys

Mulvane	4	9	14	10-37
Wellington	6	17	17	22-62

Mulvane--Steve Nelson 5, Jarrod Oldridge 6, J.J. Dunn 5, Judson Spicer 2, Brian Strack 4, Jeff Parson 8, Chad Carpenter 3, Larry Dixon 4. FG 14 (1), FT 8-16, F 21.

Wellington--L. Russell 15, Troutman 3, Mott 4, R. Miller 3, E. Russell 4, Thatcher 4, Darby 5, Darin Miller 24. FG 24 (3), FT 11-19, F 13.

#### Junior Varsity Boys

Mulvane	15	4	14	27-60
Wellington	6	15	11	12-45

Mulvane--Jeremy Kendrick 15, Jamie Belden 10, Jason DeWald 5, Larry Dixon 12, Steve Nelson 10, Dan Smith 2, Shay Vangas 3, Brian Heinrichs 3. FG 23 (4), FT 10-18, F 24.

Wellington--Jason Ybarra 7, Rance Erwin 4, Chaney Kimball 14, Dusty Costello 4, Tim Tracey 2, Jack Kelsch 2, John Thatcher 10. FG 16 (2), FT 11-19, F 19.

#### Sophomore Boys

No sophomore game played

#### Varsity Boys

Valley Center	6	18	16	18-58
Mulvane	10	6	10	12-38

Valley Center--Mike Drumright 23, Marcus Williams 5, Kirk Royse 15, Craig Bally 4, Scott Simonsen 3, DeAndre Wilson 6, Jon Freed 2. FG 23 (1), FT 9-11, F 15.

Mulvane--Chad Carpenter 3, J.J. Dunn 10, Jeff Parson 6, Jarrod Oldridge 9, Jeremy Kendrick 3, Brian Strack 2, Judson Spicer 3, Brian Heinrichs 2. FG 13 (2), FT 6-9, F 15.

#### Junior Varsity Boys

Valley Center	13	19	16	22-70
Mulvane	19	8	14	16-57

Valley Center--DeAndre Wilson 13, Brandon Wilson 9, Cale Good 8, Darren Gleason 14, Scott Carter 3, Danny Bevan 5, David Rutschman 2, Jon Freed 6, Jamie Jacob 4, Mark Whitaker 2, Greg Drumright 2, Quinn Cravens 2. FG 27 (3), FT 13-25, F 14.

Mulvane--Larry Dixon 12, Brian Heinrichs 10, Steve Nelson 10, Dan Smith 8, Brian Strack 9, Chris Heersche 2, Jeremy Kendrick 6. FG 27 (2), FT 1-6, F 24.

#### Sophomore Boys

Valley Center	6	9	5	13-33
Mulvane	19	6	16	14-46

Valley Center--Joey Schulze 9, Greg Drumright 2, Danny Cross 5, Shane Jordan 4, Neil Blomquist 5, Quinn Cravens 6, Shon Brubaker 2. FG 15 (1), FT 2-9, F 21.

Mulvane--Dan Smith 13, Chris Heersche 16, Jamie Belden 7, Jason DeWald 4, Shay Vangas 4, Eric Heel 2. FG 21 (0), FT 4-18, F 11.

us farther out on the court. And when we got the shots, we missed them."

Wellington broke open the game by out-scoring Mulvane, 17-9, in the 2nd quarter and followed that up with a 22-10 shelling in the last frame to pull away.

Senior Jeff Parson led Mulvane on offense, scoring eight points. Jarrod Oldridge had six points, J.J. Dunn and Steve Nelson scored five points each and Brian Strack and Larry Dixon scored four apiece.

The Cat junior varsity, coached by Dale Landes, ran its record to 2-10 with two games to play by exploding in the last quarter for a 60-45 decision at Wellington.

Back-to-back three-pointers by Jeremy Kendrick started the 27-point explosion in the quarter. He finished with 15 points. Dixon was the No. 2 scorer with 12 points and both Nelson and Jamie Belden pumped in 10 points.

Valley Center took a spell to warm up before throwing cold water on the Mulvane Winter Homecoming festivities Friday night, Feb. 14. There was no loving feeling from the Hornets on Valentine's Day as they covered the Cats in a 20-point avalanche, 58-38.

"It was just too much Mike Drumright," said Mason. "I thought we played well early but then Drumright started hurting us on the boards. As we have all year long, our offensive rebounding hurt. It has been sporadic all season and it continued Friday night. We did a good job defensively, but when you go against that much size, you're going to struggle getting offensive boards. Usually, it was one shot (for us) and the ball was going the other way.

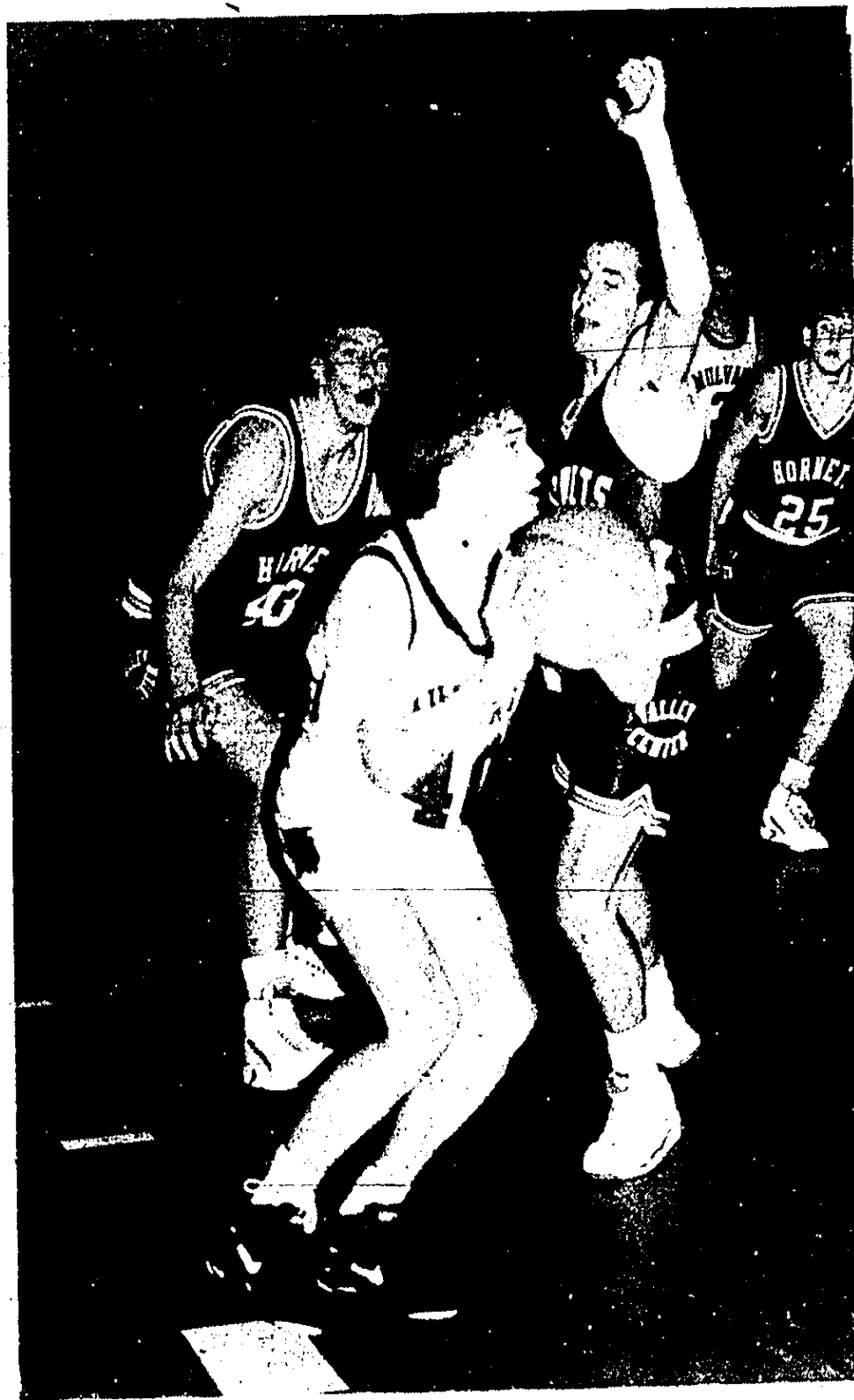
"Rebounding in general is kind of like defense," added the Cat boss. "It's a lot of hard work and something you have to keep after. That's one thing that's impressive about Drumright. He went after everything he could get his hands on. We did a pretty good job of stopping their big kid inside. He's the one who hurt us when we played up there, but Drumright and Royse picked it up a notch. They just have a lot of weapons that can kill you."

Valley took the lead for good after the scrappy Cats had held it through the first quarter, leading 10-6. The Hornets charged past Mulvane, 18-6, in the second quarter and never looked back.

"We cut it to six points in the second half but turned it over three or four times, and that's something you can't do against a team as good as Valley," said Mason. "You can't afford to make too many turnovers and you have to make your shots. We did neither."

The Wildcats had 17 turnovers and hit only 37% (15 of 51) while VC was making 24 of 54 from the field (44%).

"After they got the lead, they went from their man-to-man into a zone and we didn't hit the shots in the second half," added



Brian Heinrichs (40) gets ready to lift off against Hornets

Mason. "It's tough to beat their 1-3-1 zone, and we didn't run our half-court press offense very well either."

Dunn was the only Wildcat in twin figures. He scored 10 points. Guard Jarrod Oldridge scored nine points, Jeff Parson had six and Jeremy Kendrick, Chad Carpenter and Judson Spicer had three points apiece.

In the junior varsity bout, VC used a big second quarter as a springboard to a 70-57 triumph. The Hornets out-scored Mulvane, 19-8, in the 2nd period.

Larry Dixon, Brian Heinrichs and Steve Nelson gave Mulvane a good three-way punch, scoring 12, 10 and 10 points, respectively. Brian Strack had nine points and Dan Smith eight.

The Cats gobbled up the Hornets in the sophomore game, Mulvane posting a 46-33 victory.

Chris Heersche was the game's No. 1 scorer with 16 points and Smith scored 13. Jamie Belden finished with seven points for the MHS sophs.