

One Whistle, One More Setback

One whistle, one call, one more loss for the Mulvane High School boys basketball squad Friday night, Feb. 16, in the home finale for the Cat boys.

Varsity Boys

Buhler	11	16	10	21	58
Mulvane	17	12	13	15	57

Buhler—Ron Coleman 23, Scotty Roberts 8, Brian Gehring 2, Matt Ewing 14, Todd Preheim 3, Ken Hamby 2, Kevin Miller 6. FG 22 (4), FT 10-15, F22.

Mulvane—Todd Hedstrom 16, Todd Butcher 12, Curtis Norden 15, Jeff Sisco 10, Jarrod Oldridge 2, Bill Harrington 2. FG 19 (1), FT 18 24, F 18.

Mulvane	10	14	12	13	49
Maize	20	30	23	14	87

Mulvane—Curtis Norden 12, Todd Hedstrom 8, Bill Harrington 4, Gary Cleverdon 6, Todd Butcher 2, Scott Travis 2, Jarrod Oldridge 10, Andy Mackey 1, Jeff Sisco 2, Jeff Parson 2. FG 21 (0), FT 7-17, F 18.

Maize—Holmes 6, Cory Lyon 22, Chad Peck 22, Guinn 6, Schneider 2, Pruitt 15, Baldridge 4, Gorges 6, Peckard 4. FG 35 (2), FT 15-21, F 18.

Junior Varsity Boys

Buhler	22	21	21	18	82
Mulvane	10	15	29	13	58

Buhler—Michael Loechner 4, Curtis Mitchell 6, Jack Graber 12, Eric Sims 2, Curtis Murrell 2, Damon Regier 6, Doug Bird 6, Devin Bowman 15, Neil Atkinson 5, Ken Hamby 15, Andy Balzer 9. FG 34 (4), FT 10-19, F 16.

Mulvane—Jarrod Oldridge 2, Judson Spicer 12, Chad Carpenter 4, David Boyer 4, Andy Mackey 19, Jeff Parson 10, Steve Nelson 1, Robert Glaser 2, Larry Dixon 2, Chad Lee 2. FG 22 (1), FT 11-19, F 16.

Mulvane	13	14	5	20	54
Maize	17	21	13	16	67

Mulvane—Judson Spicer 4, Chad Carpenter 6, Andy Mackey 23, Neil Andersen 1, Jeff Parson 11, Robert Glaser 2, Jarrod Oldridge 5, Jeremy Kendrick 2. FG 18 (2), FT 12-20, F 17.

Maize—Guinn 5, Daugherty 11, Holmes 10, Gorges 11, Stiverson 17, Beemiller 2, George 2, Wellborn 2, Beggs 5, Lamb 2. FG 22 (2), FT 9-16, F 19.

Sophomore Boys

Mulvane	0	12	7	8	27
Maize	17	8	10	13	48

Mulvane—David Boyer 4, Neil Andersen 6, Jay Jackson 3, Steve Nelson 6, Larry Dixon 2, Robert Glaser 4, Jeremy Kendrick 2. FG 10-42 (2), FT 5-13, F 10.

Maize—Beggs 5, Beemiller 10, George 15, Wellborn 5, Herrman 11, Stiverson 2. FG 21-51 (2), FT 4-8, F 15.

The Wildcats played Buhler off its feet for most of the game Friday night only to have a questionable charging called in the final nine seconds which gave Buhler the ball and an opportunity. The Crusaders took the most of that break to score and yank a 58-57 victory out of defeat in a Chisholm Trail League game.

The loss was the 18th in a row for Coach Charlie Mason's gallant band of battlers trying to win their first game of the season. Instead, it was their third loss in the final seconds in the last two weeks. Mulvane lost by a 58-56 count in back-to-back games to Maize, then Rose Hill earlier this month.

For much of the game, the Cats had the Crusaders on the run. Mulvane held as much as an eight-point lead several times during the contest but Buhler closed things down in the final moments. Ahead, 56-54, with 39 seconds left, the Cats sensed No. 1 but two free throws made it 56-54. Todd Hedstrom made one of two free throws with 30 seconds left before Buhler made a fielder to trail by only one. Coming up the field against a pressing Buhler, Wildcat senior Todd Butcher was called for charging, although the defender was clearly moving. It gave Buhler an opening and a rebound bucket with nine seconds left won the game.

A final desperation shot by Mulvane was off the mark.

"I was told a long time ago that a referee can't dictate the outcome of a ball game," said Mason several days after the game. "They can, they do and they do. That was one of the worst calls I've seen in all the years I've been coaching. Instead of going to the line with a chance to add to the lead,

we gave them the basketball.

"There was so much indecision on the call. It occurred right in front of the Buhler bench and they are all over there signaling a charge and that helped make up his mind."

The trail official made the call from the left side of the court but didn't signal the charge until he had run across the court to the point of the foul, then pointed to Butcher.

For most of the game, Mulvane had Buhler off balance with good shooting and accuracy at the free throw stripe, two talents which haven't been strong suits for MHS this season. In fact, it could have been Mulvane's best game of the year.

"I knew we could play with Buhler because people have played with them all year long," said Mason. "They don't trap, they don't press and they let people stay in against them. Plus, they did us a service by going with a man-to-man the whole game. We had our best shooting game, 56% from the field, and we did some pretty good free throwing at the line, too, except when we needed to have them in the last quarter."

The Cats made 18 of 24 at the line, one of their best showings there all season.

Hedstrom had one of his best outings, scoring 16 points, and Butcher scored 12 points. Curtis Norden finished with 15 points and Jeff Sisco had 10, giving MHS four players in double figures for the first

time this season. All four seniors were playing their last home game.

The rematch against was no contest at Maize Tuesday, Feb. 13. The Eagles blew out the Cats behind a 30-14 second quarter push and went on for an 87-49 victory.

In that game, the Cats were out-classed early as Maize scored 53 points in the first half.

Norden's 12 points and 10 by sophomore guard Jarrod Oldridge powered the Mulvane offense. Hedstrom scored eight and Gary Cleverdon had six.

The MHS junior varsity didn't fare any better, although they played well. Buhler buried the Cats, 82-58, and Maize held on for a 67-54 verdict.

Against Buhler, Andy Mackey dumped in 19 points, Judson Spicer scored 12, Jeff Parson had 11 and Chad Carpenter and David Boyer had four apiece.

Mackey had 23 points against Maize with Parson right there with 11 points, while teammates Carpenter and Oldridge finished with six and five, respectively.

The MHS sophomores fell behind, 17-0, in the first frame and never could recover at Maize as the Eagles blasted out a 48-27 verdict.

High for the Wildcat sophs were freshman Steve Nelson and Neil Andersen with six points each and Robert Glaser and Boyer with four each.