

Mulvane Boys Gain Revenge, Hit The Depths In Same Week

After soaring the heights, the Mulvane Wildcats dropped with a thud Tuesday night, Feb. 22, at home as Andale clinched first place in the Chisholm Trail League Division II race, trouncing the Cats, 78-48.

"After coming off our best game of the year, we played one of our worst games," complained Coach John Darrow. "We weren't focused. We weren't ready and they just put it to us. After the first quarter, we struggled on offense and our defense was like a sieve. Our defensive execution was very poor."

For one quarter, Mulvane was in the game, trailing by a 21-17 count, but the Indians put it together in the second quarter, out scoring Mulvane, 20-6, to start the rout.

Senior Jesse Marksberry continued his torrid scoring, hitting for 18 points. Freshman Caleb Alexander dropped in a career-best eight points, Jared Rice scored six and John Reed, Ryan McKnight and Chris Gerhardt scored four each.

The loss left Darrow's Cats at 2-17 and 1-10 in the CTL.

It was kind of like "Remember The Alamo," the battle cry which united Texans. The battle cry for the MHS boys going into Friday night's encounter at home against Rose Hill was simple: "54-7."

Rose Hill had thumped the Wildcats by

that score in the third game under new coach John Darrow, but revenge was oh, so sweet as the Cats racked up Rose Hill by 17, 58-41, in a Chisholm Trail League game.

It was the first CTL victory for Darrow and the Wildcats but it was definitely satisfying. "Absolutely, it was a good feeling," said Darrow. "They really embarrassed us earlier. This shows how far the kids have come. They are starting to buy into the things we are telling them on offense and defense, and it's paying off."

Darrow didn't have to make the 54-7 game an issue against the Rockets. "There weren't any banners, no talking about it before the game, but the kids remembered," emphasized Darrow. "One of the kids said it best after the game, it wasn't about revenge, it was all about getting a 'W'. And for the seniors, it was especially good because this is the last time they will play Rose Hill. It's a big rivalry, and you always remember that last time against your rival. So, for the seniors, it meant something special."

Darrow credited the 64-point swing to good execution on defense and getting the ball to players in their "comfort zone" on offense. "We limited them on shots early," said Darrow. "They only had four offensive rebounds by halftime and in the second quarter, we put some points on the board because we were getting the ball to people

Varsity Boys

Rose Hill	13	6	8	14—41
Mulvane	12	20	11	15—58
Rose Hill	Todd Brunningham 1, Nick Kerr 2, Ryan Daugherty 17, Phil Harden 2, D.W. Seitz 2, Chris Schneider 4, B.J. Whitlock 7, Brett Cox 2, Joe Chandler 4. FG 16 (4), FT 5-14, F 21			
Mulvane	—Jesse Marksberry 27, Chris Brannon 1, Chris Gerhardt 7, Jason Wilson 5, Troy Johnson 12, Jared Rice 4, Jonathan Reed 2. FG 20 (3), FT 15-19, F 15			

Junior Varsity Boys

Mulvane	2	13	12	10—37
Circle	22	16	6	8—62
Mulvane	—Jonathan Reed 7, Jon Rogers 4, Shawn Rogers 3, Jeremy Adams 5, Ryan McKnight 7, Caleb Alexander 2, Luke Gunter 3, Kyle McGuire 7. FG 16 (2), FT 3-9, F 15.			
Circle	—M. Hobbs 11, Gottschalk 5, J. Farner 18, Brenner 2, Adams 3, Hecker 5, Goldsmith 2, Brown 5, J. Farner 4, Corkill 5, Wartick 2. FG 24 (8), FT 6-10, F 11			

Varsity Boys

Andale	21	20	20	17	78
Mulvane	17	6	12	13	48
Andale	—Francis Baumann 13, Kurt Eck 2, Nick Eck 16, Jeremy Lies 6, Nate Steven 4, Cody Gorges 4, Dylan Schmidt 14, Matt McEadden 3, Pete Lagaly 3, Robby Speerath 11, Josh McComple 2. FG 25 (5), FT 13-24, F 14				
Mulvane	—Chris Brannon 2, Caleb Alexander 8, Troy Johnson 2, Chris Gerhardt 4, Jesse Marksberry 18, John Reed 4, Ryan McKnight 4, Jared Rice 6. FG 19 (3), FT 13-12				

who could score and getting it to them in their "comfort zone."

Senior Jesse Marksberry proved his "comfort zone" ranges quite a ways out there. He hit three pointers from long distance at the end of the first half as well as at the end of the third quarter.

Marksberry finished with 27 points. Troy Johnson scored 12 points and had 15 rebounds. Chris Gerhardt scored seven points and had eight rebounds. Neither Marksberry nor Gerhardt played in that 54-7 game.

"It was awfully fulfilling," continued Darrow. "And the big thing is that we had the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys teams all at the game. We brought them into the locker room after the ball game and talked about being one big family. One day all of those kids will be wearing the green and white of the Wildcats. It was a good feeling, and it was a great atmosphere for both the high school kids and the younger kids."

In a junior varsity game, Mulvane lost at Circle, 62-27, earlier in the week. Kyle McGuire, Ryan McKnight and Jonathan Reed had seven points apiece and Jeremy Adams scored five.

The Cats will close out their regular season tonight (Feb. 24) with an unusual Thursday night game at home against Kingman. Mulvane will be playing next week in the El Dorado Class 4A Sub-State. Sub-state play for the boys starts at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 29, and the Cats are seeded 8th and will play at El Dorado against the No. 1 seeded team.