

Defeat Sets Stage For Title Game

By John Carney

A championship bout between the Mulvane Wildcats and the Circle High Thunderbirds will be held this Friday, Feb. 27, in Towanda. The Chisholm Trail title will be at stake since Valley Center spoiled the Wildcats' hopes, last Friday, of clinching at least a tie in the league crown by defeating the Big Green, 46-36.

The game was primarily a defensive battle which the Hornets won. The Wildcats did not get control of the ball for the first minute and a half of play, but did manage to put the first two points on the scoreboard but not until 5:57 remained in the first quarter. The Hornets, though, determined to play a slow, methodical game, moved out to a 13-6 lead and then popped in two at the close of the first period for a 15-8 first-quarter advantage.

In the second period the Wildcats finally got their pressing defense and running game working and pulled within 1, 17-16, but then suddenly went cold and didn't score for the next three minutes. In the meantime Valley Center managed to add six points to their lead and to take to the dressing room the same advantage they had at the end of the first period, 7 points.

The lead fluctuated very little in the third period, but the Wildcats did manage to pull within 4 with two minutes remaining in the stanza. The Hornets managed one more before the quarter ended and took a 33-28 lead. In the final period the Wildcats hit an ice cold streak that would not let go until 1:53 remained in the game. Ted Hill then connected on two free throws. 39

seconds later Dan Brauser scored the first field goal of the quarter, but the last minute rally was futile against the Hornets' 15-point lead. In the final minute of the game the Wildcats out-scored Valley Center, 8-4.

The championship game this Friday will be the final season game for the Wildcats. The winner will be the league champion and the loser will end up in sole possession or possibly share second place with Augusta, depending on the outcome of the Augusta-Valley Center game.

	FG	FT	TP
Ted Hill	3-12	4-5	10
Dan Brauser	4-15	0-2	8
Max Nichols	3-4	1-2	7
Rick Farber	0-1	2-3	2
Jim Crawford	4-11	1-4	9
Phil Roney	0-0	0-1	0
Craig Levering	0-0	0-1	0
Jeff Barton	0-0	0-0	0

	Off.	Def.
Jim Crawford	3	5
Dan Brauser	1	1
Jeff Barton	1	0
Max Nichols	1	1
Ted Hill	0	4
Rick Farber	1	11

In the J. V. game the Wildcats lost by a score of 50-45. The junior 'Cats led the whole game until the closing minute of the third period. At that time the Hornets sank one free throw and tipped in another to take a 37-36 lead at the end of the third stanza. Valley Center never relinquished the lead and built up to the 5-point winning margin.

The inaccurate shooting at both the free throw line and from the field proved to be a big factor in hindering the Wildcats. Mulvane hit only 37% from the field and only 39% from the free throw line.

	FG	FT	TP
Craig Levering	5	0	10
Phil Roney	4	3	11
Dale Hukle	2	0	4
Mike Winn	2	2	6
Mitch McKee	2	2	6
Ronnie Pierson	2	1	5
Terry Craig	1	0	2
Gick Fleming	0	1	1

The sophomore team was the only Mulvane squad to pull off a victory at Valley Center last Friday. The Wildcats won by 3, 66-63.

	FG	FT	TP
Terry Craig	12	0	24
Gick Fleming	8	5	21
Jay Thomas	4	0	8
Terry Flinn	3	0	6
Larry Dame	1	5	7