

Wildcats Lock Up Home Opener

Twenty-four offensive rebounds. That's how many offensive boards the Mulvane High School boys came up with Friday night, Feb. 20, in their final regular season game at home.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out who won. The Wildcats used a big rebounding game to help dominate Chaparral, 69-59, giving the Cats a three-

Varsity Boys

Chaparral	13	19	11	16-59
Mulvane	14	22	16	17-69

Chaparral—Kevin Kunz 10, Richie Barrett 4, Kirk Moore 6, Kyle Carothers 20, Dustin Smithhisler 2, Jeremy Shue 5, A.J. Catherwood 2, Ron Patterson 8, Chris Stevens 2. FG 21 (3), FT 8-21, F 31.

Mulvane—Darrin Erbert 19, Dan McElroy 19, Chad Gerwick 7, Rob Parker 16, Bryce Schumacher 4, Keene Hargrove 2, Ryan Rogers 2. FG 20 (1), FT 26-49, F 19.

Junior Varsity Boys

Clearwater	8	17	17	11-53
Mulvane	21	15	17	12-65

Clearwater—Chad Avila 10, Chad Esslinger 4, Curt Dugan 2, Daniel Bolton 2, Luke Doll 14, Andy Hastings 12, Bill Hamilton 9. FG 22 (3), FT 6-13, F 9.

Mulvane—Brian Dinkel 6, Jesse Marksberry 8, Garrett Hennes 4, Jake Wilkinson 12, Randy Johnson 23, Nick Pope 2, Tom Anderson 2, Ryan Hively 2, Brian McColpin 6. FG 28 (2), FT 7-13, F 17.

Sophomore Boys

Chaparral	16	20	7	9-51
Mulvane	7	15	16	21-59

Chaparral—Hess 2, Ballman 6, Cleveland 12, Spears 4, Dieker 9, Schule 4, Walker 6, Jelinck 5, Armstrong 4. FG 22 (2), FT 6-18, F 11.

Mulvane—Josh Hanson 13, Derek Paul 4, Jared Rice 4, Ryan Hively 10, Nick Pope 16, Chris Brannon 2, Jason Wilson 2, Chris Gerhardt 8. FG 24 (5), FT 6-10, F 21.

game sweep over Chappy this season.

Coach Todd Barker's Cats improved their record to 9-10 and 4-7 in the Chisholm Trail. Chaparral dipped to 5-13 and 2-8 in the league.

"Our size really hurt them," emphasized Barker. "Robbie (6-9 senior Robbie Parker) on the inside created a lot of trouble for them. They got into foul trouble trying to stop him. They didn't have anybody come close to matching up with him, so he enjoyed an outstanding game. He had 13 rebounds, all off the offensive boards, scored 16 points and had seven blocked shots."

What really helped, according to Barker, was a consistent show from just about everybody. Chad Gerwick had eight assists and five steals. Guard Darrin Erbert tossed in 19 points. And senior Dan McElroy had 19 points and 12 rebounds. More importantly, he was steady at the free throw line when everybody else was going to pieces, hitting 10-for-10.

Actually, the Wildcats should have won by 25 but they had one of their first shaky games at the free throw stripe in the last two months. Chappy committed 31 fouls, sending Mulvane to the line 49 times but they only hit 26 of them.

"That really kept Chaparral in the game," remarked Barker. "We had really been doing the job at the free throw line

until last night. Thank goodness Dan was on there. They started fouling us and that took a lot of opportunities away from our offense with us missing the free throws. We blew a whole practice last night just getting up and down the floor and taking free throws. We should have buried them (the Roadrunners) but we didn't."

The Wildcats will end their regular season tonight (Feb. 26) at ranked Circle before hosting a first round game in the Mulvane Class 4A Sub-State, which opens with first-round games Monday, March 2.

The junior varsity boys held on for a 65-53 triumph over Clearwater Tuesday, Feb. 17. The Wildcat JVs broke out to a 21-8 lead. Randy Johnson dumped in 23 points to highlight the offensive cause. Jake Wilkinson scored 12 points, Jesse Marksberry scored eight and Brian Dinkel and Brian McColpin had six each.

The Mulvane sophomores staged a furious rally in the second half for a comeback victory against Chaparral Friday night. Chappy was ahead, 36-22, at intermission but Mulvane out-scored the Roadrunners, 21-9, in the final quarter to register a 59-51 victory.

Nick Pope had 16 points, Josh Hanson scored 13, and Ryan Hively had 10 for the Wildcat sophs.