

Clearwater's Size Fuels Loss, Wildcats Upset Valley Center

Size has been a problem all season long for the smallish Mulvane Wildcat boys and Tuesday night, Feb. 25, was no exception as the host Clearwater Indians used their height advantage to pull out a 61-55 non-conference victory.

The loss dropped Coach Charlie Mason's boys to 9-10 for the year, but appeared to have little bearing on Mulvane's first-round sub-state appearance. The Cats will be at home against Wellington in the first round Tuesday, March 4.

"The difference was their size, they did a good job inside with their size," emphasized Mason. "And another key was at the foul line. We missed three one-and-ones in the fourth quarter when we were only three points down. They made their free throws and we didn't."

Clearwater hit 10 of 16 free shots in the last period while the Cats, who were seven of nine until the 4th quarter, made only four of eight tosses.

"We also had probably our worst shooting night of the year, too," said Mason. "When your three big guns

shoot 30% from the field, you're not going to win many games."

Todd Fox led the Mulvane scoring with 18 points. Morgan LeClair was the only other MHS player in double figures, scoring 14, and Curtis Hicks had nine points.

In the junior varsity game, Coach Dennis Tegethoff's Cats fell to 6-7 for the season with a 59-58 setback at Clearwater. Toby Butcher and Shay Cornejo led the Mulvane scoring with 13 and 12 points, respectively. Bryson Butts finished with 10.

Mulvane will entertain Augusta Friday night, Feb. 28, in the final game of the regular season.

The Wildcats put together one of their top efforts of the season Friday night, Feb. 21, as they hammered Valley Center, 57-51, in a Chisholm Trail League game in Mulvane. Earlier this season, the Hornets had humbled Mulvane with its worst lickin' of the year, 82-60, at VC.

The game was tight until the fourth quarter when the Wildcats started pulling out to a lead of more than 10

points.

Junior LeClair and Fox powered the Cat offense. LeClair pumped in 26 points and Fox had 16. Next high was Curtis Hicks, also a junior, who scored six points.

The victory assured Mulvane of at least third place in the league. Their loop record is 5-4 with one game to go Friday night at home against Augusta.

In the junior varsity outing, Coach Dennis Tegethoff's club held off a furious rally in the final quarter by Valley Center, which was aided by a 14 of 25 effort at the line for Mulvane. The MHS jayvees prevailed, 74-70.

Shay Cornejo led four Cat scorers in double figures with 20 points. Jeff Williams scored 16 points, Toby Butcher scored 14 points and Bryson Butts chipped in 12.

The Mulvane sophomores made it a clean sweep for the Wildcat boys as Coach Kim Grant's club out-scored VC in overtime for a 54-48 verdict.

Freshman Sean Gillespie, who scored a career-high 14 points, hit four of five free throws in overtime to protect the Mulvane advantage and VC missed its free throws. Guard Neal Hamilton scored 14 points, including six in the fourth quarter as Mulvane rallied to tie the game. Ken Baer finished with eight points for the Cats.

Boys Varsity

Mulvane 6 17 14 18-55
Clearwater 10 21 14 16-61
Mulvane--Kyle Steadman 4, Wes Moore 4, Morgan LeClair 14, Andrew Swayne 6, Curtis Hicks 9, Todd Fox 18. FG 22, FT 11-17, F 20.
Clearwater--Chris Hickman 25, Jamie Newlin 10, Shawn Simon 7, Jeff Ramsey 14, Scott Hammers 2, John Foley 3. FG 24, FT 13-21, F 17.

Boys Junior Varsity

Mulvane 13 13 15 17-58
Clearwater 12 25 12 10-59
Mulvane--Nick Fortin 4, Jeff Williams 8, Lyle Graybeal 9, Bryson Butts 10, Shay Cornejo 12, Toby Butcher 13, Neal Hamilton 2. FG 26, FT 8-13, F 9.
Clearwater--Jamie Newlin 15, Dan Biby 4, John Foley 8, Chris Stump 14, Brian Whitlow 4, Kurt Barrow 2, Hank Cocking 12. FG 26, FT 7-9, F 14.

Boys Varsity

Valley Center 12 12 15 10-51
Mulvane 10 15 16 16-37
Valley Center--Mike Hampton 7, Kevin Shaw 24, Scott Hunter 5, Mike Whillaker 1, Tim Ruth 4, Jamie Williams 6, Tim Eskridge 4. FG 18, FT 15-21, F 21.
Mulvane--Wes Moore 2, Bryson Butts 2, Todd Fox 16, Curtis Hicks 6, Morgan LeClair 26, Kyle Steadman 1, Andrew Swayne 4. FG 19, FT 19-29, F 17.

Boys Junior Varsity

Valley Center 20 8 15 27-70
Mulvane 18 18 21 15-74
Valley Center--Brian Phipps 19, Eric Burns 13, Kent Gerety 12, Gary Sharpe 9, Jeff Alstatt 14, Bob Scantlin 3. FG 27, FT 16-22, F 17.
Mulvane--Nick Fortin 8, Jeff Williams 16, Lyle Graybeal 4, Bryson Butts 12, Shay Cornejo 20, Toby Butcher 14. FG 30, FT 14-25, F 15.

Sophomores Boys

Valley Center 10 15 6 15 (2)-48
Mulvane 6 15 8 15 (8)-64
Valley Center--Troy Alcorn 8, Jeff Renner 11, Darran Fowler 3, Carl Franklin 18, Bryan Ooley 2, Ross Farley 6. FG 20, FT 8-17, F 14.
Mulvane--Neal Hamilton 14, Jeremy Hoenscheldt 3, Russell Norden 6, Rodger Kendall 7, Ken Baer 8, Sean Gillespie 14, Andrew Hodge 2. FG 23, FT 8-13, F 21.