

MHS Boys Go Down Swinging

COUNCIL GROVE—What is it about the first half? It hasn't settled well with the Mulvane High School boys all season long, and Tuesday night, March 3, the Wildcats might as well have showed up at intermission.

The host Braves showed off their No. 1

Chisholm Trail League Final Boys Standings

DIVISION I

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
x-Goddard	10	2	18	2
Valley Center	9	3	12	8
Buhler	8	4	12	7
Wellington	7	5	12	8
Maize	3	8	9	12
Augusta	3	9	6	15
Mulvane	1	11	3	18

DIVISION II

x-Kingman	11	1	17	4
Andover	10	2	15	5
Rose Hill	6	6	12	9
Clearwater	6	6	8	13
Circle	5	7	10	11
Andale	3	9	3	18
Chaparral	1	11	1	20

x—won division championship.

seed in the opening game of the Bluestem Class 4A Sub-State by out-lasting the Cats, 53-46. The victory puts the Braves (17-5) in the sub-state semifinals Friday night, March 6, against Circle in a 6 p.m. game.

The Wildcats had only 11 points at half-time and were down by 21 before starting the long road back in the third and fourth quarters. Mulvane actually pulled to within two with three minutes left but Council Grove made free throws down the stretch to blunt the comeback.

"We just couldn't put the ball in the basket in the first half," emphasized Cat Coach Charlie Mason. "We were 3 of 22 from the field in the first half. We were tight and just didn't knock down the shots. We had the good shots but they wouldn't go down. We were long. It seemed like our shots were hitting the back of the rim."

The underdog Wildcats closed out this campaign at 3-18 overall and 1-11 in the Chisholm Trail League.

The only problem with falling so far off the pace is the energy it takes to get back in the game. It leaves you nothing in the stretch. "It takes so much effort to come back," agreed the veteran coach. "The simple fact is they made the shots when they had to and we didn't. When we cut it to two points, we came down and quickly fouled a kid who was 0-4 at the line, but he stepped up and made them. In fact, he hit six in a row down the stretch."

That virtually slammed the door on Mulvane's rally and the Cats never did get back to within a pair. The Braves hit eight of 14 free throws in the last quarter.

"The game was like two separate games," added Mason, "theirs in the first half and ours in the second. We came out after intermission and picked up the defen-

Bluestem Class 4A

Boys Sub-State

FIRST ROUND

Mulvane	3	8	14	21-46
Council Grove	17	12	6	18-53
Mulvane—Brian Strack 11, Jarrod Oldridge 11, Brian Heinrichs 8, J.J. Dunn 8, Chad Carpenter 4, Jeff Parson 2, FG 21 (4), FT 8-16, F 17.				
Council Grove—Block 14, Baker 10, Casey 10, Starr 2, Schmid 4, Gant 4, Schrader 1, Delay 8, FG 22 (1), FT 12-23, F 15.				

Circle 67, Eureka 41
Andover 94, Bluestem 53
Rose Hill 70, Fredonia 57

Bluestem Class 4A

Boys Sub-State Pairings

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Game 5 — Council Grove (16-5) vs. Circle (10-11), 6 p.m.

Game 6 — Andover (16-5) vs. Rose Hill (12-8), 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Game 7 (Championship) — winners of games 5 and 6, 7:30 p.m.

sive pressure. We went to a 1-3-1 trap, which we had used just a few times in the first half. It became pretty effective for us. We also went to a zone defense and forced them to shoot a lot of outside shots."

Council Grove started missing (the Braves went 7-for-20 in the second half) and Mulvane started hitting (the Cats were 13-27 from the field after going a miserable 3-for-22 in the first half).

"The kids seemed to relax in the second half and the shots started falling," said Mason. "I don't know what you could attribute that to but it could be the long bus ride to Council Grove. We felt like we were ready to take over but they hit those two free throws. Those were big free throws."

"You can't say enough about the effort we put out in the second half, though," added Mason. "Brian Heinrichs probably

played his best game of the season. His defense in the second half was a big factor. Our defense led to several turnovers in the last half. It was just an excellent effort in the second half. I can't say that about the first half, though."

Senior Jarrod Oldridge and junior Brian Strack were the scoring leaders for Mulvane. Each had 11 points and their three-point shooting helped ignite the drive by MHS in the second half. Heinrichs, a junior, scored eight points as did junior J.J. Dunn, and senior Chad Carpenter closed out his career with four points.