

Early Turnovers Spoil Cat Boys' Hopes

The eyes said it all.

"I could see it in their eyes beforehand," said Mulvane High School boys basketball coach Ryan Herrs, "and that said it all. We were a little scared, intimidated, and we played that way from the start."

Mulvane's stay in the Bishop Carroll Class 5A Sub-State Thursday night, Feb. 28, wasn't an experience you'd want to write home about. The Wildcat boys turned the ball over on nine of their first 10 possessions and had 14 turnovers in the opening quarter as the host Crusaders bombed the Cats, 89-53, to end the season for the Mulvane boys.

The loss left the Wildcats at 6-15 for the 2001-2002 and on the short end of a nine-game losing streak.

Bishop Carroll lost in the championship game Saturday night, March 2, to Goddard, 86-76, to qualify for the Class 5A State Tournament this weekend.

Carroll came out with a smothering half-court trap from the opening tip and the Cats crumbled as the Crusaders put the game away in the opening quarter by out-scoring Herrs' club by a 22-2 count. By intermission, BC had a 44-15 edge.

"It's the same old story, it really is," confessed Herrs. "I know they were going to be coming after us and we just buckled. To be honest, I haven't seen a team that aggressive, ever. When we got past half-court, they just

Bishop Carroll 5A Boys

Sub-State Results

CHAMPIONSHIP

Goddard 86, Bishop Carroll 76

FIRST ROUND

Mulvane 2 13 10 28-53
 Bishop Carroll 22 22 23 22-89
 Mulvane—Zach Kimble 4, Kale Regier 6, Luke Gunter 8, Troy Johnson 25, Grant Snider 1, Gavin Snider 3, Nick Hansen 3, Caleb Alexander 3. FG 18 (4), FT 13-17, F 20.
 Bishop Carroll—Pete Kammerer 9, Ryan Huschka 19, Felipe Torres 11, John Miller 12, Pete Rohleder 16, John Marshall 7, Ryan Waterson 2, Jeremy Sims 4, Nic Means 3, Adam Waterson 6. FG 32 (12), FT 13-21, F 17.

Goddard 60, Liberal 49

jumped all over us and we didn't handle it."

It's a problem the Wildcats have had for several seasons, really. "We've been talking about this my two years here," said Herrs. "If you can't handle the ball well, you can't do anything. I think our young kids coming up need to learn to dribble, pass under pressure and make better decisions when it comes to passing. That's especially important when you're playing better (Class 5A) competition.

"They picked us up man-to-man, then trapped every single time. I don't think we got off more than three or four shots."

Mulvane finally scored in the first quarter in the last few seconds when Zach Kimble hit one from the baseline. Much of the rest of the way, Herrs gave playing time to nearly the entire squad.

"Under the circumstances, our younger kids did a good job," said Herrs. "It was a good deal and a bad deal. It was good that the younger kids performed well but it was bad because that meant our starters didn't step up and play. One of the starters who did have a good ball game was (senior) Troy Johnson. I burned two timeouts in the first quarter but we still didn't do much against that pressure, so I gave some of the younger kids an opportunity."

Overall, the Wildcats finished with more than 30 turnovers.

Finally, in the final quarter, the Wildcats put together some decent numbers, but the game was long gone. The Cats out-scored the Crusaders, who improved their record to 10-11, 28-22, in the last period.

"The key, though, is the first two minutes of the game and the first two minutes of the third quarter," emphasized Herrs. "That sets the tone for everything. When you start with a 10-0 deficit, everything is uphill from there."

Johnson, a two-year starter who missed his entire junior year with a knee injury, finished with 25 points. Senior guard Kale Regier dropped in two "threes" for six points and guard Luke Gunter had eight points. Kimble scored four points and sophomore reserves, Nick Hansen and Gavin Snider scored three each as did junior Caleb Alexander.

"That's not the way I wanted to end the season and I know the kids didn't want to end it like that," said Herrs. "We just need to keep working and try to improve. We have to work harder than our competition in practices because we have a lot of ground to make up."



Wildcats Troy Johnson (23) and Gavin Snider (30) try to block out a Crusader on a rebound attempt in 5A sub-state game

Chisholm Trail League

Boys Basketball Standings

DIVISION I

Team	LEAGUE		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
y-Augusta	10	2	19	4
y-Goddard	10	2	18	4
y-Maize	10	2	14	7
Valley Center	6	6	13	9
•Buhler	3	9	7	14
•Andover	2	10	8	14
•Mulvane	1	11	6	15

DIVISION II

x-Kingman	10	1	19	4
•Circle	9	2	15	6
•Andale	8	3	16	7
•Andover Central	5	3	9	13
•Rose Hill	4	7	10	11
•Clearwater	2	10	6	15
•Wellington	0	12	1	20

x-won CTL championship; y-tied for CTL championship; •-season completed