

No Comebacks, Surges As Boys' Season Fades

A disappointing season ended on a similar note for the Mulvane High School boys basketball team Tuesday night, March 6, in a convincing loss to Clearwater.

No late-season upstarts.

No thrilling comebacks.

No season-salvagers.

Clearwater saw to that by administering an 84-68 beating on the Wildcats in a first round game in the Augusta Class 4A Boys Basketball Tournament at Clearwater.

"I guess we'll go home and try to salvage something from the season," said Wildcat coach Rod Pock. "We came up flat and they were not. We missed crisp shot after crisp shot. We were flat both on offense and defense and nobody was going to the boards."

The loss ended the cage season for the Cats at 8-13. Clearwater hiked its record to 8-11 behind 6-four-4 senior Dan Lee's 27 point outburst. The Indians now advance to Augusta for the semifinals, where they will meet Valley Center, a 72-44 winner over Andover Tuesday night. Other Augusta Sub-State winners were Augusta, which pounded Eureka, 70-64, and Maize, which turned back Circle, 93-83.

"Coming in, I felt the guys were ready," added Pock. "We got to scout Clearwater Friday night and knew they were going to go to Lee. We opened with a zone and they blew us right out of it. They really shot well."

"We didn't get back on the fast break," pointed out Pock. "The kids knew what they would do. We just didn't execute and they did."

Junior Mark Storey continued his late season surge by heading the Wildcat scoring with 20 points and another junior, Mark Smith, finished with 15 points. Senior reserve Grant Sorensen added 12 points.

Smith, a 6-1 leaper, also turned in 15 rebounds as Mulvane came up on the short end of the backboard war, 36-34.

The Wildcats' final regular season

AUGUSTA CLASS 4A BOYS SUB-STATE

FIRST ROUND

Mulvane	13	16	11	26-88
Clearwater	22	17	23	22-84

Mulvane - Grant Sorensen 12, Tom Fagan 4, Troy Wayman 8, Mark Storey 20, Mark Smith 16, Gary Fortner 7, Troy Phillips 2. FG 27-77, FT 17-23, F 15

Clearwater - Dylan Kunkel 12, Scott Williams 2, Dan Lee 23, Todd Pressig 16, Brent Ray 10, Mike Barber 10, Jeff Barnes 3, Mike Stevens 2, Tim Seal 2. FG 36-64, FT 14-18, F 18.

Boys A-Team

Mulvane	8	13	19	16 (2) - 58
Valley Center	12	14	15	15 (5x) - 61

Mulvane - Tom Fagan 4, Mark Storey 12, Gary Fortner 13, Mark Smith 14, Troy Wayman 10, Grant Sorensen 5. FG 26-63, FT 8-12, F 24.

Valley Center - Kevin Carey 8, Russell Seimans 18, Tim Jennings 2, Brad Runnick 10, Randy Ember 8, Todd Rasmussen 1, Tony Haas 14. FG 22-52, FT 17-25, F 13

Boys B-Team

Mulvane	8	4	21	18 (2) - 53
Valley Center	9	13	8	21 (8) - 57

Mulvane - Troy Phillips 14, Greg Hamilton 8, Ed Nelson 4, Benny Higgs 8, Jeff Staska 4, Darryl Brueggeman 6, Troy Dossey 8. FG 19-58, FT 15-27, F 18

Valley Center - Jon Nelson 3, Gary Alford 24, Mark Noah 18, Bob Daniels 11, Steve Fitzmaurice 1. FG 20-54, FT 17-23, F 22.

Sophomore Boys

Mulvane	14	11	7	18 - 50
Valley Center	8	27	18	9 - 62

Mulvane - Gary Elston 8, Greg Cox 13, Mark Fox 7, Mark Crawford 6, Bill Been 5, Rusty Westfall 2, Bob Chippeaux 9. FG 22-56, FT 6-18, F 17.

Valley Center - Russell Siemans 14, Shawn Mulard 3, Vernon Branson 7, Rich Gilpin 4, Donnie Deperance 3, Bob Hinkle 12, Steve Fitzmaurice 10, Pat Eichhorn 9. FG 25-60, FT 12-17, F 19.

game Thursday, March 1, added another mark in the loss column as Valley Center clipped the Cats, 61-58, in overtime. Smith scored 14 points and junior Gary Fortner added another 13.

The B-team closed out its year with a 5-9 record as it bowed to Valley Center's reserves, 57-53, also in overtime. Troy Phillips was the only double figure scorer for Mulvane in that one, hitting 14 points.

Valley Center's sophomore team made it a clean sweep for the Hornets, with a 62-50 decision. Greg Cox scored 13 to pace Mulvane.