

Wildcats Lose At State Tourney

(by Gary Kufitz)

Defeat but success was the word last Thursday evening at Hutchinson. It was defeat as the Clay Center Tigers outscored the Mulvane Wildcats 17-13. It was success as it was the climax of a wonderful season that carried them to the state Class A basketball tournament.

The first quarter saw Clay Center jump to an easy 16-12 lead. Both teams got off to a slow start as only four points were scored in the first four minutes. Ronnie Iverson was the top scorer for Mulvane in the first period as he connected on three shots from the top of the circle.

The second quarter saw the Wildcats outscore Clay Center 12-10. This narrowed the Tigers halftime lead to two points, 28-24. Junior Don Reed was the top star this quarter with six points.

The second stanza proved very costly for the Wildcats. Wes Wenzel, who has been a star for Mulvane all year, gathered his fourth foul which forced him to sit on the bench during the third period.

The third quarter saw very little scoring. It proved to be the more deliberate type basketball. The Wildcats were outscored 8-5. This gave Clay Center a five point lead, 34-29 going into the final eight minutes of play.

The third quarter was just the a run-and-shoot affair that saw opposite of the third period. It was Clay Center get 23 points while the Wildcats were scoring 19. Wes Wenzel was top scorer this period with nine points.

Although missing more than eight minutes of the game, Wes Wenzel was the top scorer in the ball game with 14 points. He was followed by Don Reed and Don McKee with 11 and 9 points respectively.

Although they lost in the first round, the Wildcats deserved and have received much credit. Coach Miller and Culbertson did a tremendous job of moving the Wildcats into the State tourney.

The Chapman fighting Irish are the state champions in Class A. The Clay Center Tigers, who defeated the Wildcats, finished in second place.

MULVANE	fg	ft	pf
Wenzel	4	6	4
Reed	2	7	4
McKee	3	3	5
Iverson	4	0	3
Hess	1	0	2
Norden	0	2	0
Meek	0	2	1
Totals	14	20	19
CLAY CENTER	fg	ft	pf
Selig	7	4	3
Worley	5	4	2
Chapman	9	5	4
Fay	1	0	0
Habuettel	0	0	4
Wickstrum	0	0	2
Dennis	0	0	1
Totals	22	13	16