

Boys Struggle In First Two

It could be called the same of the missing offense. Coach Dale Landes is playing detective these days, trying to figure out how the Mulvane High School boys can generate points.

The Wildcats slipped to their second straight loss of the young season Tuesday night, Dec. 7, as Circle hogtied the Wildcats, 48-38, in the opening round of the Circle Thunderbird Classic.

The loss dropped the Wildcats into the consolation bracket Friday night, Dec. 10, against Andover. The two teams will play at 6:15 in gym No. 2.

Circle Thunderbird Classic Results

FIRST ROUND

Mulvane 4 10 7 17-38

Circle 4 11 13 20-48

Mulvane--Mike Abasolo 5, Jeff Parker 2, Griff Cornejo 6, Dexter Carpenter 4, Dan Smith 9, Jason DeWald 12. FG 16 (1), FT 3-6, F 27.

Circle--McLeod 19, Hummel 3, T. Hummel 8, Simmons 2, Zac Zager 10, Callahan 2, Steve Borgelt 4. FG 15 (2), FT 12-24, F 11.

Arkansas City 64, Andover 47

Arkansas City 43, Wellington 33

Independence 71, Sunrise Christian 50

Varsity Boys

Mulvane 10 13 14 9-46

Buhler 20 8 23 18-69

Mulvane--Griff Cornejo 12, Jason DeWald 8, Dan Smith 8, Chris Heersche 8, Mike Abasolo 7, Dexter Carpenter 2, Shay Vangas 1. FG 22-49 (1), FT 1-7, F 20.

Buhler--Matt Meschke 7, Max Heinlein 11, Chad Premier 11, Ian Mamminga 2, Terry McDowell 8, Ryan Friesen 7, Jake Schwartz 4, John Krafels 4, Chad Weber 7, Josh Theford 4, Mark Siebert 2, Ryan Parker 1. FG 24-46 (3), FT 18-24, F 14.

Junior Varsity Boys

Mulvane 8 7 9 17-41

Buhler 13 18 18 17-66

Mulvane--James Baker 9, Rick Maxwell 6, Shawn Erbert 8, Michael Abasolo 4, Jeremy Brown 2, Dexter Carpenter 4, Tom Nienke 6, David Butler 2. FG 15 (1), FT 8-16, F 22.

Buhler--Ryan Parker 14, Jeff Lightcap 8, Mark Siebert 6, Brian Ballinger 2, Ian Mamminga 5, Monte Cross 7, Matt Gray 4, Gage Swanson 3. FG 25 (1), FT 13-26, F 16.

Sophomore Boys

Mulvane 5 11 7 17-40

Buhler 8 5 10 11-34

Mulvane--Eric Erbert 15, Tad Nicholson 2, T.J. Lervik 5, Seth Jones 8, Matt Hendren 2, Jake Carmichael 2, Brad Canfield 6. FG

Buhler--Brian Voth 5, Jordan Martens 3, Matt Balzer 11, Joe Showalter 8, Joe Strawn 4, Bryce Swafford 4. FG 10 (2), FT 8-11, F 18.

The 38-point comes on the heels of a 69-46 loss in the season opener Friday night, Dec. 3, at Buhler and has left Landes wondering how to light a fire under some production. The Cats are averaging only 42 points a game.

"We're having trouble scoring," said Landes. "We need our intensity to be higher and we need to improve on our turnovers and turn it up a notch on our defense. We had 25 turnovers against Circle. They weren't pressing us that much but our kids were just trying to force the action."

Intensity is one area Landes feels Mulvane could use a booster shot. "We'll play two or three quarters with good intensity, then it leaves us," said Landes. "We have to show better consistency there."

The T-Birds and Cats battled through a sluggish first half and Circle held a 15-14 lead, but after intermission, it was all Circle as the hosts out-gunned the Cats, 33-24, in the second half.

Mulvane's top scorer was center Jason DeWald. He had 12 points. Dan Smith scored nine points and Griff Cornejo had six while sophomore Mike Abasolo finished with five.

At Buhler, the Crusaders sprinted out to a 10-point lead, then put the game away in the third quarter by out-scoring the Cats, 23-14.

Griff Cornejo finished with a team-high 12 points in his first start. DeWald, Dan Smith and Chris Heersche had eight points each and Abasolo scored seven.

One thing that hurt at Buhler was free throwing. MHS made only one of seven at the stripe.

Buhler also ran away with the junior varsity game, 66-41. High for the Wildcats was James Baker with nine points, Shawn Erbert with eight and Rick Maxwell and Tom Nienke had six apiece.

Mulvane salvaged at least one victory at Buhler as the Cat sophomores pulled away in the final moments for a 40-34. The game was tied, 23-23, going into the final quarter.

Eric Erbert held the hot hand for the Wildcat sophs. He finished with a career-high 15 points. Seth Jones scored eight points for Mulvane and freshman Brad Canfield had six points.