

# 'T' Doesn't Mean Terrific

When the guy in the striped shirt puts the palm of his hand against the tops of his fingers on the other hand, it's "T" time, and Friday night, Dec. 4, in the season opener at home against Andale, the "T" spelled victory for Andale.

Mulvane High School's boys basketball squad started its season Friday on a sour note, losing a 62-58 thriller to the visiting Indians. The game was a non-league encounter.

"Naturally, you hate to lose any game but especially one like that," said Mulvane's veteran coach Charlie Mason. "For most of the game, we played as good on the basketball court as I expected. I was just disappointed in the outcome, disappointed in the way the outcome came down. That was one thing we talked about before the ball game, keeping our composure and doing things that we're supposed to do to win games, not worry about the officiating."

That thought went out the front door in the fading seconds as the Wildcats successfully blew a seven-point lead in the final quarter. Some shoddy passing helped the Indians to cut the gap, then take a one point lead, 58-57, with about 1:30 left in the game. A missed opportunity followed for Mulvane, forcing Mulvane into a gambling mode in an attempt to get the ball back. A foul was called, then a technical foul on senior Toby Butcher, giving Andale two free throw chances plus the ball. That occurred in the final 10 seconds.

"The 'T' was the deciding factor," said Mason. "They just changed that rule this year so that on any technical, the other team gets two shots. Previously on a technical by a player, they got only one shot. Anyway, they missed the first one but we didn't have time to get the ball back and score twice. Everybody was trying so hard to get the ball back, pressuring them, that they were able to go over the top for a job and an easy lay-up."

The game was a nip-and-tuck situation with both teams playing nearly equally. The Wildcats folded, though, as the wheels came off in the last 90 seconds.

"It really should have never gotten down to the technical," said Mason. "Hopefully, it will be a good learning process. I don't like to lose any ball game but if we can get some positive value out of it, it's a plus."

Two areas where Mason felt his club could improve are shooting and in their zone defense. "You can't go 27 of 73 from the field constantly and win," said Mason. "I feel we're a much better shooting ball club. And from the line, I felt like this was one of the best bunch of free throwers we've had in the last three or four years but we went 1-for-6. On defense, we didn't play a very good zone defense but we'll make adjustments and I don't think that'll be a problem. There was just a lot of nervousness out there because these

people were starting a varsity basketball game for the first time in their lives.

"On defense, our pressure was good, the kids worked hard and we got some big, big turnovers, but our half-court defense needs some work. We just didn't lay a very good zone defense."

The loss soiled a fine outing for Cornejo, who scored 16 points and gave the Cats a lift on the boards with a team-high 12 rebounds. Guard Neal Hamilton scored 17 points to top the MHS effort. Butcher finished with nine points and Sean Gillespie scored eight points.

The Wildcat jayvees opened the year on a bright note, nipping Andale, 58-57. And the Mulvane sophomores were dumped by a 62-40 count.

Larry Lambrecht led Mulvane's jayvee scorers with 16 points, 14 of them coming in a come-from-behind fourth quarter, and Andrew Hodges and John Heinrichs were next with nine and eight points, respectively.

For the Cat sophomores, Bill Harrington's 15 points was high, and Jeff Sisco scored eight, followed by Todd Hedstrom and Andy Church with six points apiece.

Mulvane will start its Chisholm Trail League season at home with Valley Center Friday night, Dec. 11.

#### Boys Varsity

Andale	12 15 19 16-62
Mulvane	6 20 17 15-58

Andale—Mike Workman 8, Kevin Brasser 12, Jason Grimm 9, Brett Winter 17, Heath Marx 8, Jon Bush 2, Jason Marcotte 6. FG 23 (3 3-pointers), FT 3-7, F 9.

Mulvane—Neal Hamilton 17, Shay Cornejo 16, Sean Gillespie 8, Toby Bulcher 9, John Melick 2, Jeremy Hoenscheidt 2, Larry Lambrecht 4. FG 24, (3 3-pointers), FT 1-6, F 14.

#### Boys Junior Varsity

Andale	10 21 11 15-57
Mulvane	19 4 14 21-58

Andale—Roger Stockemer 14, Duane Reichenberger 6, Mikal Williams 7, Kelly Sellar 2, Jason Marcotte 4, John Eck 2, John Mannebach 5, Bryan Kraus 7, David Stanhope 2, Damon Walther 8. FG 20 (1 3-pointer), FT 11-23, F 8.

Mulvane—Derek Donaldson 4, Sean Gillespie 6, Mike Higgins 5, Andrew Hodges 9, Larry Lambrecht 16, John Melick 6, Channing Nuss 2, Jeff Sisco 2, John Heinrichs 8. FG 27 (0 3-pointers), FT 4-6, F 17.

#### Sophomore Boys

Andale	15 14 10 23-62
Mulvane	4 16 11 9-40

Andale—Craig Brasser 7, John Eck 9, John Mannebach 10, Bryan Kraus 4, Gary Spexarth 2, Pat O'Keefe 6, David Stanhope 15, Damon Walther 9. FG 23-50 (4 3-pointers), FT 12-19, F 19.

Mulvane—Todd Hedstrom 6, Jeff Sisco 8, Bruce Brashear 2, Andy Church 6, Bill Harrington 15, Tommy Sirmell 2, Scott Young 1. FG 15-48 (1 3-pointer), FT 9-21, F 18.

#### CHISHOLM TRAIL LEAGUE BOYS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, Dec. 11

Valley Center at Mulvane  
Rose Hill at Andale  
Augusta at Andover  
Goddard at Buhler  
Maize at Chaparral  
Kingman at Circle

Tournament Week Dec. 14-19

Maize Boys Invitational—Mulvane, Andale, Andover, Maize, Wellington, Nickerson, Winfield, Pratt

Circle Thunderbird Invitational—Circle, Augusta, Rose Hill, Valley Center, El Dorado, Chanute, Arkansas City

Goddard Invitational—Chaparral, Goddard, Kingman