

# Wildcats Tromp Derby Panthers

By Steve Kuntz

Three years ago, in 1966, Mulvane High School won three consecutive basketball games and was rated number one in the state. Tuesday night, believe it or not, the Wildcats surprised the Derby Panthers and many basketball fans in the area by winning their third consecutive game, 66-55.

The key to the Wildcat victory was the tenacious defense put forward. Jim Crawford sparked the Mulvane defense with five pass interceptions and five steals. Hal Calcote was mentioned by Coach Harris as playing a fine defensive game, although this fact is not noticeable in the box score. Mike McKee came off the bench late in the first half and played an excellent second stanza with nine rebounds, three steals, and a number of clutch free throws. Phil Morgan shared the rebounding honors with McKee and also contributed several blocked shots. Mulvane's three guards, Ted Hill, Dan Brauser and Jim Crawford, applied the needed pressure of the Wildcats' press and each were accredited with numerous steals, intercepted passes, and batted balls.

On offense the Wildcats had three players in double figures and were able to come up with clutch baskets at crucial moments. The Wildcats took a four-point-lead-to the locker rooms at halftime. This lead was built to as much as twelve points during the second half, and was narrowed at one time to four points.

Mulvane used a continuous full court press which paid extremely good dividends when points were needed. Brauser led the offense with 17 points, followed by Crawford, 16, and Hill, 13. On at least two occasions Brauser took on the role of a "Big Man" and followed his own missed shot with a tip in. Hill's main scoring surge came in the second quarter when he helped pull the Wildcats out of a dead-lock battle into the lead. Crawford contributed well to the scoring drive by capitalizing on his numerous steals. McKee's ten points were made almost exclusively in the second half and many were on free throws, which was probably the greatest thing working for the Wildcats—fouls.

Friday the Wildcats meet Augusta, who are a little smaller than last year, in their first league encounter. The game is away but Mulvane supporters should mark that day as special and try to be there. Although the reports from the Wildcat den are not over-confident, this writer will venture to predict the outcome of tomorrow's encounter to end Mulvane, 65, Augusta, 56.

## Box Score

		FG	FT	TP
Crawford		7	2	16
Calcote		0	2	2
Hill		5	1	11
Brauser		8	1	17
McKee		3	6	12
Morgan		3	2	8
		—	—	—
Totals		26	14	66
Mulvane	19	13	14	20—66
Derby	18	11	11	15—55

The Wildcat B team lost in the preliminary game to the Derby Reserves, 68 to 58.