

1st 'Hump' Too High

That special feeling never came Friday night, Dec. 8, when the Mulvane High School boys opened the basketball season at home against Goddard in a Chisholm Trail League game.

There was no momentum swing, there was only a desperate try at getting back into contention, but mostly, the Wildcats were unsuccessful as Goddard left town with a lackluster 54-43 triumph. It was the second game of the year for the Lions, who are now 1-1.

"It was a case where we never could get over the hump," stated Charlie Mason, the veteran MHS coach. "We hung close, got within a point or two a couple of times but every time we did, we either turned the ball over or fouled them. We never could get the momentum going."

A mood swing never occurred to anyone. Oh, one time, 6-foot, 6-inch Jeff Sisco, who performed admirably, almost got the momentum draining to Mulvane's side when he savagely swatted away a Lion shot inside but when the Cats got the ball to the other end, an offensive foul was called. End of "near momentum." "They came down and made the free throws, so instead of being two points out, we were two more points farther behind," noted Mason. "We just couldn't get anything going, a run or a string."

The Lions took the lead early and held it the entire game. Goddard gradually pulled away.

"I was a little disappointed we didn't execute like I thought we would," admitted Mason. "We didn't see the whole floor, but we needed a ball game so we could see what we needed to work on. That was one of the ball games I thought we had a shot at,

Chaparral Boys Tournament Pairings

Thursday, Dec. 14

Garden Plain vs. Wellington, 6:30 p.m.

Mulvane vs. Chaparral, 8

Friday, Dec. 15

Mulvane vs. Garden Plain, 6:30 p.m.

Wellington vs. Chaparral, 8

Saturday, Dec. 16

Mulvane vs. Wellington, 6:30 p.m.

Garden Plain vs. Chaparral, 8

so I guess we're going to have to wait until the next time to get them."

With the 6-6 Sisco inside, Mulvane's game plan was simple—get the ball inside. He was the tallest man on the floor. That worked well in the first half but the Lions closed that play down in the second half by collapsing on the lanky senior. "We did a good job getting him the ball in the first half but they doubled and tripled Jeff in the second half," said Mason. "That's when we

should have been seeing the whole floor. We didn't look to the other side of the defense, move the ball there and try to get it in from that side."

A returning starter got his senior year off on the right foot, though, scoring a game-high 17 points with 15 rebounds and six blocked shots. Sisco wheeled and dealt inside when he was able to get the ball. "Yes, he did well," said Mason. "And he was the only player going the whole game. He showed what it's all about in the 4th quarter, diving all over for the ball even though he had been in there the whole game."

Mason also singled out sophomore Gary Cleverdon. "I thought Cleverdon also played well for his first (starting) game," said Mason. "He had a half-dozen steals and gave us some outside shooting."

But the bright spots were few and far

between for the Wildcats. The Lions marched forward down the stretch, hitting their free throws. They finished with 13 of 24 while Mulvane made only one of seven free-bees.

"We've got our work cut out for us, there's no doubt about it," admitted Mason. "Each ball game, we're going to have to improve. We have a lot of young, inexperienced people out there and it's going to take time. I think I would play it the same way if I had it to do over again. We didn't do a very good job on the press and trap and that's going to have to get better."

Sisco was the scoring leader, and Cleverdon was next with nine points. Guards Curtis Norden, a senior, and sophomore Jarrod Oldridge were next with four points each.

The Wildcat jayvees also had a nasty time of it. The Lions rolled to an easy 71-43 victory as Coach Dale Landes' jayvees opened their year. A 16-2 run in the third quarter sealed the verdict in Goddard's favor. Andy Mackey topped the MHS jayvee scoring with 13 points and Cleverdon and Jeff Parson also scored well for the Cats, each with 10 points.

The Wildcat sophomores were blasted by Goddard, 46-29, after falling behind badly early. The Lions got off to a 21-2 lead using a three-quarter court press that was very effective.

"We just had too many turnovers and we weren't prepared for the press," said Mike Kendall, the MHS sophomore coach. "The press just killed us early." Overall, Mulvane had 35 turnovers.

The Cat sophomores were led by Judson Spicer's points and six more by Chad Lee. Chad Carpenter and Jeff Parson had four points apiece.

Mulvane will give it another try tonight (Dec. 14) in the first round of the Chaparral Round Robin Tournament. Mulvane plays the host Roadrunners at 8 p.m. tonight, tangles with Garden Plain at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15, and Wellington at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16.

Chisholm Trail League Boys Basketball Standings

DIVISION I

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Valley Center	1	0	3	0
Buhler	1	0	3	2
Goddard	1	0	1	1
Maize	0	0	0	1
Wellington	0	1	1	1
Augusta	0	1	1	2
Mulvane	0	1	0	1

DIVISION II

Chaparral	1	0	2	0
Kingman	1	0	1	1
Andover	0	0	1	1
Clearwater	0	0	0	4
Andale	1	1	2	1
Circle	0	1	1	1
Rose Hill	0	1	0	3

Varsity Boys

Goddard	14	9	14	17	54
Mulvane	10	7	11	15	43

Goddard - Jeff Bennett 2, Sean Staats 9, Matt Weins 13, Glenn Drealing 7, Bart Krablin 2, Reggie Monson 5, Ryan Hickman 6, Jay Rueschhoff 2, Vince Domenico 2, Matt Jansen 6. FG 19- (3), FT 13-24, F 15.

Mulvane - Jeff Sisco 17, Toby Hoving 3, Todd Butcher 2, Gary Cleverdon 9, Jarrod Oldridge 4, Todd Hedstrom 2, Bill Harrington 2, Curtis Norden 4. FG 20- (2), FT 11-7, F 20.

Junior Varsity Boys

Goddard	14	17	16	24	71
Mulvane	16	13	2	12	43

Goddard - Bart Krablin 2, Chris Thompson 9, Carlos Perdona 4, Jeremy Berblinger 14, Chad Tepe 4, Jay Rueschhoff 13, Greg Esau 6, Jeff Bennett 5, Scott Hardesty 12, John Babb 2. FG 30 (0), FT 11-21, F 25.

Mulvane - Toby Hoving 1, Jarrod Oldridge 5, Jeff Parson 10, Andy Mackey 13, Gary Cleverdon 10, Kerry Collier 2, Brad Ray 2. FG 11 (1), FT 18-28, F 19.

Sophomore Boys

Goddard	21	6	8	11	46
Mulvane	2	11	10	6	29

Goddard - Karl Staats 1, Matt Cassell 4, Tom Summers 12, Scott Hardesty 7, Cary Hayes 2, Jeremy Berblinger 8, John Babb 10, Chris Bergman 2. FG 20-62 (0), FT 6-15, F 21.

Mulvane - Guy Alvarez 2, Judson Spicer 8, Chad Lee 6, Chad Carpenter 4, Kerry Collier 1, David Boyer 3, Jason Swink 1, Jeff Parson 4. FG 9-35 (1), FT 8-15, F 1