VC Holds On As MHS Rocks Boat

Valley Center seems to bring out the best in the Wildcats. The Mulvane High School boys put together a good game Friday night, Dec. 9, and scraped the host Hornets down to the wire before losing a 74-73 game.

The loss dropped the Wildcats to 0-2 for the season and was their first game in the Chisholm Trail League. Valley Center, the pre-season favorite for the championship, boosted its mark to 2-0 and 1-0.

The VC jayvees also had "Lady Luck" riding with them as they nipped the Cats, 44-42, right after the Valley Center sophomores bombed the Mulvane sophs, 83-12.

Coach Charlie Mason left the VC encounter with mixed feelings. Nobody likes to lose, but "You go up there hoping to compete because you know what they're supposed to have and the kids realized quickly that they could play with Valley, then you're disappointed coming out of there with a one-point loss," noted Mason. "I was pleased with the effort, and the more experience we get, the better we're going to get. Our pressure defense needs some work but once people get familiar with what they're doing and where they're supposed to be, that'll be a big plus for us, too."

Generally, the underdog Wildcats nearly pulled off the improbable by dumping the big Hornets. "We played better than we did in our opener but we still made a lot of mistakes," said

Mason. "We didn't let them get out and run. They have such good people that we wanted to make them work for their shots. It was our type of ball game."

Mulvane was down eight points with 58 seconds left and cut it to two with 18 seconds remaining before the Cats had to foul and VC hit both. A falling three-pointer at the gun by Larry Lambrecht made it a one-point game.

"They really didn't do anything that hurt us, we hurt ourselves," said Mason. "We had 21 turnovers and 12 of them were our own fault. When you have 12 unforced errors, you're giving up 24 points right there. We're beginning to feel like we can play with anybody if we do the things we're supposed to do and that means not having a bunch of unforced errors."

That also means sharpening the shooting eye up at the free throw stripe. For the second game in a row, MHS shot poorly, making only 18 of 32.

Rebounding, Mulvane held its own with Lambrecht pulling down six caroms and Jeff Sisco, Derek Donaldson and Sean Gillespie all getting five. VC out-boarded the Cats, 29-25, even though Valley is considerably bigger.

Lambrecht was again the Mulvane scoring leader, hitting for 26 points. including five three-pointers. Gillespie, another senior letterman, punched in 21 points in his first action of the year (he sat out last week's game with an ankle injury). Both Sisco and Donaldson had eight points.

"I think nearly pulling it off will give our kids a shot in the arm," said Mason. "I know it'll make some others think about us more."

Bill Harrington was the only Mulvane jayvee cager in double figures. He scored 11 points. Curtis Norden had nine points, Todd Hedstrom seven and Andy Church six for the Cat jayvees, who are now 0-2 under Coach Bruce

Vailey has a fine sophomore team and they blitzed the Cats, 21-0, in the first quarter and it never let up. Jamie Hardesty scored four points to pace Mulvane. The only others to score were Danny Daniel, Andy Mackey, Adam Beehler and Brad Rayl with a bucket

Varsity Boys

11 19 20 23-73 Mulvane 18 18 22 18--74 Valley Center Mulvane-Larry Lambrecht 26, Sean Gillespie 21, Jeff Sisco 8, Derek Donaldson 8, John Heinrichs, 4, Mike Higgins 3, Mark McClellan 2, Andrew Hodges 1, FG 24-48 (7), FT 18-32, F 24.

Valley Center-Jim Newell 14, Chad Nilcher 12, Todd Adrian 10, Bobby Webber 10, Spike Anderson 8, Frank Lesperance 7, Jack Warne 6, Jason Carter 5, Carlos Williams 2, FG 30-31 (0), FT 14-29, F 26.

Junior Varsity Boys

8 5 21 8-42 Mulvane 11 12 10 11-44 Valley Center Mulvane-Bill Harrington 11, Scott Travis 2, Andy Church 6, Bruce Brashear 5, Jeff Sisco 2, Curtis Norden 9, Todd Hedstrom 7. FG 14-49 (2), FT 8-15,

Tipping 4, Parker 9, Glimore 2. FG 13-48 (1), FT 5-9, F 18.

Sophomore Boys

0 4 6 2-12 Mulvano. 21 23 20 19-83 **Valley Center** Mulvane-Denny Daniel 2, Andy Mackey 2, Adam Beehler 2, Brad Rayl 2, Jamie Herdesty 4. FG 6 (0), FT 0-7. F 13. Valley Center-Taylor 8, Eskridge 8, Parker, 4, Schulze 11, Tackett 4, Aron Dunn 14, Gilmore 16, Washington 10, Wooden 6, Adam Dunn 5, FG 35 (1), FT 10-13, F 14.