

# Cat Boys Dumped At Circle; Free Throw Line Difference

For the Mulvane High School boys basketball team, the number seven is not so lucky. The Wildcats have lost two of their three games in the last week by seven points.

Mulvane also has had enough of Circle High School to last them a while, thank you. Coming off two losses to finish last in Circle's Thunderbird Classic, the Wildcats had to return to Circle to take on the home team. A team ranked in the top ten of Class 4A.

Mulvane lost a battle to Circle Tuesday, Dec. 13, by a score of 59-52.

"We did do some good things," MHS basketball coach Dale Landes said. "It just came down to a half-dozen plays we didn't execute."

Landes mentioned a 6-0 Circle run before halftime and the start of the fourth quarter specifically where it seemed his team did not finish the plays. "We did make better decisions most of the time, but we just couldn't make the plays," Landes said.

The real story of the game came at the free-throw line, though. Circle was 21 of 29 from the stripe, while Mulvane could only manage a paltry 2-7. It was a 19-point advantage for the Thunderbirds.

"Good teams do that, they get to the line and make them," Landes said.

The Wildcats could take solace in the fact that they didn't let the bigger Circle players dominate the game.

"We did a good job in our zone until we were forced to press," Landes said. "A loss is still a loss, though, and Circle knew how to do enough to win."

Senior Dexter Carpenter paced the Cat offense, scoring 15 points. Guard Jeremy Brown had 11 points, Tim Glaser scored eight and Michael Abasolo finished with seven.

It was another good effort that kept Mulvane in the game against Andover Thursday, Dec. 8, in the second round of the Thunderbird Classic. The Trojans pulled away to win, 65-58.

"We played extremely well except for a few mental lapses that ended up costing us the game," Landes said.

The teams were knotted at 24 after the first half. "We were more aggressive against Andover," Landes said.

In the second half, Andover kept creeping out ahead, little by little. "We started to turn the ball over, lost our focus and let the game slip away in the third quarter," added Landes.

Mulvane did have two players in double figures as Abasolo finished with 14 points and Carpenter netted 11. "That is the type of scoring we need from both of them every game," Landes said.

The Wildcats had pretty good production from their bench in players like Brad Canfield and Sean Younger.

"Brad is learning on the job, learning to be more aggressive," Landes said.

The game did give the Wildcats a close game to work in for the first time. "We are learning and we saw we needed to improve in crucial situations," Landes said.

## Varsity Boys

Mulvane 10 13 10 19-52

Circle 8 23 15 13-59

Mulvane—Dexter Carpenter 15, Michael Abasolo 7, Brad Canfield 3, Jeff Parker 2, Shawn Erbert 4, Jeremy Brown 11, Tim Glaser 8, Tom Nienke 2. FG 19 (4), FT 2-7, F 25.

Circle—Dan Claycamp 26, Jermaine McLeod 4, Tony Zager 8, Casey Hummel 19, Josh Wilson 2. FG 19 (9), FT 21-29, F 13.

## Circle Thunderbird Boys Classic Results

### SEVENTH PLACE

Mulvane 8 12 12 10-42

Sunrise 16 13 13 18-60

Mulvane—Jeremy Brown 6, Shawn Erbert 6, Jeff Parker 8, Dexter Carpenter 5, Brad Canfield 8, Luke Cox 4. FG 17 (0), FT 8-14, F 18.

Sunrise—Chance Lindley 32, Mike Hedden 5, Brian Atkinson 10, Lucas Moore 5, Shawn Thowen 2, Jeff Langford 2. FG 12 (6), FT 18-24, F 16.

### CHAMPIONSHIP

Independence 50, Circle 58 (OT)

### THIRD PLACE

Wellington 47, Arkansas City 43

### FIFTH PLACE

Andover 63, El Dorado 50

### SEMIFINALS

Andover 10 14 18 23-65

Mulvane 15 9 15 19-58

Andover—Chris Verbe 19, Shawn Gorrell 16, Frank Jimenez 10, David Jack 4, Michael Brown 4, Brandon Minton 1, Jimmy Stullman 5, Matt Baldwin 4, Wes Middleton 1. FG 21 (2), FT 17-27, F 18.

Mulvane—Tom Nienke 4, Dexter Carpenter 11, Sean Younger 2, Jeff Parker 3, Shawn Erbert 3, Tim Glaser 8, Jeremy Brown 7, Michael Abasolo 14, Brad Canfield 6. FG 19 (4), FT 8-12, F 22.

El Dorado 80, Sunrise 58

Circle 39, Arkansas City 36

Independence 53, Wellington 52

There were a lot of things going against Mulvane in the last game of the tournament against Sunrise Christian for seventh place. The small christian school from Wichita featured the leading returning scorer in the state in senior Chance Lindley. The game was being played at 11:30 a.m. And the junior Abasolo was out with a dislocated jaw he suffered in the Andover game.

Landes remembers well, not that he wants to as Sunrise ran to a 60-48 win.

"It is really a game to forget, we played extremely poor," Landes said. "11:30 might be a shock, but they had to play at the same time. We were just not prepared, as was evident in the first quarter."

Sunrise jumped out to an eight-point lead and never looked back, thoroughly outplaying the Wildcats. "We were bigger and they still outrebounded us by 14," Landes said.

Jeff Parker and Canfield were the leading Mulvane scorers with eight points each. Brown and Shawn Erbert added six points each.

The Wildcats will have their home opener Friday, Dec. 16, against Kingman. Boys game time is 8 p.m.