

# Wildcat Boys Shock Rose Hill; Nab 7th In T-Bird Tourney

The Mulvane High boys basketball program gobbled up perhaps its biggest victory in the last six or seven years Tuesday night, Dec. 14, when the Wildcats toppled ranked Rose Hill, 62-59, at home.

"It was big," said Cat coach Dale Landes with a grin. "Obviously, it was the biggest in quite a while. More important for us, though, is the confidence factor. We came out of the Sunrise game with confidence and this only helps add to that. We played better team ball and our big kids inside, Jason DeWald and Dan Smith, are doing the job."

The victory boosted Mulvane's record to 2-4 for the year. Rose Hill slipped to 1-2.

"We're getting some great play out of a lot of guys right now," added Landes. "Chris (Heersche) is doing a good job running the floor, and Griff (Comejo) is getting his shots off. Our bench is starting to come forward. Mike Abasolo played just a great game against Rose Hill. He only scored two points

but did a great job handling their press and defending one of their top players."

The Cats marched out to a 13-point lead in the third quarter but Rose Hill came back to make it tight down the stretch by hitting several three-point baskets. However, DeWald's two free throws with 24 seconds left gave the Cats a four-point lead.

The 6-5 senior DeWald finished with his second consecutive 20-point effort, scoring a game-high 22 points. Comejo scored 10 points, Smith had nine and Heersche and Jeff Parker had six and five points, respectively.

Rose Hill rallied in the second half to win the the junior varsity contest, 63-52. Mulvane couldn't hold on to a 27-19 lead after the first half. Tom Nienke scored 12 points to top the Cat effort. Dexter Carpenter scored 12 points and Kevin Diller's 10 gave the Wildcats three in twin figures.

Mulvane romped to a 72-47 decision in the sophomore game. T.J. Lervik scored 14 points, Brad Canfield had 10 and Matt Hendren scored 11 while Matt McMillan and Kasey McDowell had nine points each.

The Cat boys finally were able to put four quarters together and also get their inside game going as they nabbed their first decision of the season Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Circle Thunderbird Boys Classic.

Mulvane wore down Sunrise Christian and pulled away in the fourth quarter to a 69-59 victory to take seventh place in the tournament. Independence throttled the host T-Birds to take the championship, 92-65.

A night earlier, Mulvane slipped away in the second half in losing to Andover, 57-46, in a semifinal game.

"As far as confidence for the kids, it has to make them feel a lot better," confessed Landes about the team's first win. "At times prior to the Sunrise game, we would look good for a quarter or a half, but we never were able to put four quarters together. We finally did against

Sunrise. We looked good early and we looked even better down the stretch."

The Cats won the game on the strength of a fourth-quarter outburst which saw Mulvane out-score Sunrise, 22-12, in the last period. "I think our size inside with Jason and Dan finally wore them down," noted Landes. "We got good production inside the whole game. We kids showed a lot of character going down the stretch because we were up by 11 points but Sunrise came back and made a run at us. They actually were up by as many as seven points late in the third quarter. We just played smart basketball.

"We tried to keep the ball inside. Sunrise is a team that likes to put a lot of pressure on the guards and they take chances when they do that. They also sometimes neglect the backside and that's where we tried to get the ball

with a lot of skip passes and swing passes."

Mulvane started quickly against Sunrise, rolling out to a 23-16 lead after one quarter but heading into the final frame, the score was tied at 57-57. Mulvane got it rolling, out-scoring Sunrise, 22-12, to pull away.

Inside players Jason DeWald and Dan Smith finally got their offensive game going. The 6-5 DeWald finished with a career-high 24 points, and Smith scored 17. Griff Comejo gave the Cats three in double figures as he scored 11, and Mike Abasolo scored seven points.

"I hope this game gives the kids the opportunity to see what success is all about," said Landes. "The kids need to get their confidence up for future games."

Against Andover, Mulvane put the Trojans to the line too many times. The Trojans took advantage of 31 Mulvane fouls to make 25 of 33 from the stripe, which wiped out a big field goal shooting edge for Mulvane because the Cats made only five of 11 from the line.

Smith scored 17 points and had a big game. Comejo had 11 points while reserve Jeremy Brown scored five points and DeWald had four.

The have only one game left before the end of the year. They travel to Andale Tuesday, Dec. 21, for a game against the Indians.

## Circle Thunderbird Boys Classic Results

### SEVENTH PLACE

Mulvane	23	10	14	22-69
Sunrise	16	17	14	12-59

Mulvane—Jason DeWald 24, Dan Smith 17, Mike Abasolo 7, Griff Comejo 11, Shawn Erbert 1, Jeff Parker 5, Jeremy Brown 1, Dexter Carpenter 2, Chris Heersche 2. FG 27 (2), FT 13-25, F 15.

Sunrise—Chance Landley 31, Schubach 13, Smith 5, Hedden 4, Thonen 6. FG 22 (4), FT 11-14, F 23.

### CHAMPIONSHIP

Independence 92, Circle 65

### THIRD PLACE

El Dorado 59, Arkansas City 44

### FIFTH PLACE

Wellington 45, Andover 42

### SEMIFINALS

Andover	6	18	12	21-57
Mulvane	6	17	10	13-46

Andover—Aaron Jack 4, Zack Stegrist 29, Gill 8, Corey Poore 4, Jimmy Spillman 6, Stanger 1, D. Jack 2. FG 14 (6), FT 25-33, F 18.

Mulvane—Dan Smith 17, Griff Comejo 11, Mike Abasolo 3, Shawn Erbert 2, Jeremy Brown 5, Jason DeWald 4, Shay Vangas 2. FG 20 (3), FT 5-11, F 31.

Wellington 73, Sunrise 68  
Independence 59, Arkansas City 46  
Circle 51, El Dorado 49

### Varsity Boys

Rose Hill	14	13	10	22	59
Mulvane	13	17	18	14	62

Rose Hill—Brette Tanner 18, Tim Cline 12, Jeff Landers 8, David Ruark 4, Ryan Nelson 17. FG 20 (6), FT 13-23, F 25.

Mulvane—Chris Heersche 6, Mike Abasolo 2, Jeff Parker 5, Griff Comejo 10, Dexter Carpenter 2, Dan Smith 9, Jason DeWald 22. FG 22 (1), FT 15-21, F 24

### Junior Varsity Boys

Rose Hill	8	11	19	24	63
Mulvane	15	12	14	11	52

Rose Hill—Jeff Jackson 19, Creighton Snellenberg 1, Ryan Pursley 9, Kyle Holland 13, Adam Martin 9, John Reeves 7, Bryan Brackoon 5. FG 23 (2), FT 15-27, F 15

Mulvane—Tom Nienke 12, Tim Glaser 3, Shawn Erbert 8, Rick Maxwell 7, Kevin Diller 10, Dexter Carpenter 12. FG 23 (1), FT 5-13, F 28

### Sophomore Boys

Rose Hill	9	12	7	19	47
Mulvane	18	16	20	18	72

Rose Hill—Nathan Clair 12, Bryan Mohr 8, Chris Wheeler 3, Matt Hall 13, Bryan Brackoon 9. FG 14 (4), FT 15-30, F 16.

Mulvane—Brad Canfield 10, Matt Hendren 11, T J Lervik 14, Sam McCoy 4, Eric Erbert 2, Tad Nicholson 5, Matt McMillan 9, Seth Jones 6, Jake Carmichael 2, Kasey McDowell 9. FG 32 (4), FT 4-8, F 26.