

# Mulvane Boys Play for 7th

Defense is getting the Mulvane High School Wildcat boys into hot water. The Cats had trouble stopping Circle Tuesday night, Dec. 17, in a consolation semifinal in the Thunderbird Boys Classic at Circle and were swamped by a 79-42 count.

That puts Mulvane into the 7th place game at 4:30 p.m. Friday afternoon, Dec. 20, against Rose Hill.

"We're not playing well defensively," said Mulvane Coach Charlie Mason. "We're not getting the job done on defense. We can't stop anybody. That was understandable Monday night against Ark City because they are a super team, but not against Circle."

The host Thunderbirds broke the game open early, scoring 28 points in the second quarter to take a 42-18 halftime lead. "Not being able to defense anybody hurts because it puts more pressure on the offense to perform," said Mason. "We're not shooting the ball well, either. When you get the ball in the paint so many times but you can't put it down, you wonder what you have to do to score."

Mason did see some improvement Tuesday night in overall play. "It may not have looked like it by the score, but we did play a lot better against Circle," noted Mason. "We did score more points (a season-high 42), we had some people play better ball and we ran our offense better."

Mulvane's top gun was junior J.J. Dunn, who was blanked the night before against tall Ark City. He had 13 points against Circle. Brian Heinrichs scored six points, Steve Nelson, five, and Larry Dixson, Jarrod Oldridge and Brian Strack, four apiece.

What happens when a powerhouse runs into a struggling team? The Cat boys found out Monday night, Dec. 16, in the opening game of the Thunderbird Boys Classic at Circle High School.

Highly-regarded Arkansas City buried the Wildcats, 67-23, the 3rd straight loss this season for Coach Mason's team.

## Circle Thunderbird Boys Classic Results

### SEMIFINALS

Circle	14	28	19	15-79
Mulvane	7	11	11	13-42

Circle—Bacon 14, Cassidy 16, Thompson 18, Nester 14, McLean 6, Walter 1, Zeger 4, Cox 6. FG 27 (3), FT 16-24, F 20.

Mulvane—Jarrod Oldridge 6, Brian Strack 2, Brian Heinrichs 6, Chad Carpenter 1, J.J. Dunn 13, Steve Nelson 3, Larry Dixson 4, Judson Spicer 1, Jeremy Kendrick 4, Jason DeWald 2. FG 14 (2), FT 8-17, F 20.

Independence 84, Rose Hill 76  
Arkansas City 81, Valley Center 49  
El Dorado 57, Andover 50

### FIRST ROUND

Mulvane	6	1	8	8-23
Arkansas City	13	20	22	12-67

Mulvane—Jarrod Oldridge 9, Chad Carpenter 6, Jeff Parson 2, Guy Alvarez 2, Brian Strack 2, Jason DeWald 1. FG 8 (0), FT 7-14, F 16.

Arkansas City—Lolar 16, Niles 11, Hollins 12, Jennings 6, Wyckoff 6, Schwartz 2, Turner 9, Stewart 1, Bryant 4. FG 32 (0), FT 3-9, F 18.

Valley Center 69, Circle 54  
El Dorado 76, Rose Hill 62  
Andover 55, Independence 52

## Circle Thunderbird Boys Classic Pairings

Friday, Dec. 20

Game 9 (Seventh Place)—Mulvane vs. Rose Hill, gym No. 2, 4:30 p.m.

Game 10 (Fifth Place)—Circle vs. Independence, gym No. 1, 4:30

Game 11 (Third Place)—Valley Center vs. Andover, gym No. 1, 6:15

Game 12 (Championship)—Arkansas City vs. El Dorado, gym No. 1, 8

The game was over early as the Bulldogs blasted away to a 13-6 lead after one period, then went on a 20-1 rampage in the 2nd quarter to take a 33-7 cushion into intermission. End of game.

Senior Jarrod Oldridge led the scoring for the Wildcats. He had nine points. Senior Chad Carpenter scored six points and three other players had a bucket each, Jeff Parson, Guy Alvarez and junior Brian Strack.