

Valley Center Slips By Wildcats, 61-54

"Almost" pretty well summed up the Mulvane High School Wildcats 61-54 loss to Valley Center last Friday. The Wildcats "almost" tied the ball game on several occasions late in the non-league contest. However, they fell short.

In many ways, it was probably the best outing of the young season for Coach Larry Thomas' charges. Mulvane improved its shooting and displayed a hustling, pressing defense which took its toll. In addition, Mulvane out-rebounded the husky Hornets, 38-27. Yet, despite all that, Valley Center led in the only really important category — the score.

Valley Center led for most of the game. Late in the first period they broke a 10-10 tie and moved out to a 20-15 margin. The Cats battled back and faced only a 3 point halftime deficit — 28-25.

In the opening minutes of the second half, Valley Center canned three consecutive buckets and increased the spread to 10-points. However, Mulvane hustled back into contention and



DAVID MCKINNEY
... Voted Hustler of Game

on a couple of occasions came within a point of tying the contest. By the end of the period, Valley had a 45-40 margin.

The fourth period followed the pattern of the first three with Mulvane staying within striking distance, but being unable to knot the count. Again this week, the Cats were unable to cash in on critical free throws. During the final period, Mulvane missed seven free throws — many in the penalty one-and-

[Continued on Page 9]

By Wildcats

[Continued from Page 8]

one situation.

The Wildcats completed pre-Christmas play with an 0-4 record. However, the picture isn't completely bleak. The Cats hit their best percentage of the year from the floor — 39 percent. Mulvane netted 19 out of 48 field goal attempts.

Again, Mulvane played without high scoring forward-center Mark Cranston. The 6-4 senior sprained an ankle in the Winfield game and won't be back in action until the Circle game on Jan. 3.

Coach Thomas gave the Cats a 10-day vacation. Mulvane won't resume practice sessions until Dec. 31.

David McKinney was voted "Hustler of the Game" by fans.

Kent Hughes and Jim Carr paced the scoring for Mulvane with 17 points each. The box score follows: Kent Hughes 6-5-2; Mike Nichols 0-0-0; Jim Carr 7-3-3; Mark Brozek 0-0-0; David McKinney 3-1-2; Robbie Fry 1-2-3; Ed Stunkel 0-2-2; Forrest Wise 2-3-3;

McKinney paced the rebounding for Mulvane with 10. McKinney was credited with five blocked shots, while Forrest Wise blocked four shots. Others on the rebounding chart were, Robbie Fry, Forrest Wise, Jim Carr, six rebounds each; Ed Stunkel, four rebounds; Kent Hughes, three rebounds; Mark Brozek, one rebound.

"B" TEAM LOSES

An icy second half spelled doom for the Mulvane "B" team. The Valley Center re-

serves stung the Junior Wildcats 49-32.

Valley Center held a slim 23-21 halftime lead. In the third period, Mulvane scored just one point as Valley moved out to a 38-22 lead.

Jeff Crawford paced the scoring for Mulvane with seven points. The box score: Mike Nichols 3-0-1; Mike Alumbaugh 2-0-1; Ed Stunkel 0-1-4; Jeff Crawford 3-1-3; Brad Sorenson 1-0-3; Rick McKinney 0-0-0; Dennis Moon 1-1-1; Leon Hicks 1-0-5; Don Fairchild 0-0-0; Dan Lawless 2-1-2; Kelly Kerns 1-0-1.