

# MHS Boys Nab Consolation

It's always nice to have a trophy on the line when its "pay-back" time.

Beaten just two weeks by Andale, the Mulvane Wildcats held on in the fourth quarter to dispatch the Indians, 56-53, Friday night, Dec. 20, in the consolation championship of the annual Maize Boys Tournament.

The victory closed the book on 1985 for Coach Charlie Mason's Wildcats with a 2-3 record and two straight victories. Mulvane won't be back in action until travelling to Buhler Jan. 10 for a Chisholm Trail League encounter.

"We started doing some of the things we need to do to win," said Mason, whose Cats climbed into the consolation first-place game by burying class-2A Canton-Galva, 71-42, Thursday afternoon, Dec. 19. Mulvane opened the tournament with a 69-59 loss to Valley Center. "We quit fouling so much, we started playing a little better defense

overall and we didn't have so many turnovers."

It was Andale's foul shots which gunned down the Cats earlier this season. The Indians won, 56-50, but shot 41 free throws. Friday night, fouled only 13 times and Andale, which slumped to 1-3, hit only five of 11 shots.

The Wildcats took control of the game with a 10-point spree at the end of the second quarter when Mason slapped a full-court press. That enables MHS to take a 32-23 lead at intermission, but it remained for the fourth period to be the difference as Andale rallied behind a press of its own in the third quarter to tie the game, 44-44, after three quarters.

An uncontested bucket by junior Morgan LeClair in the last 30 seconds gave Mulvane a three-point bulge and

the game. "We were very fortunate to win a ball game four of 15 from free throw line," confessed Mason. "Jeff Williams made a nice pass to Morgan on the baseline and that was the difference. Down the stretch, when we had to have it, we got it."

Mason said another big reason for the "pay back" was the turnover situation. "The last time we played them, we turned the ball over 25 times and we didn't do that Friday night," said the Cat coach. "We're playing with a little more confidence. I feel this team is starting to establish a little identity. We're also doing a much better job shooting the ball on offense, too.

The team's No. 1 scorer, Todd Fox, was held to only six points but guard Curtis Hicks gathered up the scoring slack for the junior-dominated Cats. He

scored a game-high 20 points. LeClair, who was named to the all-tournament team, finished with 16 points and center Andrew Swayne added eight points.

Against Canton-Galva, the Cats got things rolling early--and often. It was 24-10 by the end of the first quarter and 41-25 at halftime. No contest.

"They were younger and smaller than we were," said Mason. "We're not going to face many teams smaller than we are, but it was a ball game we needed to have. It gave us a boost of confidence and also gave all 12 players suited up a chance to score."

Fox scored 14 points to pace the Cats. Swayne had 11 and Williams added eight for Mulvane.

Nickerson won the tournament by whipping Pratt, 57-46, and Maize took third by downing Valley Center, 59-49.

## Junior LeClair

## Named To Maize

## Tournament Team

Junior Morgan LeClair of Mulvane was named to the Maize Boys Tournament all-tournament second team. Coaches participating in the tourney vote on first five and second five players.

LeClair's scoring and rebound paced the Wildcats to two straight victories after an opening setback and the consolation championship in the seven-team tournament. LeClair scored a team-high 39 points in the three-game tournament for the Cats, and he was the only junior named to the all-tourney team.

Players on the first team were Chris Stange and Alan Schneider, both 6-foot, 5-inch seniors on the Nickerson team which won first place, 6-7 Steve Hoeme of Pratt, Jamie Williams of Valley Center and Robbie Helm of Maize.

Joining the 6-1 LeClair on the second five were Bill Nillies of Andale, Kevin Shaw of Valley Center, Troy Nicholson of Maize and Brett Franz of runner-up Pratt.

Stange was the tournament's top scorer and was the only unanimous selection.

### MAIZE BOYS TOURNAMENT CONSOLATION CHAMPIONSHIP

Mulvane 16 16 8 12-56  
Andale 13 10 21 9-53

Mulvane--Kevin Kastl 4, Jeff Williams 2, Todd Fox 6, Curtis Hicks 20, Andrew Swayne 8, Morgan LeClair 16. FG 26-58, FT 4-15, F 13.

Andale--Bill Nillies 14, Greg Smarsh 1, Greg Doll 12, Chad Marx 10, Alan Williams 2, Steve Winter 10, Phil Thunberg 2. FG 24-52, FT 5-11, F 19.

### CHAMPIONSHIP

Nickerson 57, Pratt 46

### THIRD PLACE

Maize 59, Valley Center 49

### CONSOLATION SEMIFINAL

Canton-Galva 10 15 2 15-42  
Mulvane 24 17 20 10-71

Canton-Galva--Mike Drescher 12, Rodney Wiens 5, Mike Tripp 12, Eric Sipe 7, Burton Tredway 4. FG 13-43, FT 16-21, F 12.

Mulvane--Reese Brown 2, Kevin Kastl 4, Wes Moore 8, Bryson Butts 4, Nick Fortin 4, Todd Fox 14, Lyle Graybeal 2, Curtis Hicks 5, Morgan LeClair 7, Kyle Steadman 2, Andrew Swayne 11, Jeff Williams 8. FG 32-68, FT 7-14, F 19.

### CHAMPIONSHIP SEMIFINALS

Nickerson 78, Valley Center 63

Pratt 75, Maize 57