

## Maize Sinks Wildcats

# 'Mudcat' Ball Doesn't Last

There were signs of a "Mudcat" revival, but just not enough of those signs.

The last couple of years, when the Mulvane High School football Cats have been going good, they have played tough, in-your-face football, smash now and ask questions later football. Friday night, Sept. 26, at Maize there were signs of a revival but it came late in the game as the Maize Eagles choked off Mulvane's high-powered offense in a 24-14 victory.

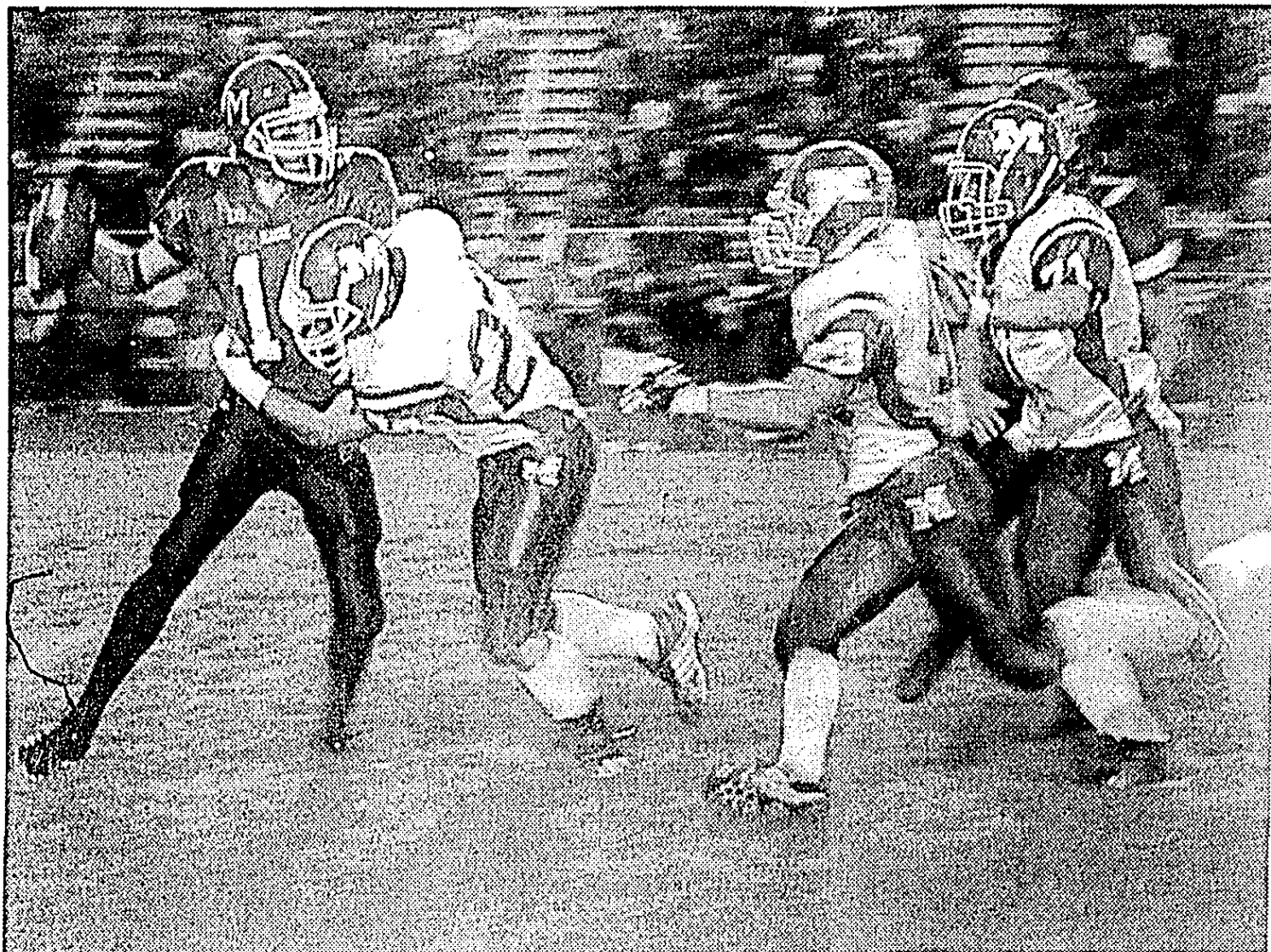
"Going into that game, our big goal was to get back to playing 'Mudcat football' and we saw some signs of that, but we needed to play it for four quarters," said Fennewald. "We moved the ball pretty doggone well in the first half but just had trouble finding the end zone."

That's where the points come in and for all that good movement in the opening half, the Wildcats had zero points to show for it. Maize was up, 10-0, at intermission and went up 24-0 before Mulvane broke through.

"In the second half, you could see they started wearing us down, especially on defense," said Fennewald. "They are a 6A school and have just about everybody going only one way. Most of our kids, our horses, go both ways."

Maize scored its first touchdown with the ease of a ball rolling down hill. It took the Eagles just six plays, scoring with 9:09 left in the opening quarter. The Cats took their first drive right on down the field but Maize stopped the Wildcats on a 4th and 3 inside the 20.

"That kind of told the story for most of the rest of the game," said Fennewald. "Every time we got something going, we'd get flagged for a penalty. They just killed us all night."



Cat defender Mason Leonard (23) sacks the Maize quarterback as Landon Branine (40) and Chase Hansen (71) charge in to help

One of those penalties occurred on a 3rd and two near midfield early when the score was still 7-0. The MHS gridders were called for an illegal formation after getting a first down. After the penalty, the Cats had to punt. The staff complained and even showed the officials a diagram to no avail. However, after half, the official who called the penalty admitted he had made an error, one that was way to late to fix it.

"That's the kind of break we've been getting this year," said Fennewald.

Mulvane scored on its final two drives in the last six minutes of the game. Gavin Snider gathered in a 22-yard aerial from quarterback Travis McGuire to fuel the drive and later scored on a one-yard run.

Mulvane went for an on-sides kick and Jason Wohlford recovered the kick. Moments later, Snider scored again, catching up with a McGuire pass for a five-yard TD. Grant Snider scored the two-point conversion on a McGuire pass.

Overall, Mulvane had its poorest rushing game of the 2003 season, going for only 177 yards. Fullback Landon Branine bashed for 69 yards, Gavin Snider had 58 yards in nine carries and Grant Snider chalked up 22 yards in five tries.

The Cats were playing without top receiver Zach Kimble, who missed the game because of a reoccurring back injury.

Defensively, the Cats played well, according to Fennewald. "I saw some fire there," said the MHS coach. "Matt Myers played a great game replacing Kimble and Chase Hansen had a super game defensively. He has only one speed and that's full speed ahead. He always sells out."

The interior lineman also led the Wildcat tackle chart. He had two tackles and 14 assists. Linebackers Branine and B.J. Headgepath were next. Branine had 13 stops and Headgepath had nine. Gavin Snider finished with eight tackles and Grant Snider had six. Tyler Pudden had five tackles and so did Myers.

The Wildcats are on the road again Friday night, Oct. 3. They travel to Augusta for a Chisholm Trail League game starting at 7 p.m. Augusta has yet to win a game.

Mulvane	0	0	0	14-14
Maize	7	3	7	7-24

Touchdowns—Mulvane: Gavin Snider 2 (1, run; 5, pass from Travis McGuire). Maize: Lane Garcia 2 (11, 45, runs), Bryce Perry (14, pass from Brice Lowe).

Points After Touchdown—Mulvane: Grant Snider 2 (pass from Travis McGuire). Maize: Tommy Schultz 3 (kicks).

Field Goals—Maize: Schultz (23).

### TEAM STATISTICS

	Mulvane	Maize
First Downs	12	17
Total Yards	244	299
Yards Rushing	177	241
Yards Passing	67	58
Passes Attempted	15	10
Passes Completed	8	6
Passes Intercepted By	0	0
Punts/Average	5-36	2-35
Fumbles Lost	2	2
Yards Penalized	64	27

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

#### Rushing

Mulvane—Landon Branine 15 carries-69 yards, Grant Snider 5-22, Gavin Snider 9-58, Travis McGuire 9-28. Maize—Lane Garcia 26-198, Bryce Perry 1-27, Brice Lowe 8-14, Carson Willingham 2-2.

#### Passing

Mulvane—Travis McGuire 7 completions-13 attempts-58 yards-0 interceptions-1 TD, Grant Snider 0-14-0-0. Maize—Brice Lowe 6-10-58-0-1.

#### Receiving

Mulvane—Matt Myers 1 reception-9 yards, Landon Branine 2-12, Jason Wohlford 1-10, Gavin Snider 4-35. Maize—Bryce Perry 5-52, Brent Milleville 1-6.

### DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

Chase Hansen 2 tackles-14 assists, Landon Branine 3-10, B.J. Headgepath 1-8, Gavin Snider 3-5, Grant Snider 4-2, Tyler Pudden 0-5, Matt Myers 3-2, Travis McGuire 1-3, Mason Leonard 1-2, Andrew Bryant 0-2, Sage Swaney 0-2, Jason Wohlford 0-1. Fumble Recoveries—Tyler Pudden, Jason Wohlford, Sucks-Mason Leonard.