

Wildcats Miss Chance For Third Place

Out of three games at the Roadrunner Classic, including wins and losses, good play and bad, Coach Dale Landes came away with a simple observation about his team.

"We always seem to play to the level of our competition," Landes said.

That method resulted in one win, two losses and a fourth-place finish at Chaparral.

In the opening round Wednesday, Jan. 18, Mulvane faced No. 1 seed and undefeated Medicine Lodge. The Wildcats played right with the high-powered Indians and came away with a 76-72 upset.

"That is the kind of basketball we like to see for Mulvane. I would like to see it more consistently," Landes said. "We played extremely well together."

Though the 76 points were the most in a long time for Mulvane, Landes feels rebounding was the key.

24th Annual Roadrunner Boys Classic Results

THIRD PLACE

Mulvane	7	15	13	17-52
Conway Springs	16	9	14	18-56

Mulvane—Jeff Parker 7, Jeremy Brown 6, Tim Glaser 11, Mike Abasolo 11, Shawn Erbert 7, Dexter Carpenter 6, Brad Canfield 2, Matt Hendren 2. FG 23 (5), FT 1-7, F 26.

Conway Springs—Matt O'Brien 22, Tim Glenn 9, Fred Oswald 6, Clint Osner 2, Brian Prillman 18. FG 18 (2), FT 19-26, F 11.

CHAMPIONSHIP

Arkansas City 61, Chaparral 54

FIFTH PLACE

Campus 83, Medicine Lodge 68

SEVENTH PLACE

Pratt 71, Clearwater 65

SEMIFINALS

Chaparral	25	16	18	15-74
Mulvane	10	15	12	14-51

Chaparral—Tyler Hoopes 13, David Reed 16, Corbin Hostetler 20, Jerry Gonzalez 3, Kelsey Brown 4, Jason Carroll 4, Jason Quigg 4, Jeff Davis 2, Ryan Barker 8.

"Our game plan was to play solid defense," Landes said. "By rebounding as well as we did, we really limited the number of shots they had."

The 'Cats controlled the paint on the offensive end, as well. Dexter Carpenter scored 22 points to lead Mulvane.

"Medicine Lodge didn't have the height to combat Dexter," Landes said.

Offsetting the inside play of Carpenter was Jeremy Brown, who scored a season-high 17 points.

"Jeremy had a great game," Landes said.

Playing the No. 3 ranked team in Class 3A did not appear to be the ideal situation for Mulvane to get its second victory, but Landes does not believe his kids bought into that philosophy.

"We took it as a challenge, and we stepped up," he said. "We played together."

FG 20 (6), FT 28-36, F 18.

Mulvane—Jeremy Brown 2, Mike Abasolo 18, Jeff Parker 3, Shawn Erbert 3, Dexter Carpenter 8, Sean Younger 4, Tim Glaser 5, Tom Nienke 3, Matt Hendren 2, Brad Canfield 2, Luke Cox 2. FG 17 (3), FT 14-22, F 22.

Arkansas City 53, Conway Springs 38

Campus 59, Clearwater 60

Medicine Lodge 62, Pratt 51

FIRST ROUND

Mulvane	13	25	13	25-76
Medicine Lodge	20	14	17	21-72

Mulvane—Dexter Carpenter 22, Mike Abasolo 13, Shawn Erbert 9, Sean Younger 4, Jeff Parker 6, Matt Hendren 2, Jeremy Brown 17, Tim Glaser 3. FG 26 (3), FT 13-18, F 21.

Medicine Lodge—Kenney Davis 15, Josh Axline 23, Stan Dohm 22, J.W. Jacobs 2, Preston Taylor 4, Ryan Cunningham 2, Dustin Price 4. FG 16 (9), FT 15-20, F 19.

Chaparral 83, Pratt 68

Arkansas City 53, Campus 52

Conway Springs 48, Clearwater 45

A bigger challenge turned out to be host Chaparral in the second round. The Roadrunners came out hot and cruised to a 74-51 win Friday, Jan. 21.

"They shot incredibly well," Landes said.

Chaparral jumped out to a 25-10 lead after one quarter.

"They exploited our weakness playing defense against quickness," Landes said. "That is something that has been hurting us all year. We have to keep the ball in front of us."

The Wildcats were recovered enough to keep pace with Chaparral, but never made any significant runs.

"After we were down so many, so fast, we seemed content to play at their level," Landes said.

The Roadrunners' quickness turned into free throw attempts where they cashed in, making 28 free throws.

"They were a better team than the first

time we played them," Landes said.

Michael Abasolo led Mulvane with a season-high 18 points. Carpenter added eight.

In the third place game played Saturday, Jan. 21, Mulvane fell to Conway Springs 56-52. This was the big disappointment for the tournament according to Landes.

"I'm sure we should have won," he said. "This is a team Medicine Lodge beat easily."

The game was decided at the line. Mulvane was whistled for 26 fouls, compared to the Cardinals' 11. The Wildcats only hit one free throw, while Conway Springs connected on 19.

"That is the difference," Landes said. "We were a step slow on defense. Some of the fouls were good calls, others weren't."

Mulvane had a chance late in the game to get the win. Down one point Shawn Erbert made an apparent steal leading to a lay-up, but Erbert was called for his fifth foul.

"It is really unfortunate that a questionable call determines the game," Landes said.

Abasolo and Tim Glaser paced Mulvane with 11 points each. Erbert and Jeff Parker each added seven points.

While a fourth-place finish seems great for an eighth seed, Landes could not be completely happy.

"I was proud of the way we played

Medicine Lodge, but not Conway Springs," Landes said. "We need to be prepared to play every time the ball goes up and play

the way we played Medicine Lodge."

Mulvane will host league-leading Augusta Friday, Jan. 27. Game time is 8 p.m.