Cats Dodge 3-Point Barrage; FT Shooting Lights The Way

How's this for a pick-me-up?

The Mulvane boys' basketball team overcame a three-point barrage by the visiting Kingman Eagles Tuesday night, Feb. 7, and made 11 free throws in overtime for a 60-58 home victory, improving the Wildcats' record to 3-12 on the season.

"This win really gives our guys a big confidence boost," said Wildcat head coach Scott Dunham. "We played well in the first half. We shot and rebounded the ball, we kept our turnovers down, and we didn't give up many second chances. We struggled a bit more in the second half, but we kept our composure and made enough key shots down the stretch."

The 'Cats held a slim 14-12 lead after one quarter, then extended it to 28-21 by halftime. Kingman rallied in the second half, mainly due to the three-point shooting of Tracy Hageman. Hageman would finish the game with nine three-pointers and 31 points.

"He seemed to be making everything," said Dunham. "I don't know why we always seem to get our opponents' best outside shooting night, but it just turns out that way. In the fourth quarter, we switched to a box-and-one with Kyle Womacks on Hageman, and he only Varsity Boys

Kingman 12 9 10 14 (13)—58 Mulvane 14 14 7 10 (15)—60 Kingman—Colt Dodge 10, Tracy Hageman 31, White 6, SanRomani 11, FG 21 (10), FT 6-15

Mulvane—Dylan Donaldson 9, Tyler Ruder 14, Ryan Herrig 11, John Kright 5, Kyle Womacks 6, Adam Edwards 8, Levi Hein 7, FG 18 (7), FT 17-26

Mulvane 8 14 11 28—61 Clearwater 14 14 20 22—70 Mulvane—Dylan Donaldson 7, Tyler Ruder 19, Tyler Springer 3, Ryan Herrig 4, John Knight 19, Brock

Clearwater—Logan Mills 21, Mitch Woods 7, Luke Laha 2, Ryan Dejmal 3, Luke Bryant 11, Cody Rausch 5, Colton Rausch 11, Jake Woods 10, FG 25 (3),

Kendall 3, Adam Edwards 4, Levi Hein 2, FG 20 (4), FI

made one three-pointer the rest of the game."

In overtime, Kingman took an early twopoint lead before Dylan Donaldson hit a threepointer to give Mulvane the lead for good While Kingman had 10 treys in the game, Mulvane had seven of their own. After that, the rest of overtime was a parade to the line.

Free throws were the biggest key to Mulvane's win, although it may not have seemed that way earlier in the game. Before the fourth quarter, Mulvane was 0-for-5 from the line. In the fourth quarter and overtime, the 'Cats were 17-for-21, including 11of-14 in overtime. Ryan Herrig was 9-for-10 from the line, most of them coming after Mulvane had taken the lead in overtime.

Mulvane's balanced offensive effort was led by Tyler Ruder with 14 points and Herrig with 11. The Wildcats also got nine points from Donaldson, eight from Adam Edwards, seven from Levi Hein, six from Womacks, and five from John Knight.

A big fourth-quarter rally was not enough Friday night, Feb. 3, as the Wildcats came up short at Clearwater, 70-61, in a non-league contest

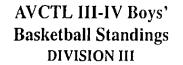
On Clearwater's Homecoming Night, the Wildcats hung tough in the first half. The host Indians led 14-8 after the first quarter, then extended the lead to double figures early in the second period. Mulvane rallied late in the half, and Knight's driving basket at the buzzer cut the lead to six points again, 28-22, at halftime.

In the third quarter, things started to get away from the Wildcats. Clearwater made three three-pointers in the third period, outscoring Mulyane 20-11 to take a 48-33 lead going into the final quarter. Early in the fourth, Clearwater extended their margin to as much as 19.

Mulvane never went away, though, and used a seven-point run by Ruder to get back within single digits with over a minute to play. The 'Cats never got closer than seven, and Clearwater made enough free throws to keep Mulvane at bay. They also missed enough; the Indians finished the game 17-for-37 from the line. Mulvane was 17-for-25.

Knight and Ruder each scored 19 points to lead Mulvane. The Wildcats also got seven points from Donaldson, four each from Herrig and Edwards, three each from Tyler Springer and Brock Kendall, and two from Hein.

The Wildcats will return to league play with an AVCTL Division III contest at El Dorado Friday night, Feb. 10, starting at 7:30 p.m.



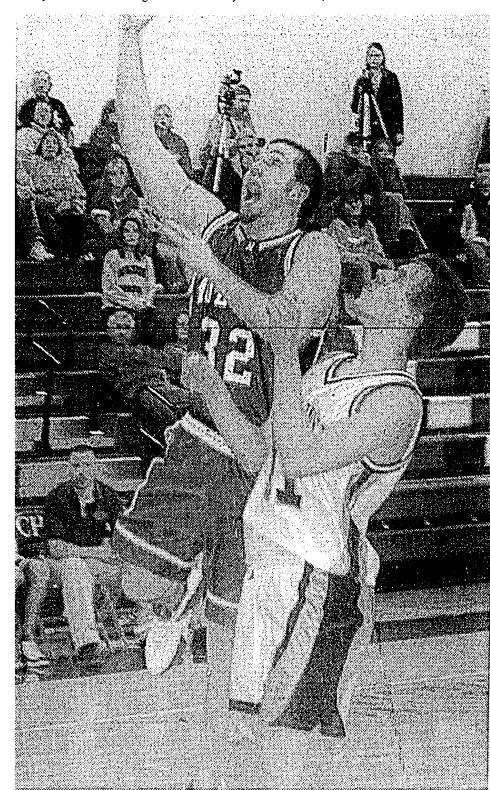
	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Buhler	4	_1	5	9
Rose Hill	3	2	10	4
Augusta	3	2	9	5
Wellington	3	2	8	6
El Dorado	2	3	5	9
Mulvane	0	5	2	12

DIVISION IV

Andover	5	0	7	7
Andover Central	.1	I	1.2	2
Circle	2	1	10	4
Andale	2	7	S	f
Clearwater	1	4	6	8
Kingman	1	.1	6	S

Games Friday, Feb. 10

Mulvane at El Dorado Buhler at Augusta Rose Hill at Wellington Andale at Andover Circle at Andover Central Clearwater at Kingman



Kyle Womacks (32) skies on a drive to the bucket against Clearwater