

# Real Wildcats Show Up

Coach Scott Dunham finally saw the team he was looking for.

And it didn't really matter that the Mulvane High School Wildcat boys lost, 60-56, to Douglass in the second round of the Douglass Early Season Tournament Tuesday night, Dec. 7.

"I'm just glad that I finally saw what I had expected all along, a team playing with their hearts, diving on the floor, fighting for rebounds and being scrappy," said Dunham, who is still looking for his 1st victory on the varsity level. "We played a lot better and with a lot more intensity."

After falling behind by as many as 19 points in the 2nd quarter, the Wildcats started their charge. By halftime, they were down by only 11, cut that to four at the end of the 3rd quarter and actually took the lead in the last quarter before being betrayed by poor free throwing. Mulvane made only 13 of 27 charity shots.

"We hit some of those and we win the ball game," declared Dunham. "We also had a couple opportunities but missed shots we needed to make."

Center J.D. Sorensen had his career-best game with 19 points. John Knight was next with seven points, followed by Sage Swaney with six and a trio of players with five each—Kenny Herrig, Chris Wilson and

Kyle Womacks.

After only two games, Mulvane's new boys basketball coach Scott Dunham knows all about inconsistent play. After eight quarters, his Wildcats have had a two-point quarter, one eight-point quarter, one seven-point quarter and one zero-point quarter.

Inconsistency is killing the Wildcat boys. That was most apparent Monday night, Dec. 6, in the first round of the Douglass Early Season Tournament as Rose Hill dominated the second half in a 70-45 loss for the MHS Cats.

In their opening game of the season, Dunham's Wildcats were taken down by Winfield, 55-39, in a home game Friday, Dec. 3.

"Right now, our scoring is very, very inconsistent," said Dunham. "So far this year, we've had four very good quarters and four very bad quarters. And our defense has displayed just about that same inconsistency. What we look like is a young team that's chicking sometimes and not the other, and that's exactly what we are."

Against the Rockets, Mulvane was very much in the game in the first quarter, trailing by only one, 19-18, but the RH team blew the game open in the 2nd half by outscoring Mulvane, 32-15.

"I believe we're getting there, it's just tak-

ing some time to get experience," said Dunham. "We led for about 2/3's of the first half and they finally passed us with about two or three minutes left in the first half, then Rose Hill ended the half on a quick 6-0 spurt."

That left the Wildcats hanging on, trailing by only eight at intermission. "Down eight to a top 10 state-ranked team, I didn't think we were doing too badly," said Dunham. "But in the second half, our offense was totally inconsistent and we turned the ball over too many times. When that happens you don't score much because you don't have the opportunities to score. It was like a tale of two halves."

Senior Logan Sorensen was the MHS scoring leader, hitting for 18 points. Inside

## Douglass Early Season Boys Basketball Tournament

### SECOND ROUND

Mulvane 14 14 15 13-56  
Douglass 19 20 8 13-60

Mulvane—Mason Leonard 2, Chris Wilson 8, J.D. Sorensen 16, Kenny Herrig 5, Logan Sorensen 4, John Knight 7, Tyler Ruder 3, Kyle Womacks 5, Sage Swaney 6. FG 20 (3), FT 13 (2), F 23

Douglass—Little 2, Lewis 2, Ingalls 8, Bergley 6, Jake Rapp 27, Lewis 1, Derick Keith 14. FG 22 (3), FT 13-24 (1), F 25

Rose Hill 46, Andale 41

### FIRST ROUND

Mulvane 18 12 8 7-45  
Rose Hill 19 19 18 14-70

Mulvane—John Knight 4, Mason Leonard 2, J.D. Sorensen 7, Logan Sorensen 18, Tyler Ruder 3, Ryan Herrig 2, Kyle Womacks 2, Chris Wilson 7. FG 15 (4), FT 11-20, F 22

Rose Hill—Caleb Fouse 11, Dennis Shirley 8, Jared McRae 10, Blake Ringwall 8, Tyler Wilson 26, Braydon Crowe 2, Josh Shirley 5. FG 24 (8), FT 14-27, F 20

Douglass 57, Andale 48

### Varsity Boys

Winfield 22 8 17 10-55  
Mulvane 2 20 17 0-39

Winfield—Drydon Barbour 15, Ade Mange 15, Beau Gerber 16, Jeff Schaefer 3, Alex Hutchins 2, Carlos Sotelo 2, Matt Gill 2. FG 18 (5), FT 14-22, F 20

Mulvane—Tyler Ruder 10, J.D. Sorensen 1, Adam Edwards 4, Ryan Herrig 6, Logan Sorensen 7, Mason Leonard 2, Kyle Womacks 2, Chris Wilson 1. FG 8 (3), FT 15-22, F 16

### Junior Varsity Boys

Winfield 12 11 15 10-48  
Mulvane 9 6 8 15-38

Winfield—Brandon Tadman 4, Josh Groene 12, Chris Deiler 1, Scott Stuffer 4, Phillip Anderson 5, Judson Maer 2, Quentin Hoover 9, Daniel Meysing 11. FG 18 (6), FT 6-15, F 27

Mulvane—Danny Schneider 7, Sage Swaney 9, Collin Mangus 1, Zach Thiesing 9, Chris Wilson 1, Adam Edwards 7, Tyler Oblinger 2, Greg Simon 2. FG 12 (1), FT 13-32, F 18

players Chris Wilson and J.D. Sorensen had seven points each and John Knight and Tyler Ruder finished with four and three points, respectively.

Mulvane's season opener was a similar performance: the Cats were right there most of the game, closing to within three at one point in the 3rd quarter, 37-34, but Winfield pulled away as Mulvane went cold.

Mulvane didn't score a point in the last quarter as the Vikings went on a 10-0 spree to end the game.

"That's the experience factor," pointed out Dunham about the fateful 4th quarter against the Vikes. "The kids kept it close in the first half but our lack of experience on the floor showed late. You can talk all you want about raising your level of play to meet the other team but doing it is something else. Winfield raised its level of play late in the game and our kids didn't. It was like everybody was just happy to be on the floor."

"Experience is huge right now. We're going to get better and better with more experience. We have proven we can play with those teams but only for a half. You have to do it for the whole game."

Point guard Tyler Ruder was Mulvane's only double digit scorer. He had 10 against Winfield. Logan Sorensen finished with seven points, Ryan Herrig scored six and Adam Edwards dumped in four points.

The junior varsity boys started their season with a loss, too. Winfield held off a last-quarter rally by the Cats for a 48-38 victory. Zach Thiesing and Sage Swaney scored nine points each for Mulvane. Edwards and Danny Schneider scored seven each.

The Wildcats close out their run through the Douglass tournament tonight (Dec. 9) when they play Andale in a 5:45 p.m. game.



Senior Mason Leonard (23) charges down the lane on a lay-up attempt