

There have been two different Mount Mercy men's basketball teams this season.

The team that plays its home games at the Hennessey Recreation Center has a 7-2 record and has outscored its opponents by an average of 13 points per game.

The Mount Mercy team that plays on the road has a 2-6 record and has been outscored by an average of 11.1 points per game.

Thankfully for the Mustangs, they played at home Wednesday night.

Dennis McKinney popped in seven 3-pointers and scored 26 points as Mount Mercy belted Culver-Stockton, 97-64, in a Heart of America Conference game at Hennessey.

Coach Aaron Jennings is well-aware of the discrepancy between his team's performances at home and away.

"This conference is just so crazy," he said. "It's not just us. It's across the board in the conference. Home and away.

"It's just so tough to win on the road."

It was easy to win at home Wednesday with McKinney stealing the show. The junior from Cedar Rapids Jefferson cracked 1,000 points in his career and moved into 21st place in school history with 1,012. At this rate, McKinney could become one of the most prolific scorers for the Mustangs with another full season to go.

"He's special," said Jennings. "We know that. Everybody knows that. It's a testament to his drive and work ethic."

McKinney was 7-for-11 on 3-pointers and poured in his 26 points in a little less than 26 minutes of playing time. He also had nine rebounds, two assists, two blocks and a steal.

Dan Kuper is the leading scorer in school history at Mount Mercy with 1,972 points from 1992-96.

RoyShawn Webb continued his strong all-around performances for the Mustangs with 16 points, five assists and four rebounds. Bailey Basala scored 11 points in the first half, but did not play in the second half as a precautionary measure. Streeter McIlravy, Tyler Kelley and DJ Johnson netted 10 points apiece.

Michael Johnson scored 19 points for Culver-Stockton (3-13, 2-10).

CULVER-STOCKTON (64): King 2-6 1-2 5, Vires 6 3-4 15, Null 0-4 0-0 0, Cosby 4-12 0-0 9, Johnson 8-13 0-0 19, Newby 4-12 2-2 11, Oliva 0-1 0-0 0, Happel 0-0 0-0 0, Green 0-0 0-0 0, Payne 1-1 0-0 2, March 1-1 1-2 3. Totals 26-68 7-10 64.

MOUNT MERCY (97): McKinney 9-16 1-2 26, Watson 2-7 1-2 6, Basala 4-5 1-1 11, Webb 7-10 1-4 16, McIlravy 3-6 2-2 10, Kelley 4-6 0-0 10, Beard 1-3 0-0 3, Hehmann 0-0 2-3 2, Ruff 0-1 0-0 0, Koenig 1-4 0-0 3, Reischauer 0-3 0-0 0, Johnson 3-6 4-5 10, Doe 0-3, 0-0 0. Totals 34-70 12-19 97.

Halftime - Mount Mercy 52, Culver-Stockton 30. 3-point goals - Culver-Stockton 5-21 (Johnson 3-5, Cosby 1-4, Newby 1-4, Oliva 0-1, King 0-1, Null 0-2, Vires 0-4), Mount Mercy 17-35 (McKinney 7-11, Basala 2-3, Kelley 2-3, McIlravy 2-4, Webb 1-1, Beard 1-1, Watson 1-3, Koenig 1-3, Ruff 0-1, Johnson 0-1, Reischauer 0-2, Doe 0-2).