



Mulvane 3rd baseman Tricia Turner dives to late for a hard smash

Hitting, Fielding Woes

Opener Sours On Wildcats As Maize Thunders To 2

There were a few bright spots for new Mulvane High School girls softball coach Dale Landes, but to few as the girls opened their season at home Monday, April 2, when Maize came to town.

The Wildcat girls couldn't get their bats going against a strong Eagle pitcher and the defense came up a little short as Maize rolled out of town with two 13-0 victories.

The two losses runs Mulvane's winless streak to 23 games over the last three seasons.

"We just committed too many errors," said Landes, who had felt his Wildcat girls could compete with Maize. "When you commit 15 errors in two games you're not going to win. You take away five of those errors, which were multi-run errors and it's a different ball game."

Cat hitting also came up suspect as they were no-hit in the opener and belted only two singles in the second contest. "It's kind of like a football game," said Landes. "If you only get across midfield a couple times, you're not going to win the ball game. We only got to third base one time and to second three or four times. It wasn't much offense. I really felt like we could give Maize a ball game but we didn't."

Landes' only bright spots were on defense, where second sacker Kerri Taylor and Tricia Turner at third stood out. "Kerri at second base really played well," said the Cat coach. "I was real pleased with her defense. She got to several balls she shouldn't have. Turner also made several real good plays. I really feel our infield has come along fairly well."

The hitting was another story. Shanda Vangas had a one-out single in the first

inning and the third inning. Turner lined a two-out single and got to third but that was all the farther anyone got.

"Our hitting, there's not much you can say about it," said Landes. "We have stressed hitting in practice and being aggressive at the plate as well as in the field but we weren't prepared for this. Defensively, we're on schedule I think but offensively, we're behind."

The Wildcat girls will be back on the field trying to notch their first victory at 4 p.m. today (April 5) when they travel to Valley Center for a tough doubleheader. The next home game will be Tuesday, April 10, when Circle is in Mulvane.



First Game

Maize	508 00	13	10
Mulvane	000 00	0	0
Linda Konna and Becker; Kendra Banzet and Shaunda Smith			

Second Game

Maize	424 21	13	6
Mulvane	000 00	0	2
Linda Konna, Brandi Whitmer 4, and Stiverson, Tricia Turner, Paula Cooke 4, and Shaunda Smith			