

# Softballers Nearly Tip Powerhouse

What a difference 30 minutes makes. One minute the Mulvane High School softball girls are battling a strong Campus Colts for victory and the next, the Colts sew up a doubleheader sweep with a bombardment.

The Wildcat girls lost both ends of a softball doubleheader Tuesday, April 17, but it was no walk-over. Campus had to squirm a bit in the first game before dousing a seventh-inning fire to hang on for a 3-2 victory. Thirty minutes later, the Colts had wrapped up the sweep with a 13-run 3rd inning on the way to an 18-1 second game triumph in Mulvane.

"Defensively, we played an incredible game in the first contest," said Mulvane coach Dale Landes, whose team was coming off its first two victories of the season to snap a one season-plus losing streak. "But we came up just a little short."

Landes, whose team dipped to 2-4 for the year, was proud of his warriors even though they got beat twice. "When you talk about Campus, you're talking about one of the top teams in our region," said Landes. "They can compete with anybody in the city league or any other top team. I told the girls afterwards that they needed to feel good about the first game because they competed and nearly pulled it off."

The Colts came out against Cat righthander Kendra Banzet and scored once in the first and twice in the second and nursed a 3-0 lead into the final frame. Mulvane rallied with two runs and had runners at second and third with one out before it fell apart. Kerri Taylor worked a one-out walk and Tricia Turner singled, putting runners at first and third. Turner then stole second. Two straight walks, one to Shanda Vangas and the other to Banzet forced in one run and Turner scored moments later on a passed ball before the final two outs ended the charge.

"Our defense was the real key, especially Vangas at short and Turner at third," added Landes. "The left side of our infield just ate up everything in that direction. They made some great plays that got us out of tough situations in both the 6th and 7th innings. Their coach came up afterwards and said he hadn't seen anything like it. We were making great defensive plays all over."

The Cats' lone run in the final game came in the fourth inning when catcher Shaunda Smith walked, moved around on two wild pitches and scored when Stacy Taylor grounded out.

Banzet, who had given up only three hits in the opener, came in to relieve starter Turner in the big inning but it was too late.

The Wildcats will be trying to get back to winning ways Friday, April 20, when they go to Derby for a 4 p.m. twinbill.

#### First Game

Campus 120 000 0—3 3

Mulvane 000 000 2—2 3

Ryherd, McCracken 5, and Rinehart; Kendra Banzet and Shaunda Smith.

#### Second Game

Campus 05(13) 00—18 11

Mulvane 000 10—1 0

Ryherd, Mertive 5, and Rinehart; Tricia Turner, Kendra Banzet 3, Paula Cooke 5, and Shaunda Smith.