

Rose Hill Sweeps Wildcats

The Mulvane High School softballers gave powerful Rose Hill all the tussle it needed before being subdued in a double-header Saturday, May 5, at Rose Hill.

The Wildcats had rallies in each of the last three innings but could only plate one run as Rose Hill won the opener, 9-5. In the second game, the host Rockets punched in the winning run in the sixth inning for a 6-5 verdict over Mulvane.

"We played as good as we could against a 16-3 team," said Dale Landes, the MHS softball chief. "The girls did a good job, especially defensively. Shanda (Vangas) was outstanding at shortstop. I would say from a defensive standpoint, this was our best game of the year. The girls have proven that they can play with some of the top teams in the state and our defense has been a big key."

Landes' Wildcats took a 2-0 lead in the top of the second when catcher Shaunda Smith singled, Tricia Turner tried to sacrifice and Smith made it safely to second, and both scored on a base hit by Terri Holman. Two more runs in the 4th cut RH's margin to 8-4. Smith and Turner again ignited the rally with a base rap and a walk, respectively. Both scored later in the inning on passed balls.

Paula Cook's base hit scoring Holman in the 6th was the final MHS run.

In the second game, the Wildcats had Rose Hill on the ropes with a four-run 6th that put the Cats in a 5-5 tie but the hosts scored the winning run in the last of the inning. For Mulvane, Vangas led off with a base hit and Kendra Banzet walked. Holly Donaldson's single scored one. After Smith walked, Turner drilled a base hit to score one more and both Donaldson and Smith scooted home on a single to right by Holman.

The Wildcats will play a final regular season tune-up game today (May 10) when Bluestem comes to town prior to the Wichita Regional Tournament, which opens Monday, May 14. Pairings for that regional will be drawn Saturday, May 12.

First Game

Mulvane 020 201 0—5 7

Rose Hill 053 100 x—9 10

Kendra Banzet and Shaunda Smith; Barb Hartnett, Kelly Dennis 5, and Arnie Hammitt.

Second Game

Mulvane 000 014 0—5 4

Rose Hill 022 011 x—6 9

Kendra Banzet and Shaunda Smith; Barb Hartnett, Kelly Dennis 5, Hartnett 6, and Arnie Hammitt.