Cats Can't Solve Oriole Pitching

Augusta left town Friday evening, May 4, leaving Mulvane High School baseball coach Dave Katzenmeier to scratch his head right along with the MHS batters.

The Oriole pitchers threw all goose eggs Friday and swept two games from the scrappy Wildcats. The first game was a 10-0 nohitter and the second game was won by Augusta, 6-0.

The losses saw the Cat record dip to 7-11 with the 5th straight setback as Katzenmeier's troops prepare for the Arkansas City Class 5A Regional. The Wildcats will be playing at 5 p.m. Thursday, May 17. The other two teams in the regional are Ark City and Winfield. Pairings on the tourney will be announced Tuesday, May 15.

"They are flat tough," said Katzenmeier of the Augusta moundsmen. They're going to be 4A state champions. Highlights? Well, their pitching. (Mike) Browning is one of the toughest pitchers in the state and so is the other kid."

Although Mulvane has been in a minor slump at the plate lately, the Orioles cause some major league slumping by Cat bats. The Wildcats didn't get a hit in the opening outing and a sixth inning single by freshman Larry Dixson prevented an unprecedented double no-hitter.

In the first game, only a walk to Jarrod Oldridge in the 5th inning and a pass to Scott Young in the 6th inning kept it from being perfect. In the second game, Scott Proctor walked and was the only other baserunner besides Dixson.

"We're in a slump but I'd say their pitching was tough," said Katzenmeier. "The bats have cooled off a little down the stretch, that's for sure. The kids look great when I'm throwing.

"I was much more pleased with these games than last week against Andover," added the Cat boss. "Our intensity was



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Jarrod Oldridge and Randy Young; Pat Raiston and Whoeler.

there, especially defensively. We threw out three runners at third base and picked people off first base. We played well, but when you run into pitching like that, you just hang on. I doubt we see pitching like that even if we get to the finals of the state tournament."

The defensive highlights include nailing three runners at third base—all on throws from outfielder Steve Langholtz to cutoff man Scott Young to Gary Cleverdon at third base.