

Mulvane Measles Deck Vikes



Chisholm Trail League Final Baseball Standings

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
x-Augusta	16	2	18	2
Nickerson	13	3	15	3
Valley Center	13	5	13	7
Andover	10	8	10	10
Maize	9	9	10	10
Mulvane	7	11	8	12
Buhler	6	12	6	14
Circle	3	13	4	14
Rose Hill	2	16	4	16

x—won CTL championship

It was kind of like the measles in a way. The first inning of the Mulvane High School baseball team's roll in the Arkansas City Class 5A Regional Baseball Tournament was contagious.

And it left Winfield with spots all over and stars in the Viking eyes. The Wildcats roared early in the first game of the tournament Thursday evening, May 17, rocking Winfield, 17-1, but Mulvane's dream of a state tourney bid came to a close hours later as the host Bulldogs smothered the Cats, 6-1, to advance to the Class 5A State Tournament, which opens Friday, May 25, at El Dorado.

"We really came out in that first game ready to play and very intent," said Dave Katzenmeier, the veteran MHS baseball skipper. "We scored 11 runs in the first inning and it was by far our best offensive game of the season. The kids just came out ready and up for the job."

The fireworks nearly lasted an hour as the Wildcats hammered away on two Winfield pitchers. It was really no contest after that but the Mulvane intensity remained. "We wanted to approach the game and stay pretty intent after we got up 11-0, because we knew we had to come back and play Ark City, so I thought we did that," said Katzenmeier. "We maintained our desire the whole game and it carried over into the second game. That first inning was something, though."

"It felt like an hour, and it sure felt good. We haven't been in position to dominate anyone this year, so it was nice to come on like that in our last games. I thought we showed a lot of heart and a lot of desire and ended the season on a real good note. It turned out to be a positive thing for all the underclassmen to end on that kind of a note."

The Wildcats finished the season at 9-13, but they played like world-beaters against Winfield and Ark City. Scott Young singled to start the 11-run uprising. Randy Young and Scott Proctor followed with singles, Young picking up an RBI. John Fleming plated one run with a fielder's choice and Darryl White, Gary Cleverdon and Steve Langholtz each brought home a run before Larry Dixson tripled with the bases filled.

Another big blow came moments later when Proctor slammed his first homer of the season for a three-run shot.

Arkansas City Class 5A Regional Baseball

Championship

Arkansas City 211 000 2-6 4
Mulvane 010 000 0-1 5

Sparks and Long; Randy Young, John Fleming 2, and Jarrod Oldridge.

First Round

Winfield 000 10-1 6
Mulvane (11)15 00-17 14

Mays, Miller 1, Randall 3, and Thiel; Jarrod Oldridge and Randy Young.

HR—Scott Proctor (M).

the opening inning but didn't. After Ark City took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first, Randy Young, Proctor and Fleming all singled to fill the bases with one out. However, two strikeouts followed in the meat of the MHS order.

Again in the second inning, Mulvane threatened when Cleverdon looped a double to right and Dixson walked. Scott Young doubled to center to score Cleverdon with one out but that was it. Mulvane's lone baserunner in the final four innings was Randy Young, who walked in the 7th.

"If we could have broke through early, it might have a different story," said the Cat coach. "We also brought in John (Fleming)

in relief and he did a great job keeping us close. They only scored a couple in the seventh, but we never could get the momentum back after Fleming held them for us."

It was only 4-1 going into the final frame but Mulvane couldn't break through against the improving pitching.

The Cats' only run of the game came in the second when Scott Young doubled Cleverdon in.

"We had the opportunity and we played our hearts out," admitted Katzenmeier. "The effort was outstanding. You don't feel good about not getting where you wanted to get, but you can't feel too badly about the way we played."

Langholtz finished with three hits and scored three times. Proctor also scored three times.

There were 14 hits backing up sophomore righthander Oldridge, who scattered six hits and didn't allow an earned run.

The Cats continued their outstanding roll against Ark City, but the hosts were too strong to slip past. "We really played well," added Katzenmeier. "We had our opportunities early and couldn't get the crucial hit we needed. I wanted to score early but we couldn't break through. Their pitcher got stronger and stronger as the day went on. He was a much better pitcher in the 7th inning than he was in the first."

Mulvane almost broke the game open in