

Mulvane Slips To 12-7

Panthers Spoil MHS Party

For four innings, it looked like the Mulvane High School baseballers would put a hammer lock on second place in the Chisholm Trail League standings.

Instead, the Nickerson Panthers rallied to throw cold water on the Wildcats' victory party with a 6-2 verdict Monday, May 6, in a single make-up game at the Mulvane sports complex.

The game was the first on the schedule this season for the Cats and the two teams got in only one game before the nightcap was rained out.

The loss dropped Mulvane to 12-7 for the year and out of second place in the CTL. Nickerson has lost only five CTL games.

(Postponed Game From March 28)

Nickerson	000 040 2--6 8
Mulvane	000 200 0 --2 9

Fredrickson, Griffith 5, and Worley; Jarrod Oldridge and Chuck Rollins.

which is well behind first place Augusta, which is 15-1.

Mulvane jumped out to a 2-0 lead but two throwing miscues in the 5th inning led to a four-run uprising which won the game for the Panthers.

"We didn't play too badly except for an inning or two," said Dave Katzenmeier, the Cat coach, "but those two innings really hurt. The game was really a well-pitched game. Both teams were pitching their top pitcher and they were pitching well. It got down to a couple of throwing errors. We needed to be able to execute the bunt defense and didn't. The throwing errors kind of snowballed on us. We needed to shut it down but we didn't."

Mulvane had taken a 2-0 lead on legitimate hits in the 4th. Robert Glaser started

the rally with a ground rule double and scored on Jarrod Oldridge's double. Oldridge then came in when Gary Cleverdon hung a rope left centerfield for a base hit. David Boyer kept things going by walking but that was it for the Wildcats, who had seven hits including two by both Cleverdon and Glaser.

"Nickerson's a good ball club and that's good because we want to be playing good ball clubs at this time of the year," said Katzenmeier. "This was a game of inches. An inch here and an inch there was the difference. All those inches went against us but that's baseball."

Junior righthander Oldridge was marching to a nice win before being betrayed by three errors in the 5th. Until then, he had given up only three hits and struck out

eight, including five of the first six batters he faced.

"He had his best control of the curve ball," noted Katzenmeier. "He was cruising along for four innings and we figured if we could get a run or two we would be in good shape, but we didn't expect to make the mistakes we did.

"Still, we had some good things happen. We got a strike-out, throw-out at third base, Danny Myears threw out somebody at third, Cleverdon made some great stops at short and we made some good plays. Sometimes that's not enough and this was one of those times."

The Panthers broke loose for two more runs in the top of the 7th to solidify their lead. Although they mounted small threats in each of the last three innings, MHS couldn't break through.