

Sweep T-Birds

'Ones' Wild And Cats, Too

The "ones" were wild and Mulvane had the most of them Monday, April 6, in a doubleheader against Circle's Thunderbirds.

The Wildcats swept both ends of the Chisholm Trail League doubleheader, and both scores were 11-1. That left Coach David Katzenmeier's Cats at 2-1 with one game suspended.

"We hit the ball," said Katzenmeier, "and that's what I liked best about the sweep. We prepared for Circle just like for anybody else. You still have to perform and it was nice we did. We just came out and scored some runs and our two pitchers had two fine ball games."

Righthander Jarrod Oldridge, a senior and the club's stopper the last two seasons, was on the beam against the T-Birds. He gave up only four hits and struck out 12 batters in the five innings and issued only three walks.

"That was one of Jarrod's best pitching games in his three years," said Katzenmeier. "Speaking strictly from a ball-strike ratio, he was on the plate. He didn't have many pitches that weren't in there for strikes. Walks can get you in trouble and his previous two years, he has had a bit of control problems. If we can keep focused on throwing strikes with our defense behind him, we could be very successful."

In the nightcap, sophomore righthander Jamie Belden had both barrels blazing. He struck out seven and gave up only two hits, both singles. "Jamie had a little more control trouble, which is expected at this point, but his off-speed pitches were making him pretty tough. He has had two good five-inning outings, now."

One Wildcat went crazy at the plate. Junior centerfielder Larry Dixon went on a binge against Circle. He had a triple, double and a single in the first game and a single and two triples in the nightcap. He scored four runs and knocked in five.

"Dixon flat had a night," admitted Katzenmeier. "He had a great doubleheader, one of the best night's I've ever seen a high school kid have. He gave me a high five on that last triple and about broke my arm."

Chuck Rollins and Oldridge also had big games at the plate. Rollins went 3-for-5 and scored three times and Oldridge had a homer and a triple, scoring three times and knocking in three runs.

The Cats set the stage for the first-game runaway with six runs in the second inning. Oldridge started it off when he homered in his first at bat of the year. David Boyer and Daniel Myears both walked on 3-1 counts before Chad Nichols loaded things with a walk. Robert Glaser banged a two-out single to score two more runs and Rollins knocked in a run with a single. Dixon brought home the final two when he ripped a triple to left-centerfield.

In the second game, the Cats broke loose with six in the 4th inning, which featured two base hits by Schaan Buford, three walks, two errors and Dixon's booming triple to right-center for two runs.

The Wildcat baseballers opened their season on a mixed note at Nickerson Thursday, April 2. The Cats, playing without pitching ace Jarrod Oldridge, held their own with the Panthers before getting bopped, 9-4, in the first game. Mulvane was leading, 7-3, with one out in the bottom of the 5th when play was suspended because of darkness in the 2nd game.

The game will be continued at a later date if it has a bearing on seedings or standings, according to Katzenmeier.

With junior Robert Glaser on the hill, Mulvane was looking good in the opener through three innings, nursing a 3-1 lead before the roof caved in on Glaser in the 4th as Nickerson ganged up six hits and two walks to chase him with an eight-run inning.

The Cats took the early lead when Nelson and Glaser had back-to-back singles leading off the third inning. Both scored when Rollins smashed a triple to the wall in right-centerfield.

Katzenmeier's club added another run in the 4th when Daniel Myears walked and scored after base hits by Chad Nichols and Steve Nelson. Mulvane's last tally came in the 5th when they loaded the bases but Nickerson survived with only Rollins scoring. He walked, went to third on singles by David Boyer and Myears and scored when

	First Game	
Circle		000 10—1 4
Mulvane		063 11—11 9
Hadley and Thompson; Jarrod Oldridge and Chuck Rollins.		
HR—Jarrod Oldridge (M).		

	Second Game	
Circle		010 00—1 2
Mulvane		401 6x—11 8
Cooley and Bardin; Jamie Belden and Chuck Rollins.		

	First Game	
Mulvane		002 110 0—4 8
Nickerson		001 800 0—8 9
Robert Glaser and Chuck Rollins; Neher and Johanning.		

	Second Game	
Mulvane		040 30—7 6
Nickerson		300 0—3 1
Jamie Belden and Chuck Rollins; Monty and Theode.		

Jeremy Kendrick singled.

In the second game, Mulvane righthander Jamie Belden, a sophomore, smoked the Panthers after giving up three runs in an error-plagued first inning. Four errors helped Nickerson take a 3-0 lead. Belden blanked the hosts through the next three innings until darkness halted the game.

Mulvane blasted through for four runs in the second when Larry Dixon reached on an error to ignite the inning. Boyer and Myears reached, Myears on an RBI base hit. After two strikeouts, Schaan Buford stroked a single for two runs. Nelson followed with an RBI hit.

The Cats added three more in the 4th when Nichols started things with four straight balls. Buford stroked another single and Nelson reached on a fielder's choice. Glaser shot a triple up the middle to score two and Rollins plated Glaser with a grounder that went through for an error.

Mulvane will be back on the road today (April 9) when they go to Augusta for another Chisholm Trail League twinbill. The games start at 4 p.m.