

Cats Stay In Hunt; Deck Orioles Twice



Teammates Chuck Rollins (4), Daniel Myers (29) and Jesse Smith (35) congratulate hurler Jarrod Oldridge after Maize winner

Mulvane rebounded from a doubleheader split with league contending Maize Thursday, April 23, by battering Augusta in two games Monday, April 27, in Augusta.

The Wildcats of Coach David Katzenmeier improved their record to 8-3 and remained solidly in the hunt for the Chisholm Trail League title by downing Augusta, 5-1 and 7-1, in the sweep Monday. When Maize came to town Thursday, the Cats won an extra-inning thriller, 3-2, behind ace Jarrod Oldridge before the Eagles came from behind with two, two-run innings to wipe out a 3-0 Mulvane lead on the way to a 4-3 victory in the nightcap.

Even with the sweep at Augusta, Katzenmeier still had a nagging doubt about hitting. Mulvane had six hits in the first game and 11 in the nightcap.

"We just got by," said Katzenmeier. "Augusta's a little down from years past but we didn't go out there and destroy. We had some opportunities to pop things loose but we didn't get the timely hitting. We left too many people on base."

The Wildcats left 19 runners stranded in the games against Augusta. "That's way too many," said Katzenmeier. "I'm not satisfied. Our defense and pitching are carrying us, and usually defense and pitching can win a lot of games, but to reach the next level, we have to develop an attitude about hitting. We see an RBI on the base paths, we have to go get it. The kids have to get more aggressive at the plate. Everybody's rocking back and letting somebody else do it."

In the first game, Oldridge, playing left-field, had a fine catch to save a couple runs and the rest of the Cats are playing good defense, too.

In the opener, Steve Nelson went 2-for-4 and Larry Dixon also had two hits. The rest of the line-up had only two hits, singles by Oldridge and Chuck Rollins.

Mulvane came out quickly in the second game and established itself with a 4-1 lead after two. Two more runs in the sixth put the game away with David Boyer scoring after a double on Schaan Buford's sacrifice fly and Nelson singling home Chad Nichols, who had walked.

Nelson again led the 11-hit assault with three singles. Oldridge went 2-for-5, Gary Cleverdon, playing in his second series since coming back from a knee injury, went 2-for-4 and Nichols scored two runs.

First Game

Mulvane 310 000 1-5 6
 Augusta 001 000 0-1 5
 David Boyer, Robert Glaser 3, and Chuck Rollins; Kappelman, Tipton 5, and Court.

Second Game

Mulvane 220 021 0-7 11
 Augusta 010 000 0-1 6
 Jamie Belden and Chuck Rollins; Beardsley and Preston.

First Game

Maize 110 000 000-2 3
 Mulvane 010 100 001-3 8
 Stiverson and Robertson; Jarrod Oldridge and Chuck Rollins.

Second Game

Maize 000 002 2-4 6
 Mulvane 002 100 0-3 1
 Phillips and Eisenbart 3, and Robertson; Jamie Belden and Chuck Rollins.

Junior Varsity Results

First Game

Valley Center 331 71-15 9
 Mulvane 000 20-2 2
 Fricze and Davison; Casey Myers, Shawn Erbert 2, and Joel Phipps.

Second Game

Valley Center 202 018-13 2
 Mulvane 202 010-5 6
 Scott Sanchez, Doug Landin 4, and Joel Phipps; Drumright, Wooden 4, and George.

First Game

Andover 400 00-4 1
 Mulvane 623 0x-11 9
 Nash, Spillman 1, and Martin; Scott Sanchez, Shawn Erbert 1, and Joel Phipps.

Second Game

Andover 306 17-17 11
 Mulvane 100 01-2 2
 Wheeler and Smith; Doug Landin, Joel Phipps 4, and Chad Nulik.