

Mulvane 'May Madness'

BB State Trip On Hold

A trip to the 4A State Tournament would erase the sour taste in everybody's mouths but it would be especially sweet for the Mulvane High School baseballers and staff.

It could happen, too, after the Wildcats put together one of their more solid efforts of the season Monday, May 17, in the first round of the Mulvane 4A Regional Tournament at the Mulvane sports complex. Hosting the regional tourney for the first time ever, the Cats rolled over Circle, 7-1, then watched No. 1 seeded Rose Hill get upset by Andover in the other first round game, 2-1.

The championship game was postponed because of rain Monday night but was to have been played at 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 26. The winner will advance to Manhattan for the Class 4A State Baseball Championship.

"We got a good effort out of everybody and Jamie (Belden) threw a darn good ball game, his best of the season," admitted MHS Coach, David Katzenmeier. "The kids were ready to play and did a good job. Now, we're halfway where we want to be."

The Wildcats came into the regional sporting a 4-16 record but were seeded No. 2 ahead of Andover and Circle, both with 3-17 records. And Mulvane also had nearly two weeks rest.

The rest seemed to have Belden fired up. The junior righthander spaced four hits and struck out eight, walking only three. He didn't allow a run after the first inning.

Mulvane 4A Regional Baseball Results

CHAMPIONSHIP

Mulvane/Andover game postponed by rain; was to have been played at 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 19

FIRST ROUND

Mulvane 103 102 0—7 7

Circle 100 000 0—1 4

Jamie Belden and Joel Phipps; Chris Hadley and Jeremy Miller.

Mulvane snapped a 1-1 tie by scoring three times in the third. Steve Nelson singled to right and stole second, Outfielder Larry Dixon walked and Jeremy Kendrick reached on an error by the pitcher, a run scoring. Schaan Buford singled for another run and Jay Schlegel knocked in the third run on a fielder's choice.

The Cats scored one more in the fourth when Nelson singled and scored when Dixon reached on an error. Then in the

sixth, the Cats put the game away with two more. Tim Richardson reached on an error with one out. Nelson walked and Robert Glaser drilled a two-RBI single to center.

"Glaser's hit was the biggest one," said Katzenmeier. "We got the big hit when we needed it. It kind of took the wind out of their sails because it put us up, 7-1. Robert stepped in there and did the job. You can't be waiting on somebody else to do it."

The only other Mulvane run came in the first when Nelson, who had three singles,

slapped a one-out hit, and stole second. Glaser walked and Dixon reached on an error to fill the bases. Kendrick walked to force in the first run.

"We're where we want to be," said the veteran coach. "Our attitude is better. We're at our place. We're getting the key hits. And we have the rest we need for our staff."

If Mulvane wins against Andover, they will be going to Manhattan for the state tournament, which will be held Friday and Saturday, May 28-29, at Meyer Field.

