

Baseballers Get On Track; Split Snaps Losing Streak

No team wants to enter the postseason on a losing streak.

They may have waited until the last minute, but the Mulvane High School baseball boys finally came through against Nickerson Thursday, April 4 to end a 12-game losing skid.

After falling to the Panthers 5-1 in the first game, the Wildcats grabbed a 6-5 win to up their record for the season to 6-14.

"It was a great win considering the dry spell," MHS coach Dave Katzenmeier said. "We always try to win, but this couldn't have come at a better time."

It took a little luck to get things started for Mulvane in the win. With no score in the third inning, Joe Flowers laced a double and advanced to second base when Kasey McDowell walked.

Mike Abasolo followed with a single to score Flowers and Move McDowell to second. Both runners advanced on a passed ball.

With two outs, Sean Younger hit a sharp shot to third base, but Nickerson's John Welk threw wild to first base, allowing McDowell and Abasolo to score.

The Wildcats continued to score in the fourth when McDowell doubled to score Scott Sanchez and put Mulvane ahead 4-1.

Nickerson came back in the top half of the fifth to score three, tying the game.

The Wildcats again answered. Chad Nulik led off the Wildcats half of the fifth with a single, scoring on a well-hit double from Eric Erbert.

Erbert would come around to score on a Sanchez single.

"I was glad to see Eric come through in the inning," Katzenmeier said. "He has had a tough year at times. Hopefully it's coming around for him."

Casey Myers relieved starter Tim Glaser in the fourth inning and shut the door with three innings of hitless work, allowing only one run on wild pitches.

"Both of them did a great job," Katzenmeier said. "It was nice to see Tim back on the mound after three weeks off with injuries."

Glaser earned the win, while Myers recorded the save.

The Cats were victims to good pitching in the opener, as Mulvane could only muster four hits in the loss.

"They had a pretty good pitcher," Katzenmeier said. "He wasn't overpowering, but he kept us off-balance with his off-speed stuff."

Nickerson scored four runs in the third inning to take a 5-0 lead.

Pete Myers came in to stop the Panther attack, not allowing a single hit in four innings.

"He was very impressive," Katzenmeier said. "He didn't walk anyone either. He pitched strikes, which keeps the defense on their toes, as well."

The Wildcats tried to get back in the game in the fourth, but three batters struck

out to end the rally.

"It boiled down to offense and we didn't have any," Katzenmeier said.

The season has boiled down the regional tournament for the Wildcats. They will be the No. 5 seed in the five-team tournament and have to travel to the No. 4 seed Monday, May 15.



He's safe at home...Cats' Tom Nlenke slides into the plate to score the only run against Nickerson in the opening game

Mulvane Sports

FIRST GAME

Nickerson 104 000 0-5 4

Mulvane 000 100 0-1 4

Dave Duckworth and Sheppard, Pete Myers and Chad Nulik.

SECOND GAME

Nickerson 000 131 0-5 5

Mulvane 003 120 x-6 9

Buss and Sheppard; Tim Glaser, Casey Myers 5, and Chad Nulik.

Chisholm Trail League Baseball Standings

(As of games played before Wednesday, May 10)

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Valley Center	14	2	14	2
Wellington	13	3	13	3
Mauze	11	3	11	3
Augusta	12	4	12	4
Goddard	11	5	11	5
Rose Hill	8	6	8	6
Andover	9	9	9	9
Mulvane	6	14	6	14
Nickerson	3	17	3	17
Buhler	0	14	0	14
Circle	0	14	0	14