

Cats' Snooze

A Costly One

Go to sleep, you lose.

That's how Mulvane High School baseball coach Zeke Rash felt the series against Maize went last Thursday, April 30, and his Wildcats have been getting their share of "beauty sleep" in a totally balanced Chisholm Trail League.

The Cats ran their record to 7-8 overall and 5-7 in the league against Maize. Playing at home because Maize's fields were too wet, the Wildcats and hurler Ryan Rogers carried a 2-0 lead into the 6th inning but ended up losing by a 5-2 count in the first game. In the nightcap, Mulvane's bats went to work, pounding out a 9-6 victory over the Eagles to gain yet another split.

The MHS baseballers had split with Valley Center, Wellington, Rose Hill, Nickerson and Buhler earlier and a couple of those splits came under circumstances similar to game No. 1. "In that first game, we played pretty decent ball for all but about one inning, but that was the inning that killed us," stressed Rash. "I thought we would have learned that you can't fall asleep for a second against anybody because they can sneak up and hurt you. It's happened three or four times to us this year."

With Rogers sailing along with a two-hit shutout and protecting a 2-0 lead in the sixth, a mental lapse helped fuel the Eagles' five-run inning. With one out, an infield pop-up between the mound, first and second, was called for by Rogers. It fell in between three converging defenders for a single. The next batter walked and the next one singled to fill the bases, followed by

FIRST GAME	
Mulvane	010 010 0—2 9
Maize	000 005 x—5 6
Ryan Rogers and Jerimiah Webb; Pruitt and Wray.	
SECOND GAME	
Mulvane	002 430 0—9 15
Maize	000 102 3—6 10
Chad Gerwick and Jenimiah Webb; Kral, Rodick 4, Douglass 7, and Wray.	
HR—Tally (Mz).	

Mulvane Class 4A Baseball Regional May 18 and 20

AT MULVANE SPORTS COMPLEX
Clearwater, Haven, Nickerson, Pratt, Wellington and Mulvane

another fly that fell for a three-run double when a Mulvane outfielder turned the wrong way.

"Ryan hasn't gotten any breaks this year," added Rash. "Ryan made a good pitch, it was in on the batter's hands, but no one took charge and it dropped. We even still had an opportunity to throw the guy out because he wasn't sprinting to first but we threw it away. When he's on the mound, we're not scoring any runs and he's generally matched up with the other team's best pitcher. That puts more pressure on him. Hopefully, down the stretch, we can score more when he's out there."

The Wildcats left eight runners stranded in the opener, which also helped the downfall.

The only offense for the Cats came in the second when Bryce Schumacher led off with a single and took third on a base hit by Eric Tatum. A sacrifice fly to center by Jerimiah Webb plated Schumacher as MHS took a 1-0 lead. They expanded that to 2-0 in the 5th when Darrin Erbert started a two-out rally with a single. Chad Gerwick singled and Justin Horton looped a single to left for an RBI.

The second game was all Mulvane after punching across two runs in the third on a two RBI single by Schumacher and adding four in the fourth. Brian Dinkel had a double in the gap and scored when Jeramie Boor singled. Lucas Powell followed with a base knock and both runners scored when Erbert slashed a double to left-center. Gerwick singled for the final run of the rally.

Gerwick won the game and went the distance, although the Eagles rallied with two in the 6th and three more in the 7th before Gerwick got out of the jam.

"The kids bounced back and played real solid baseball," said Rash about game No. 2. "The big hit was Bryce's in the 3rd inning because we had been struggling against their pitcher the first two innings. Everybody adjusted and started banging the ball after that. And Gerwick pitched pretty solidly for us. He hung in there and really never hurt himself with his defense on the mound."

The Cats will be busy the next week as they hustle down the stretch in preparation for the Mulvane Class 4A Regional Monday and Wednesday, May 18 & 20. They will be at Augusta for a big series today (May 7), starting at 4 p.m. The make-up series against Andover will be Monday, April 11, at the Mulvane sports complex. Unofficial Regional pairings will be printed in next week's The Mulvane News since the state association decided to pair teams on Saturday, May 16, this year instead of by Tuesday.

Chisholm Trail League Baseball Standings

DIVISION I

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Augusta	8	4	11	5
Wellington	7	5	9	7
Nickerson	7	5	9	5
Goddard	7	5	10	6
Maize	6	6	10	6
Buhler	5	5	9	5
Valley Center	4	4	7	5
Mulvane	5	7	7	8
Andover	3	9	5	9

DIVISION II

Rose Hill	9	1	10	6
Haven	8	4	10	4
Douglass	5	3	7	5
Medicine Lodge	4	4	4	8
Circle	4	6	4	10
Belle Plaine	2	6	4	6
Clearwater	1	5	2	10
Bluestem	1	7	3	10

Includes games reported thru Tuesday, May 5

Chisholm Trail League Softball Standings

DIVISION I

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Goddard	8	0	12	0
Maize	9	1	13	1
Valley Center	7	1	9	1
Mulvane	6	4	10	4
Augusta	4	4	4	5
Andover	5	7	7	7
Wellington	4	8	6	8
Buhler	1	9	1	9
Nickerson	0	10	0	10

DIVISION II

Clearwater	4	1	6	6
Rose Hill	7	3	7	9
Douglass	6	4	6	6
Medicine Lodge	0	0	0	2
Belle Plaine	1	1	1	1
Bluestem	1	1	1	1
Haven	0	2	0	2
Circle	0	4	0	6

Includes games reported thru Tuesday, May 5