

Boys Swept

Buhler Pitching: Silent Treatment

It's an old story. Good pitching shuts down good hitting. Every time.

Buhler's pitching put the brakes on the strongest part of Mulvane's game—hitting—and swept the Wildcats in a Chisholm Trail League twinbill Thursday, April 22, at Buhler. The scores were 8-4 and 4-2. The losses saw Coach Zeke Rash's Wildcats dip to 5-7 for the year overall and 3-7 in the league. The Crusaders improved their record to 8-2 overall.

"Their pitching just shut our guys down," said Rash. "We had been hitting pretty good up until that point but those two Buhler guys are about the best pair we've seen this year. Every time we looked like we were on our way to an inning, they'd strike us out."

The effort negated a good series by Wildcat pitching. Brian Love gave up only five hits, two of them coming in Buhler's three-run first. Luke Scott completed the game and didn't give up a hit.

Mulvane managed only three hits, though. Two of them came in the 4th and led to Mulvane's only runs. Lucas Powell started the Cat 4th by being hit by a pitch. Brian Dinkel singled and both baserunners moved up on a double steal. Garrett Hennes followed with a single to right-centerfield to score both Mulvane runs.

Mulvane slapped four hits in the second game and righthander Josh Sears and his relief (Nathan Gunter and Dinkel) gave up only five hits but it wasn't enough to gain a split. Buhler scored twice in the first and second innings to take an early lead, 4-2. After the Cats tied it at 4-4 in the 4th, the Crusaders took the lead with a run in the

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	000 200 0—2 3
Buhler	310 000 x—4 5
Brian Love, Luke Scott 6, and Jeremiah Webb; Archer, Bauer 7, and Neill.	

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	110 200 0—4 4
Buhler	220 013 x—8 6
Josh Sears, Nathan Gunter 1, Brian Dinkel 4, and Jeremiah Webb; Miller, Bauer 4, and Neill.	

5th, then put it in the book with three more in the sixth.

"In the second game, we really hurt ourselves with some base running errors and some defensive lapses," said Rash. "We really hurt ourselves when we had the bases loaded and nobody out when we had a runner thrown out at the plate trying to score on a passed ball. He just hesitated, then tried to make it and was out. We had already scored two in the inning but that shut us down and we never recovered."

Rash also singled out the first three innings when Mulvane threatened to break away but didn't as another key stretch. "You never like to get swept but I thought our pitching was pretty good and for the most part, our defense was solid," said Rash. "Good pitching is going to beat good hitting a lot of days, and this was one of them."

In the nightcap, Powell had one hit. Ryan McKnight had a hit and scored twice, Derek Boyer had a single and so did Brian McColpin.

The Wildcats were to have gone to Andover Wednesday, April 28, for a make-up doubleheader. Maize is coming to Mulvane for two games today (April 29) with a 4 p.m. start. And another make-up series is scheduled to start at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 1, in Rose Hill.