

Regionals Next Week

It's Augusta's Great Escape

Mulvane's doubleheader Monday night, May 7, against Augusta was kind of like the "Great Train Robber" who returned from self-imposed exile in Brazil to England. The games were ones that "got away."

"We should have won the first one, without a doubt," declared Ramon Wiseman, the Mulvane High School baseball skipper. "We just let it go in the last inning and even then, we had three or four chances to pull it out with no worse than a tie in the inning but we didn't do it."

Augusta's Orioles falled in the final inning to strap the Cats, 6-1, in the opener of a Chisholm Trail League doubleheader at the Mulvane sports complex. And the Wildcats never quite recovered in the nightcap, losing a 7-0 contest. The games were the final ones of the regular season for both teams. The Cats stand at 9-11 overall and 3-11 in the CTL. Augusta improved its chances of a No. 1 seed in next week's Wellington Class 4A Regional with the sweep, going to 13-7. The actual pairings won't be announced until this weekend since two of the teams vying with Augusta are still playing.

In the opener, the Wildcats were sailing along until a "stormy day" happened in the top of the 7th inning and Augusta scored six runs with the help of a collapse of the MHS defense.

"That was tough to watch," said Wiseman. "It was tough to watch because Pat Myers pitched a beautiful game, and it was tough to watch because we had played great defense for six innings."

The Wildcats had given Myers a 1-0 lead in the 2nd inning when Ryan McKnight and

FIRST GAME

Augusta	000 000 6-6 9
Mulvane	010 000 0-1 5
Maier and Spaht; Pat Myers, Jon Rogers 7, and Ryan Tatum.	

SECOND GAME

Augusta	240 001 0-7 9
Mulvane	000 000 0-0 1
Robert Clavara and Spaht; Austin Higinbotham, Jon Rogers 7, and Ryan Tatum.	

Ryan Tatum both singled. A wild pitch sent both up a base and McKnight scored when Jake Myers grounded out.

Pat Myers baffled the Orioles on two hits through five innings but a one-out error followed by a double got things going Augusta's way.

In the nightcap, the bad taste lingered and Augusta slugged away, taking a 2-0 lead after one inning, then scoring four more in the 2nd. "We kind of let that first game carry over into the second one and by the time we woke up, it was too late," said Wiseman. "We just weren't hitting the ball in the second game and (pitcher) Austin (Higinbotham) struggled a little bit. He didn't have his best stuff."

In the last four games, the Cats have scored only two runs. Their only hit in the nightcap was a base hit in the 7th by Jake Myers, breaking up the no-hitter.

"One area we need to work on is pitch selection," emphasized Wiseman. "We were swinging at balls in our eyes on the first pitch and we were letting the ball go down the gut with two strikes on us. Our hitting was better in the first game. We were hitting line shots but they went right at Augusta people."



Wildcat Gary Trione strains to beat the throw to first base Monday against Augusta