

Four In A Row

Wake-Up Call For Cat Bats

The alarm went off a few days earlier. By Monday night, April 15, the Mulvane High School bats were all awake.

Thanks for the wake-up call!

The Wildcats had their most explosive offense going Monday against the Indians from Clearwater in a non-league game. The Cats swept both ends of the twinbill, 13-0 and 11-1, giving Coach Ramon Wiseman's club four wins in a row.

The Cats exploded for 16 hits, including five for extra bases, in the opener against Clearwater. That made things extremely easy for starting pitcher Jimmie High, who tossed a two-hit shutout and fanned six.

Designated hitter Andrew Bruso lit the fuse in the very first inning when he clubbed a three-run homer but the Cats put the game in the book in the next inning, scoring eight more times. The big hits in that inning were RBI singles by Pat Myers and High, an RBI double by Ryan Tatum, an RBI triple by Austin Higinbotham and a two-run triple by Luke Gunter.

Dan MacKay went 2-for-3 with one run scored, Higinbotham was 2-for-3 and both High and Gunter were 2-for-2.

The Mulvane hot streak continued in game No. 2 and once again, it was Bruso who got it going, slashing a two-run triple in the first inning after Greg Flores had walked and Gunter had reached on an error.

The Cats had another big inning to put the game away. Pat Myers singled with two out to start the six-run 4th inning. Jeff Wohlford singled and both scored on a Higinbotham double. Flores singled for a run and Gunter singled for a run. After Jake Myers walked, both Gunter and Myers were balked over a base before Bruso's big bat came into play with a two-bagger that scored two.

Freshman Logan Sorensen was on the receiving end of that good fortune, but he did pitch well, giving up only three hits and walking none to pick up his second straight win.

The MHS baseball boys finally broke through with a pair of victories over hit-happy Oxford Saturday, April 13, at the Mulvane sports complex. Mulvane pitching shut down the Oxford hitters, though, as the Cats took both ends of a doubleheader, 3-2 and 8-0, snapping the team's eight-game winless streak.

"Those wins were long over-due," confessed Wiseman. "I told the kids before the game that we were just a base hit or two or a couple of breaks away from having four or five other wins. We've been getting great hitting and that continued against Oxford. Pat (Myers) had a no-hitter going into the last inning or two and Austin (Higinbotham) did a nice job in the first game.

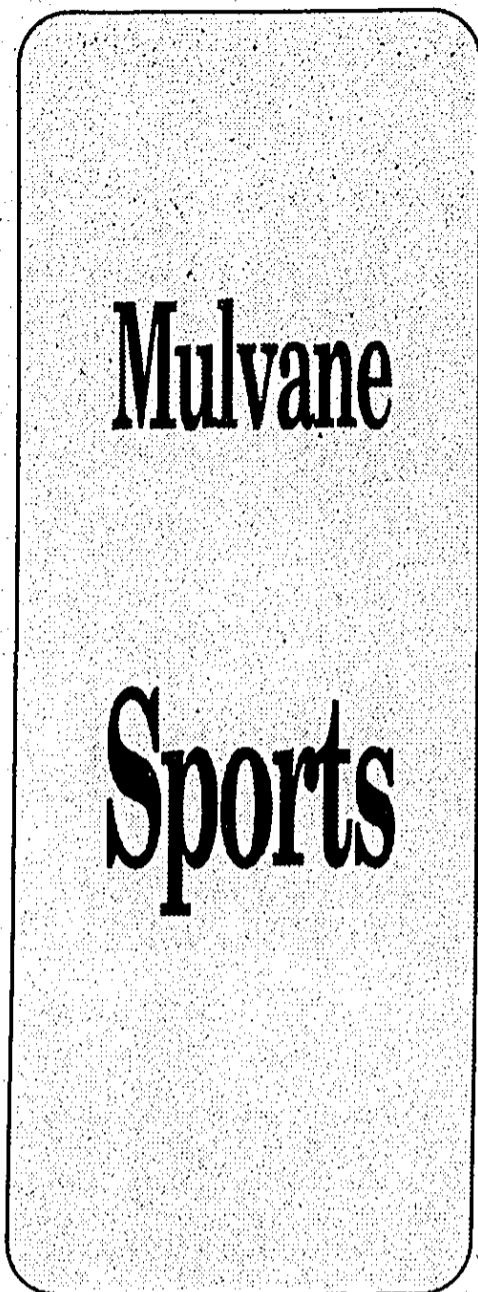
"Will this get us going? I certainly hope so. We know we have a pretty good squad. It has taken us a little time getting our defense down but Saturday, we didn't make an error in either game. We moved Luke Gunter to shortstop and Jimmie High to the outfield. Jimmie is a great outfielder, but we never knew it until Saturday."

Speaking of errors, the Wildcats won the first one on an Oxford error in the final inning. Higinbotham and William Fagan were both hit by pitches and with no outs and Gunter at the plate in the bottom of the 7th, Higinbotham stole third and trotted home when the throw went into the outfield, ending the 3-2 game.

Senior catcher Ryan Tatum went 2-for-3 and Gunter was 1-for-1 with one RBI, which was enough to back Higinbotham's six-hitter. He fanned four and walked only two.

Myers had everything under control in game No. 2, striking out 11 and walking only one. Oxford's only hits were back-to-back singles in the 6th.

Mulvane, meanwhile, scored three times in the first when Fagan and Gunter walked and Jake Myers doubled them home. Andrew Bruso followed with a sac fly to



FIRST GAME

Clearwater 000 00-0 2
Mulvane 380 2x-13 16
Carrie and Palmer; Jimmie High and Ryan Tatum.
HR--Andrew Bruso (M).

SECOND GAME

Clearwater 000 10-1 4
Mulvane 300 62-11 9
Pearson and Palmer; Logan Sorensen and Ryan Tatum.

FIRST GAME

Oxford 020 000 0-2 6
Mulvane 000 020 1-3 6
A. Cornejo, M. Cornejo 4, Bartelson 7, and M. Cornejo, A. Cornejo 4; Austin Higinbotham and Ryan Tatum.

SECOND GAME

Oxford 000 000 0-0 2
Mulvane 301 400 x-8 9
Wiseman, Parsons 5, and A. Cornejo; Pat Myers and Ryan Tatum.

FIRST GAME

Mulvane 210 210 0-6 10
Rose Hill 020 525 x-14 17
Jake Myers, Jon Rogers 4, Jimmie High 4, Luke Gunter 6 and Tatum; Dillinger, Ubben 3, and Davis.

SECOND GAME

Mulvane 001 00-1 4
Rose Hill 000 02-2 4
Logan Sorensen and Eric Tatum; Brandon Erker and Davis.

center for the last run. Four more in the 4th gave the Cats an eight-run cushion. Higinbotham started the rally when he reached on an error. He scored as did Fagan, Gunter and Jake Myers as the Oxford defense collapsed behind four errors.

The Cats had their troubles Thursday, April 11, at Rose Hill in a non-league series. The Rockets pounded Mulvane for 17 hits in the first game, a 14-6 victory for the Rockets, then came back in the nightcap and clipped the Cats, 2-1, in a game shortened to five innings by lightning.

Mulvane wasted a fine pitching performance in the nightcap by the freshman Sorensen, who made his first varsity start a good one as he scattered four hits. The Rockets finally broke through just before the lightning—scoring twice in the bottom of the 5th. Fagan scored the lone Mulvane run in that one.

In the first game, Gunter went 2-for-3 with two runs scored and one RBI, Tatum went 2-for-4 with two stolen bases and Fagan scored twice.

The Cats get back into the Chisholm Trail today (April 18) when they take on Buhler at the sports complex. The doubleheader starts at 4 p.m.