

Fielding Goofs Sink Cat Ship

It was a serious case of the fielding jitters that invaded the Mulvane High School baseball team Monday night, April 14, and it was eventually fatal.

It's always tough to beat Maize, a Class 6A school that continues to hang around the 4A Chisholm Trail League, but the Wildcats made things easy for the Eagles to take both games of a CTL doubleheader at the Mulvane sports complex.

It wasn't pretty, either. The Eagles exploded for two 10-run-plus innings in the first game and routed the Cats, 29-8, then executed the Cats in a shortened 2nd game, 14-0. The Wildcats made it easy for Maize in the opener, making more than 12 errors.

"The thing that killed us so much was the errors," said MHS Coach Ramon Wiseman. "We had to have 12 errors plus several more mental errors in that first game. In the 2nd game, we got beat but we had only one error. I can handle that. When you just hand it to them, I can't take that."

There wasn't much joy in Mulvane after the thumping by Maize. The Eagles batted around in two straight innings, scoring 10 in the 3rd and 11 in the 4th in the first game.

The Cats answered with four in the 3rd. Nick Hall's two-run double was the big blow and Jeff Wohlford singled in another run. Jason Martin also singled and scored in the

inning. Singles by William Fagan, Luke Gunter and Jake McCune plus Hall's second double sparked the 5th inning uprising but by that time, the game was way out of reach.

That spoiled a three RBI night for Hall and a 2-for-2 with two RBI effort from the senior McCune. Jason Wohlford also had an RBI single.

The Eagles just overpowered MHS in the 2nd game. The Cats didn't get a hit and the only base-runners in the three-inning game were Jimmie High and Martin, who walked, and Hall, who was hit by a pitch.

"Maize is an excellent hitting team and we just couldn't contain them," said Wiseman. "Our pitchers were throwing good pitches but Maize's hitters were just going down and getting the ball. Finally, after all the errors, it's really a game I'd like to forget about."

Mulvane was more competitive Thursday, April 10, when Andover visited the sports complex. The Cats scored 10 runs in the last three innings to knock out the Trojans, 14-6, in the opener. In the nightcap, Andover came from behind in the final inning with three runs to edge the Wildcats, 8-6.

Last week, Wiseman's observations became painfully into focus when the Wildcats tried to hold on against Maize.

"We're just very thin in the pitching staff," said Wiseman. "We're really about two pitchers away from being pretty decent. Right now, though, we're just going with a pitcher until he tires, then going with the next one."

Against Andover, it didn't matter in the first game as the Wildcats slashed 10 hits and the defense held up. Logan Sorensen struggled with his control but went into the 5th before Jimmie High came in to finalize the deal by holding the Trojans to only one run in the last two innings.

Mulvane's bats came alive just in time, too. The Cats took the lead in the 4th when Greg Flores reached on an error and so did William Fagan. Two passed balls scored Flores. After Luke Gunter walked, Hall, the team's leading hitter, smacked a double for two runs and Jeff Wohlford followed with an RBI base hit.

For the game, Wohlford and Gunter finished with two hits (both for extra bases) and three RBIs each. High went 2-for-4 with two runs scored and Fagan and Flores scored three times apiece.

The Wildcats appeared to be heading for a sweep in the nightcap, scoring six times in the first two innings to take a 6-2 lead, but the Trojans kept chipping away and finally broke on top late against Mulvane's top

FIRST GAME

Maize 30(10) (11)5--29 19
 Mulvane 004 04--8 8
 Murphy, Ybarra 5, and Milleville; Jimmie High, Jason Martin, 3, Nick Hall 3, Pete Myers 5, and Andrew Brusco.
 HR--Milleville, Bumler, 2, Reichmann (Mz).

SECOND GAME

Maize 374--14 13
 Mulvane 000--0 0
 A. Smith and Milleville; Logan Sorensen and Andrew Brusco.
 HR--Bumler, Matt Marasco (Mz).

FIRST GAME

Andover 211 110 0--6 8
 Mulvane 112 433 x--14 10
 Pinegar, Clark 3, Burns 5, and Gibbons; Logan Sorensen, Jimmie High 5, and Ben Humbolt.
 HR--Pinegar (A).

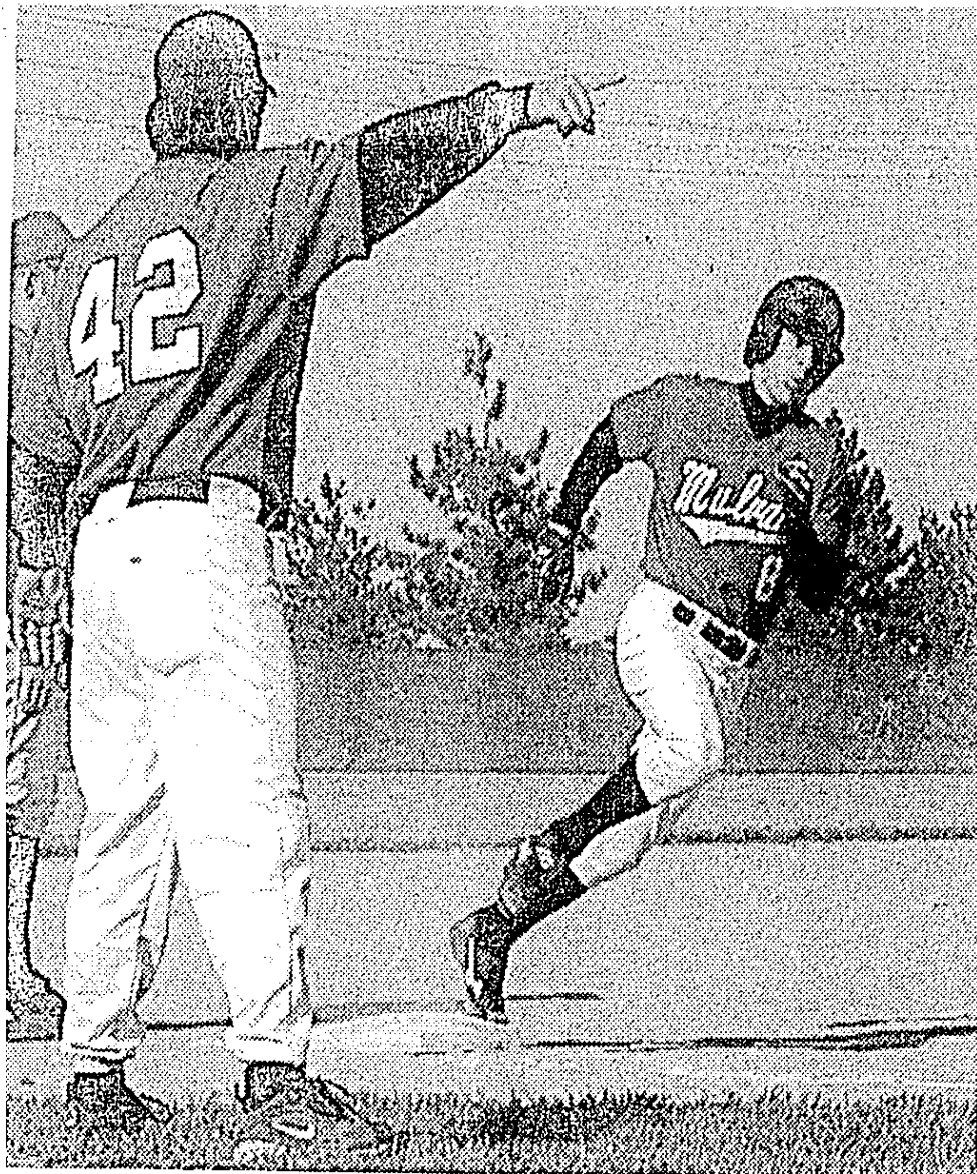
SECOND GAME

Andover 202 000 3--8 9
 Mulvane 240 000 0--6 7
 Warren, Fleming 6, and Gibbons; Jeff Wohlford, Pete Myers 3, and Andrew Brusco.
 HR--Gibbons (A).

pitcher, Pete Myers, who entered in the 3rd. Myers lost sight of the plate, walking the first two batters and an error made things tight and led to a winning three-run inning.

Hall continued his torrid swinging, going 3-for-3 with two RBIs. Gunter went 2-for-3 with two runs scored and Andrew Brusco went 1-for-2 with two runs scored.

Mulvane's baseballers will be idle today (April 17) but will jump back into the Chisholm Trail League race Monday, April 21, when they go to Goddard for two games beginning at 4:30 p.m.



With Coach Ramon Wiseman pointing the way, Luke Gunter (8) digs for the plate