

Two Leads Squandered

Mulvane Girls' Bats Ring As Team Picks Up No. 1

Mulvane's girls parlayed a 12-run second inning into their first softball victory of the year Thursday, April 8, at the Mulvane sports complex, but the Wildcats stumbled in the nightcap, blowing a 19-4 lead as Douglass gained a split.

Mulvane won the first game against Douglass, 22-2, behind the outstanding pitching of Laura Butler, who had a five-hitter, but the Bulldogs pulled the second game out by scoring five times in the last inning on the way to a 21-20 comeback win.

In a pair of games played Monday night, April 12, Coach Charlie Mason's club let another one slip through their fingers as Circle scored six times in the last inning to come up with a 13-11 decision in the opener. The Thunderbirds made it a sweep when they waltzed past the Cats, 15-6, in the second game.

The action left the Wildcats at 1-5 as they head into today's (April 15) contests at Maize. The doubleheader is slated to begin at 4 p.m.

"We've been in every ball game and had an opportunity to win it but we're having breakdowns at the wrong times," said

FIRST GAME

Circle 220 102 6—13 4

Mulvane 000 542 0—11 12

Bachm and Arnold; Laura Butler, Heather Pearman 5, and Deva Lewis.

HR—Darnell (C).

SECOND GAME

Circle 009 040 2—15 13

Mulvane 104 001 0—6 6

B. Darnell and Arnold; Heather Pearman and Deva Lewis.

FIRST GAME

Mulvane 3(12)4 03—22 16

Douglass 200 00—2 5

Laura Butler and Deva Lewis; Parry, Margian 4, and Moder.

HR—Lee Cates (M).

SECOND GAME

Mulvane 707 501 0—20 16

Douglass 220 (11)01 5—21 14

Laura Butler, Heather Pearman 4, and Deva Lewis; Myer, Margian 4, and Moder, Kargran 4.

HR—Deva Lewis (M), 2.

Mason. "We were looking good in the first game against Circle. (Heather) Pearman and Butler gave up only four hits but we made some mistakes we don't normally make."

In the second game, Mason said Pearman turned in her best outing of the year but the defense crumbled and the T-Birds prevailed.

The Cats wiped out a 5-0 Circle lead with nine runs in the fourth and fifth innings. The big hit in the fifth was Lee Cates' bases-loaded triple. Shannon Reed and Deva Lewis had RBI singles in the 4th.

Brooke Hanson led off the fourth with a single and Heather Taylor and Lewis followed with singles for one run. Cates hammered a triple to deep leftfield, scoring three more. Mulvane battled back into the game with five in the fourth. Gemi Spatz started the rally with a single and Stephanie Schultz walked. Spatz scored when Taylor singled and both Schultz and Taylor scored when Lewis tripled. Lewis then scored on an error.

Against Douglass, Mulvane pounded out 16 hits in each game. Cates homered and went 3-for-3 and had four RBIs, Stephanie Schultz had three hits and scored twice and Pearman had three hits and scored three times in the first game.

The second game was sparked by the Cats' catcher Lewis, who hammered two homers and had six RBIs. She went 3-for-3. Cates had another big outing, going 3-for-5.

All that good hitting went down the drain when Douglass scored 11 runs in the fourth inning to get back into contention, then won it in the last inning by scoring five times. "We got out to a really big lead, then fell apart," said Mason. "Butler was doing okay but ran out of gas and we brought in Pearman. She just had trouble finding the plate. We lost our aggressiveness and they scored the runs to beat us."

The Wildcats also played two jayvee

games last week. The MHS jayvee team thumped Douglass, 36-4, Thursday but lost on Monday to Circle, 22-5.