

# MHS Girls Find Difficult Times

Goddard continued the tailspin of the Mulvane High School softball hopes Monday, April 19, pinning a 15-5 setback on Mulvane.

In the second game at Goddard, the contest was suspended after five innings because of darkness. The score was tied, 16-16. The game will be completed at 5 p.m. Friday, April 30, when the Cats go to Goddard. A junior varsity game will follow.

The loss was the sixth in succession for Coach Charlie Mason's Wildcat gals and dropped their record to 1-7 as they head into a twinbill today (April 22) at Rose Hill.

"We're just not making the plays," complained Mason, a little annoyed at the way his defense has fallen apart. "We ask our pitchers to put the ball in play, and when they do, we don't make the plays on defense. You can say a lot of inexperience and a lot of immaturity are showing, but we're half-way through the season. These are plays we should be making. We're just not getting the job done."

Mason was particularly displeased with the second game. The Cats jumped out to a 4-0 lead and at one time, Mulvane was ahead, 16-7, only to let Goddard get back in the game and tie it. It was the third time this year the Cats have held big leads only to let them slip away.

"Ground balls, we're not fielding them, and we're not throwing to the right base, things we should be doing," said Mason. "We've worked on them, and we'll continue to work on them. Your hitting can go bad. Your pitching can go bad, but your defense has to be constant and right now, we're struggling."

In the opener, the Lions were the ones who bolted out the door, taking a 6-0 lead after one frame and making it 11-0 after two. Mulvane tried to make a game of it, scoring two in the third and three more in the fourth, but left too many runners stranded to make things serious. The Cats had two runners left on base and one tagged out at the plate in the third, which kept them from a big inning. Mulvane left the sacks filled in the fourth.

Gemi Spatz started the third with a base hit, then stole second. Stephanie Schultz walked before Spatz was tagged out at the plate. Heather Taylor followed with a base hit and after Deva Lewis was hit by a pitch, Brooke Hansen drilled a two-run single.

In the fourth, Marianne Smysor singled but was forced at second by Courtney Renfro. Spatz walked and Schultz singled to fill the

## FIRST GAME

Mulvane	002 30—5 8
Goddard	651 03—15 9

Heather Pearman and Deva Lewis; McFadden and Johnson.

HR—Johnson (G).

## SECOND GAME

Suspended, darkness, with Mulvane coming to bat in the top of the 6th inning. Score tied 16-16

## FIRST GAME

Mulvane	000 00—0 2
Maize	128 4x 15 9

Heather Pearman and Deva Lewis; Koons and Bruce.

## SECOND GAME

Mulvane	000 00—0 1
Maize	350 2x 10 7

Laura Butler and Deva Lewis; Anderson and McClellan.

bases, and Taylor scored two runs with another single. Lewis then singled to score the final run, and Hansen walked and Heather Pearman singled behind her but Hanson was tagged out at second to end the rally.

Maize is undefeated so far this year and the Eagle girls showed Mulvane's softballers why in a doubleheader Friday, April 16, in Maize. The Wildcats could only get three hits total in the two games and lost, 15-0, in the first game and 10-0 in the second.

"We really didn't play that badly," said Mason. "We had some problems in a couple of innings and they took advantage of them. We also had difficulty hitting their pitching, but they are an outstanding team. I don't think they've lost a game so far."

Mason said the Wildcat hurlers, Heather Pearman in the opener and Laura Butler in the nightcap, had their best outings of the season, but the Cats couldn't match Maize's firepower at the plate. "Pearman gave up only six hits in the first game and Butler gave up only eight in the second game, and generally, our defense did a pretty good job. They had a big inning in each game and that really hurt because we couldn't come back against their staff."

Catcher Deva Lewis was most of Mulvane's offense. She had a hit in the first game and advanced to third base on an error. Pearman doubled in the second inning for Mulvane's only other safety in the opener. Maize no-hit Mulvane in the second game until Lewis drilled a single in the last inning, but that rally faded when Shannon Reed reached on a fielder's choice, then her pinch-runner, Courtney Renfro, was thrown out trying to steal.

It wouldn't have mattered, though since the Eagles, after scoring three in the first against Butler, broke the game open with five more in the second to take an 8-0 lead.