

Lee Cates Finds Stroke; Girls Start With Rush

If Lee Cates doesn't get Augusta's vote for all-league, something's rotten in America.

Cates had a monster game Monday, April 3, when the Wildcats went to Augusta, pacing the Cats to a doubleheader sweep of the Orioles. Mulvane waltzed in both games, 20-6, and 13-8.

That left the record for Coach Charlie Mason's Wildcats at 4-0, the school's first 4-0 start...perhaps ever.

Cates had a game, though. She had 11 RBIs and three home runs in the two game sweep, including two grand slams in back-to-back innings in the first game. "She had a great at bat," said Mason of her first time at the plate. "She fell behind, 0-2, then worked them to 3-2 before hitting her grand slam."

Cates hit another grand slam to cap a six-run second inning, giving Mulvane a 10-0 jump start and righthander Jamie Wilson did the rest, holding the Orioles to four hits and only one earned run. She gave up only four walks.

Cates added another two-run homer in the first inning of the nightcap and finished her day with an RBI single in the sixth inning as the Cats were trying to hold off a late charge by the hosts.

"We had some good hits, especially in the second game," said Mason. Janelle Wenke had a triple in the first game. In the second game, we really hit some shots, some good line drives. Everybody in the starting line-up had at least one hit."

Shannon Reed and Valerie Larson had doubles and Courtney Renfro had a triple during the day. Shortstop Heather Taylor had three RBIs in the second game and five for the day, and Larson finished with three RBIs.

"In the both games, we got off to such a good start that we let up," said Mason.

"I was kind of worried about our hitting, but our hitting is coming along. I can't say the same thing about our defense. I thought we were going to be pretty solid but we had eight errors in the first game alone. We're

going to have to play better defense as time goes on. The hitting is coming around, but the defense has to be constant. We know that. We just have to keep getting better and better in the field."

Augusta never made a game of it in the opener as Mulvane popped through six more runs in the fourth to take a 17-4 lead.

The second game was a little different. With Cates getting her third HR in the first, Mulvane rolled out to a 5-1 lead, then pushed across five more in the fourth for a 10-1 lead, but this time, the Orioles battled back against Susan Wenger.

"They stuck the ball against Wenger and Augusta also presented some problems Buhler didn't," said Mason. "They could bunt. We didn't make the plays like we needed to, but it was a learning experience. We're going to need that when we get to good bunting teams like Maize and Rose Hill. We're going to have to make those plays."

From a defensive standpoint, Mason was pleased with the job by third sacker Gemi Spatz and Taylor at short. "Both had good defensive games," said Mason.

Mulvane takes its good start into a doubleheader Friday, April 7, at home against Douglass. Games start at 4:30 p.m.

FIRST GAME

| | |
|---------|-------------|
| Mulvane | 461 63—20 7 |
| Augusta | 022 02—6 4 |

Jamie Wilson and NiChelle Bruce; Finley and Arness.
HR—Lee Cates (M), 2 grand slams.

SECOND GAME

| | |
|---------|-----------------|
| Mulvane | 401 503 0—13 15 |
| Augusta | 001 103 3—8 10 |

Susan Wenger and Bruce; Finley and Parry.
HR—Lee Cates (M); Forrester (A).

Jayvee Girls

FIRST GAME

| | |
|---------|--------------|
| Mulvane | 244 16—17 13 |
| Augusta | 100 10—2 4 |

Mulvane battery: Melissa Buchanan and Megan McCain.

SECOND GAME

| | |
|---------|-------------|
| Mulvane | 001 0—1 4 |
| Augusta | 520 5—12 11 |

Mulvane battery: Melissa Buchanan and Megan McCain, Michelle Pietro 4.