

Cats Play Circle

Former Mate

Haunts Mulvane;

Regional Monday

Nobody likes to lose. You hate it even more when somebody comes back to haunt the program.

It was haunting time Thursday night, May 2. The Mulvane High School girls, hoping to knock off the Chisholm Trail League leaders in a trip to Valley Center, found out what the other league teams have learned earlier; former Mulvane school girl Lisa Harden is tough.

Harden left the Mulvane district several years ago and moved to Valley Center. It's a shame. She helped the Hornets tear the Cats up in the last league doubleheader of the season as VC won a pair, 10-0 and 7-0.

"She's done a real good job for them," said Cat Coach Charlie Mason. "It just one of those things. She could have made us really tough. She pitched and won both games a couple days ago when Valley beat Rose Hill twice." All she did against Mulvane was a two-run homer in the very first inning Thursday to get the Hornets rolling. She finished with two hits and three RBIs in the opener, then had the first RBI in the second game.

"We played well against Valley Center," said Mason, whose team finished the regular season at 8-12. "We didn't hit the ball. That's it. We had only one inning in each game that really hurt us. We hit an awful lot of balls right at people. And we did have one inning where we ran ourselves right out of the inning. We didn't make good judgment on the bases."

That situation came at a critical time. After VC roared out to a 2-0 lead, Mulvane had a double by Valeri Larson and singles by Janelle Wenke and Gemi Spatz and didn't score a run. VC came back with three more in the bottom of the inning to take charge.

"That was big," admitted Mason. "When your struggling for hits, to come away with nothing in that inning really hurt. And it puts an added burden on your pitching staff and defense."

It seems to take the starch right out of the Mulvane game. After putting together four hits in the first two innings, the Cat batters didn't get another hit the rest of the game, making things easy for the host Hornets.

It was more of the same in the second game—you could call it the silence of the bats. Mulvane managed only three hits. Lindsay Kendrick started game No. 2 with a single and had a base knock in the fifth inning and Shelley Richards lined a single in the fourth inning.

Mulvane had several threats. The Cats had three base runners in the fourth, two in the fifth and two in the sixth but none of them went past second base after Kendrick made it to third in the opening frame.

"Our pitchers (Jaime Wilson in the opener and Susan Wenger in the nightcap) both pitched really good games," said Mason. "But when you don't get anything going at the plate, it's tough to maintain the level of pitching you need. We never did get anything going. Valley made some good plays and they have more speed than anybody we've faced all year and that puts an added burden on your defense, knowing you have to make a clean pick-up."

The losses left Mulvane at 7-13 for the season as they line up for their next action, the Mulvane Class 4A Regional at the

FIRST GAME

Mulvane 000 000 0—0 4
Valley Center 230 401 x—10 9
Jaime Wilson, Ashley Wirth 6, and Shelley Richards, Nichelle Bruce 5; Lee and Lisa Harden.
HR—Lisa Harden (VC).

SECOND GAME

Mulvane 000 000 0—0 3
Valley Center 001 105 x—7 7
Susan Wenger and Shelley Richards; Fienhago and Lisa Harden.

Junior Varsity Results

FIRST GAME

Valley Center 14, Mulvane 2

SECOND GAME

Valley Center 13, Mulvane 0

Chisholm Trail League Softball Standings

(Includes games thru May 6)

Team	W	L
Valley Center	16	1
Maize	15	2
Goddard	15	3
Rose Hill	13	7
Andover	12	8
Douglass	7	5
Mulvane	7	13
Augusta	6	14
Wellington	5	15
Buhler	3	11
Circle	1	17

Mulvane Class 4A Regional Softball

Monday, May 13

FIRST ROUND

Game 1 — Wellington (5-15) at Augusta (6-14), 5 p.m.

Game 2 — Circle (1-19) at Mulvane (7-13), 5 p.m.

Wednesday, May 15

(Games at Mulvane sports complex)

Game 3 — Rose Hill (13-7) vs. winner of game 1, 3 p.m.

Game 4 — Haven (9-11) vs. winner of game 2, 5 p.m.

Game 5 (First Place)—winners of games 3 and 4, 7 p.m.

Mulvane sports complex. Rose Hill earned the No. 1 regional seed sporting a 13-7 record and Haven second-seeded with a 9-11 log.

The first round of the tournament, played at the site of the best-seeded teams, finds Circle (1-19) at Mulvane and Wellington (5-15) playing at Augusta (6-16) in a pair of 5 p.m. games Monday, May 13.

The winners will advance to the sports complex for semifinal games Wednesday, May 15. The championship game will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday.