

First Game 'A Gem'

Lions Take 2 From Cats

The Mulvane High School softball girls showed the can keep up with those in the fast track and perhaps later in the year, the Cats will define the "fast track."

Goddard's tough softballers came to town Monday, April 14, and sawed the upstart Cats down to size by taking both ends of a Chisholm Trail League double-header, but even in defeat, it was a tremendous learning experience for the Mulvane team, which starts only three seniors.

The Lions survived a tremendous Mulvane push, scoring twice in the last inning to send the game into extra innings before subduing the Wildecats, 3-2, in 10 innings, spoiling an outstanding mound job by MHS senior righthander Jamie Wilson. In the second contest, Goddard exploded early to take an 11-2 verdict.

The first game was a scene of splendor. "It was a heck of a ball game," said Mulvane Coach Charlie Mason. "It's just too bad it came out the way it did. We played a heck of a ball game and so did they. I think they're 6-0 so far this year (the Lions are actually 7-1) and I don't think they're going to lose too many times. I think this game shows we can play with the top teams in the league. That's the value we got out of the loss. It also shows our girls that when you play the top teams in the league, you have to play a perfect game. We were almost perfect, but not quite. We gave them three runs and two of them were unearned."

The heartbreaking loss occurred after Mulvane appeared to take a solid 2-0 edge in the bottom of the sixth inning behind Wilson, who was barrelling along on a cool five-hit shutout.

The Cats had reached Goddard "ace," Katy Lett, for two runs in the sixth when Lindsey Kendrick reached on a walk and scored on an error with Cara Ashlock reaching third. Ashlock came in to score when catcher Shelley Richards grounded out.

Three outs away from a win, the bottom dropped out. Wilson walked her first Lion. Two errors followed as Goddard knotted the score at 2-2, sending the game into extra innings. The Cats threatened only in the 10th when Kendrick hit a two-out single and Ashlock walked. Both girls swiped a base but Richards couldn't get a hit and the game ended.

"You really can't say enough about Jamie Wilson's game," added Mason. "She pitched 10 innings and gave up only five hits. She was right there the whole game. We just showed our immaturity just a little and that was it. All we had to get was three outs, but we didn't get the job done. It was a tough way to lose but it was a great game."

In the nightcap, Goddard came out swinging and the Cats came out a little down and it turned into no contest.

Mulvane's lone scores came in the fifth. Already trailing 11-0, Richards started the frame with a base knock and scored when Crissy Carpenter slapped an RBI single.

FIRST GAME

Goddard	000 000 200 1	3	6
Mulvane	000 002 000 0	2	4

Letts and Bennit, Jamie Wilson and Shelley Richards.

SECOND GAME

Goddard	052 400 0	11	6
Mulvane	000 020 0	2	6

Anderson and Brown, Sabnna Foy, Shelley Richards 4, and Richards, Jana Smith 4

FIRST GAME

(Game suspended because of rain in bottom of 5th)

Circle	101 00	2	2
Mulvane	233 03	11	8

Short and Stolhand, Jamie Wilson and Shelley Richards

SECOND GAME

Postponed until May 13th

Carpenter went to third when Jana Smith's hit was misplayed in leftfield and scored when Rachel Rose drilled the first of her two hits.

Three players had two hits each for the Mulvane softballers: the freshman Rose, Carpenter, a senior, and Richards, a sophomore.

"We came out disappointed and paid the price because they jumped on us early," stressed Mason. "We didn't make the plays and good teams are going to take advantage of those things. We talk and talk and talk about not giving a team more than three outs in an inning but in three innings, we did and we paid for those mistakes."

Mason also wasn't totally happy with the offense, although Goddard had two pretty good throwers. "We can hit the ball better than we did today," said Mason. "The weather has hurt us there. I think once we start playing every Monday and every Thursday, I think that will help."

"Rachel Rose had a real good ball game starting in right. We hit some balls hard, too. You have to give Goddard credit. They're not going to beat themselves. Their outfield had a couple problems with the wind, but they were solid overall and that's where we're trying to get to."

The Cats played an incomplete game Thursday, April 10, when Circle came to Mulvane for a pair of games. The first game was suspended with the Cats batting in the bottom of the fifth and adding to an 11-2 lead. It will be picked up at that point when the two teams make up the second game May 15th at the sports complex.

The Wildecats will play again Monday night, April 21, at the sports complex. Douglass will be here for a pair of games beginning at 4 p.m.

Junior Varsity Results

FIRST GAME

Goddard	140 20	7	11
Mulvane	000 03	3	5

Mulvane battery Kassie Hargrove and Sara Redinger
HR--Miller (G)

SECOND GAME

Goddard	301 112	8	13
Mulvane	140 100	6	7

Mulvane battery Kayla Masters and Sara Redinger