Wildcats' Winning Trend Continues

The Mulvane High School softball girls have had their way with Wellington over the last few years and that trend continued Monday, April 13, as Coach Charlie Mason's Wildcats had a happy trip back from Wellington.

The Wildcats took a pair from the Crusaders, using a four-run comeback in the opener as a springboard to the sweep. Mulvane slipped past Wellington, 6-3, in the opening game, wiping out a 3-2 Wellington lead in the final inning, then flashed their bats in an 11-3 shelling. The doubleheader sweep gave Mulvane a 4-4 overall record and a 2-4 mark in the Chisholm Trail League. It also provided the Crusaders with their first losses of the season after a 4-0 start.

"It was two good wins," said Mason.
"Anytime you can get two in this league, you're doing okay. I just wish we would have played with the same defensive intensity as we did against Goddard last week. It wasn't there and for us to be successful, we have to play with great defensive intensity."

Mason said his Cats did a great job coming back in game No. 1. Wellington shot ahead, 3-2, in the bottom of the 6th with a pair of runs but couldn't get three outs. Freshman Danielle Vanderhoof started the rally with a pinch-hit single and Jackie McColpin also reached after sacrificing Vanderhoof to second. An error on a Jessica Sheridan hit brought in one run and Lindsay Kendrick followed with a two-run double. She scored when Cara Ashlock reached on an error.

Hurler Kassie Hargrove did the rest, mowing Wellington down without a score in the 7th. That finished off a fine seven-hitter for Hargrove.

"We got a good pitching job out of both Kassie and Ashley (Wirths) in the second game," stressed Mason. "It was interesting because Kassie didn't walk anybody and she didn't strike anybody out. She just kept the ball in play and we made the plays behind her."

Wirths, with a save from Shelley Richards, held the Crusaders in check on four hits in the nightcap. The Cat bats made it easy by busting loose for three in the second and pitting the game away with four more in the fourth.

Kendrick finished off a fine series by going 2-for-4 with two runs scored and one more RBI. Richards went 2-for-4 with two RBIs, Sabrina Foy scored twice and had one RBI, McColpin had two hits and scored once and Sheridan knocked in two runs.

The sweep came on the heels of one of

FIRST GAME

Mulvane 001 010 4--6 8
Wellington 000 012 0-3 7
Kassie Hargrove and Shelley Richards; Meeker and
Yunker.

SECOND GAME

Mulvane 031 403 0--11 12
Wellington 020 000 0--2 4
Ashley Wirths and Shelley Richards; Meeker and
Yunker.

FIRST GAME

Mulvane 000 000 0--0 2
Goddard 000 041 0 -5 4
Shelley Richards and Danielle Vanderhoof; Letts and
Bennett.

SECOND GAME

Mulvane 000 100 010 000 1 -- 3 6
Goddard 000 200 000 000 2- 4 10
Ashley Wirths, Kassie Hargrove 7, and Shelley
Richards, Anderson, Letts 7, and Bennett.
Junior Varsity Softball

Mulvane 16, Wellington 10 Mulvane 19, Wellington 7

the more exciting series anyone will play. The Wildcats went to Goddard for two games Thursday, April 16, and suffered two losses, the last a 13-inning deal which saw Goddard score two in the bottom of the 13th after Mulvane had scored one.

"It's too had someone had to lose that 13-inning game," said Mason. "I don't ever remember playing one any longer. We played Goddard tooth and nail. Goddard is an excellent team and pretty senior-dominated. And their defense is outstanding. Their rightfielder threw us out three times at first base. We played well in both games but playing so well and not getting a split kind of hurts."

The Lions won the first game despite Richards giving up only four hits and no walks. Goddard won by a 5-0 game which saw only two Mulvane hits. In the second game, Mulvane lost by a 4-3 score.

In game No. 2, the Wildcats appeared poised to win it in the seventh when Ashlock pounded the second of two triples, then scored with no outs on Richards' sacrifice fly. But the rallied died right there.

Then, in the 13th inning after five scoreless innings, Mulvane pushed one across with two outs. Ashlock walked, and so did Richards, Sheridan and Hargrove to force in the run. In the bottom of the frame, Goddard pinched in a pair of runs on two walks with two hits against Hargrove, who was in relief of Wirths.

In the first game at Goddard, Mulvane's only hits came from Sheridan with a single in the fourth and Richards with a single in the seventh.

The Cat girls will take their show back to the Mulvane sports complex for a doubleheader Friday, April 17, against Rose Hill. Games start at 4:30 p.m.