

SBers Steam Toward Regional

The Mulvane High School softball girls are hot and getting hotter. Coach Charlie Mason's Wildcats rang up their 6th series sweep of the season—all in a row—Monday, May 11, at home when they blasted past Andover in a pair of make-up games at the Mulvane sports complex. Mulvane won the tight opener, 2-1, then left the Trojans in the dust in an 11-1.

In two games Thursday, May 7, the Cats dumped Augusta by identical scores, 11-1 in the opener and 2-1 in the nightcap. The four victories hiked the MHS girls to 14-4 for the year with 12 consecutive victories as they head into the Douglass Class 4A Regional, which begins on Monday, May 18. The Cats will play another rained out

Douglass 4A Regional Softball Tournament

MONDAY, MAY 18

Game 1 No. 5 Augusta or Wellington at No. 4 Rose Hill (11-9)

Game 2 No. 6 Wellington or Augusta at No. 3 Clearwater (11-7)

TUESDAY, MAY 19

Game 3—No. 1 Mulvane (14-4) vs. winner of game No. 1, north diamond, 3 p.m.

Game 4 No. 2 Douglass (13-7) vs. winner of game 2, south diamond, 3

Game 5 (Championship) winners of games 3 and 4, north diamond, 5

FIRST GAME

Andover 000 100 0 1 3
 Mulvane 010 100 x 2 2
 Shaw and Valley, Shelley Richards and Danielle Vanderhoof

SECOND GAME

Andover 000 100 0 1 2
 Mulvane 024 203 x 11 8
 Cole and Shaw; Kassie Hargrove and Shelley Richards

FIRST GAME

Mulvane 120 003 5 11 11
 Augusta 000 000 1 1 2
 Shelley Richards and Danielle Vanderhoof, Carr, Spires 6, and Greenwood, Keller 4

SECOND GAME

Mulvane 001 001 0 2 5
 Augusta 000 100 0 1 7
 Kassie Hargrove and Shelley Richards, Simon and Keller

HR--Cara Ashlock (M).

series today (May 14) when they travel to Maize for make-up games starting at 3:30 p.m. Mulvane is the No. 1 seed at Douglass, so the Cats won't play until 3 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, in a semifinal game against the winner of the game between the No. 4 and No. 5 seeds. As of press time, it appeared that game would match dangerous Rose Hill (11-9) against Augusta (9-9).

The championship game will be played around 5 p.m. Tuesday with the winner advancing to the Class 4A State Championship, which will be held Friday and Saturday, May 29-30, at Manhattan.

Pitcher Shelley Richards tossed a three-hitter at Andover and the only run she gave up came off a strange play. On a doubleplay attempt, a thrown ball struck the helmet of an Andover runner going into 2nd base and the ball bounced into rightfield, allowing the runner going into 1st to make it to third and she scored on a passed ball.

The Wildcats scored the winning run in the 4th when catcher Danielle Vanderhoof singled and went to third on throwing errors. She scored on a ground out by Ashley Wirths.

The Cat bats were ringing in the nightcap with Jessica Sheridan going 2-for-3 with two RBIs and two runs scored, Cara Ashlock going 3-for-3 with three RBIs and three runs scored and two RBIs from Wirths.

"The big blow of that game came when Cara hit a triple with the bases loaded in the 3rd," said Mason. "That opened it up and gave us a 6-0 lead." Pitcher Kassie Hargrove, who boosted her record to 7-1, did the rest by one-hitting the Trojans. She retired Andover in order in four of the six innings and walked only two.

"We struggled in the first game but got enough to win the ball game," said Mason. "The games were similar to the Augusta games. They were just four real good ball games for us. We got the timely hits, the good pitching and we played well on defense in all four games."

They couldn't get junior Lindsay Kendrick out at Augusta Thursday. She slapped five consecutive hits, knocked in three runs and scored twice in the 1st game. Richards had two hits and Jackie McColpin scored four times, making things easy for Richards, who ran her record to 4-2 with with a two-hit job. She also struck out nine batters.

In the 2nd contest, the Wildcats snapped a 1-1 tie with a run in the 6th when Ashlock blasted a solo homer with two outs. The other MHS run scored in the 3rd when

Kayla Masters singled, went to second on a passed ball and to third on a wild pitch, scoring on McColpin's ground out.

Hargrove struggled in the game, giving up eight hits, but escaped a winner despite having Augusta runners on in every inning.

The Wildcats will be trying to advance to the state tourney for the second time in the last three years. Mulvane went to State for the first time in 1996 but the Cats were knocked off in the opening round by Clay Center.



Pitcher Shelley Richards gets ready to send another one against Andover