

Struggling SB Cats Reaching For 'Tums'

Reaching for the "Tums" yet? Mulvane High School softball coach Charlie Mason probably is after the MHS girls saw their record dip to 1-7 Monday night, April 10, with a doubleheader loss at Wellington.

The Crusaders 13-7 and 2-1 in eight innings. Please pass the "Pepto-Bismol."

"We're struggling at bat and we're struggling in the field," admitted Mason. "But

we looked like our old selves in the second game at Wellington. We hope that's the team that shows up the rest of the season."

Wellington wiped out a 6-2 lead by Mulvane with three runs in the 3rd and five more in the 4th and pulled away against sophomore pitcher Sara Simpson 2. "In fairness to Sara, we threw the ball all over the park in the first game and that just com-

pounded the problem. For us to be successful, we can't allow more than three outs an inning and right now, we're breaking down defensively and allowing too many runs."

The Cats started the game promisingly with Jackie McColpin, Kayla Linnebur and Natalie Turner all walking in front of a two-run single by Danielle Vanderhoof. After an out, Aubrey Benjamin singled for another run. Mulvane added three more runs in the 3rd when Vanderhoof walked and Hargrove and Benjamin both singled as three more runs scored. After that, though, the Cats had only three singles.

Hargrove returned to her 1998 year form in the nightcap, mowing down the Crusaders on only four hits through seven innings. The trouble was the MHS bats were just as silent and only a solo homer by McColpin in the 6th had the game tied. In the first extra inning, Katie Rose ripped one down the leftfield line but was thrown out at second. Wellington then won it on two errors and an RBI single with two out.

"Hargrove pitched her best game of the year, it's too bad she had to lose it like that," said Mason. "She was in control and never really had trouble. And for the most part, we played good defense behind her."

The Cat SBers were in Goddard Thursday, April 6, and the Lions put a whipping on Mulvane. Goddard won the first game, 7-2, and took a 9-0 verdict in the second game.

"Goddard's pretty tough," noted Mason. "They have been together for quite a few years and they have some excellent players. It was just everything. We didn't play great defense, we started hitting the ball a little better and our pitchers still are not in tip-top health. Until they both get healthy, they're not going to be in command."

Both Simpson and Hargrove have sore arms and are getting treatment.

Mulvane will be in Rose Hill for two games today (April 13) trying to snap a six-game losing skid. The games will start at 4:30 p.m.

FIRST GAME

Mulvane 303 001 0--7 8
Wellington 023 530 x--13 14
Sara Simpson and Danielle Vanderhoof; Hollie Meeker and Melissa Bean
HR: Chft (W)

SECOND GAME

Mulvane 000 001 00--1 4
Wellington 010 000 01--2 5
Kassie Hargrove and Danielle Vanderhoof, Meeker and Melissa Bean.
HR: Jackie McColpin (M)

FIRST GAME

Mulvane 000 101 0--2 7
Goddard 100 233 0--7 13
Sara Simpson and Danielle Vanderhoof, Bennett, M Phillips 3, and A Phillips

SECOND GAME

Mulvane 000 000 0--0 5
Goddard 100 233 x--9 12
Kassie Hargrove, Katie Rose 5, and Danielle Vanderhoof; Rising and A Phillips
HR--Bell (G)