

Softball Report

Too Much 'Chocolate' For Maize

Giving Maize more than three outs is like giving just one itty-bitsy bite of chocolate cake to a chocolate lover. The next thing you know, you're in up to your elbows.

Maize took advantage of Mulvane miscues in just a couple of innings and that was enough to give the Eagles room to soar. They swept both ends of a Chisholm Trail League doubleheader from the Wildcats Thursday, April 27th, in Maize. The scores were 6-0 and 11-1.

The losses left the Wildcats of Coach Charlie Mason at 4-14 for the season as they try to pump up their record by regional time.

"Aside from a couple of innings, we played okay," emphasized Mason. "But Maize puts so much pressure on you that everytime you make a mistake, they capitalize on it. They make it really hurt when you give them too many chances. In the second game, we didn't do a good job of defending the bunt. Maize did a good job putting the ball in play and we didn't do the job on the bunt. They also hit up and down the line-up."

That's also a sore point with Mason because the Wildcats are struggling at the plate and have much of the season Mulvane's hitting about .200 as a team.

The Eagles went off in the opening inning in game No. 1 against Mulvane sophomore pitcher Sara Simpson, rapping four hits. After that, Simpson pitched well.

"Simpson really deserved better than she got," said Mason. "She pitched well and we didn't hit the whole game. You have to be solid on defense and you can't give them more than three outs because Maize can really put the pressure on you."

Maize just loves chocolate. "Maize is just too good to give them any breaks," added Mason. "When you do, they win."

The Wildcats big problem was swinging the bat. The Cats had only three hits in the opener. Kassie Hargrove singled in the 1st inning, Bob Carmichael singled in the 7th and catcher Sara Clasen busted a double in the 6th. All three were left on base.

The 2nd game wasn't much better from an offensive standpoint. The Wildcats had four hits and their only run came in the 3rd when Jackie McColpin ripped a one-out triple. Hargrove singled one out later to drive her home.

Hargrove, who was on the mound, couldn't hold the Eagles down. She wasn't as sharp as she had been the last couple of outings. The hosts scored three in the first with the help of three errors and two passed balls, and Maize put it away with three more in the 6th.

McColpin finished with a 2-for-3 game. Hargrove had a hit and freshman Kayla Linnebur also had a single.

"In the second game, we got down and they started hitting it better," said Mason. "And we started having trouble defending the bunt. That's what starts happening when you don't make plays in the field. They start getting the bats going and things start ballooning on you."

Mulvane has had pretty decent success in recent years against the Eagles, but not Thursday. That puts even more emphasis on the final regular season games of the MHS season today (May 4) when the Wildcats go to Augusta for two games. With the seven-team Douglass Class 4A Regional lurking later in the middle of the month, Mason would like to get a couple more victories under Mulvane's belt.

"We need these two for our record, we need them for our seeding and we need to get some momentum going into the regional," said Mason. "We haven't been able to put a streak together, but we're capable of it."

The Cat junior varsity improved its record to 9-7 April 24th, by sweeping Andover in games at the complex. The Cat

JV punched in a run in the bottom of the last inning to win a 5-4 game, then rolled over the Trojans, 13-2, in the nightcap.

Dani Phillips pitched both victories, throwing a two hitter in the first game and a one-hitter in the nightcap. Mulvane won the first one when Tiffany Montgomery singled and scored from third on a passed ball in the final inning. Stacy Butts had a single, triple and homer and scored twice. And Lacie Leatherman went 2-for-2. Phillips also scored twice. In the second game, Tyan Scott had a double and a triple and scored twice, Montgomery had an RBI single, Stephanie Sanchez doubled and scored twice, Candace Hufford rapped an RBI hit and scored two times and Phillips had two hits, one RBI and scored two times.

Varsity Softball FIRST GAME

Mulvane	000 000 0-0 3
Maize	510 000 x-6 7
Sara Simpson and Sara Clasen, Woodard, Welty 6, and Dunkelberger	

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	001 000-1 3
Maize	303 023-11 12
Kassie Hargrove and Sara Clasen; Braley and Marek.	

Jayvee Softball FIRST GAME

Andover	400 00-4 2
Mulvane	022 01-5 7
Shellberg and McAdam; Dani Phillips and Candace Hufford.	
HR—Stacy Butts (M).	

SECOND GAME

Andover	110 00-2 1
Mulvane	507 1x-13 9
Reyholds and McAdam; Dani Phillips and Candace Hufford	