

Softball Regional

Girls Travel For Opener

It's Regional time, and Mulvane High School softball coach Charlie Mason is still harboring hopes that his Wildcats can still put things together for a run.

Giving hope is the Wildcat hitting in the last games of the regular season Thursday, May 4, at Augusta. Mulvane had one of its better hitting series but still tumbled to the Orioles, 8-0 and 6-1.

The losses left the Cats at 4-16 for the season and 3-11 in the Chisholm Trail League.

"We hit the ball as good as we have all year in a double header," said Coach Mason. "We put the ball in play in both games but we couldn't get the big hit when we needed it. People have been successful against us because they have been able to hit up and down the line-up and we haven't been able to do that."

Not getting the clutch hit and giving up a big inning, two season-long problems for the MHS girls, continued to create problems. It's almost like a pattern now. The Cats were close in the first game, trailing only 2-0 when the Orioles put the game away with five runs in the 4th inning. The Cats had eight hits—but didn't score.

Second game, same story. It was 2-1 going into the sixth inning when pitching ace Kassie Hargrove had to leave the game when she got sick. Augusta scored four times against reliever Sara Simpson and pulled away. Again: eight hits, one run.

"We hit the ball but we're not executing," said Mason. "We had three or four runners thrown out on the bases, we failed to execute on a hit-and-run, we failed to execute on a bunt. In general, we're not executing on the base paths."

In game No. 1, nearly everyone in the line-up had a hit and catcher Sara Clasen went 2-for-3. Freshman Kayla Linnebur went 1-for-2 and Natalie Turner had a triple.

The Wildcats even got singles from Bob Carmichael, Josalyn Marksberry and Katie Rose in the last inning but didn't score.

In the second game, Mulvane scored in the 3rd inning when Rose belted a single, was sacrificed to second by freshman Melissa Doerfer and scored when senior Jackie McColpin ripped a single. Linnebur finished the game with a 2-for-2 mark and Rose also had two hits.

Wellington 4A Regional Softball Pairings

MONDAY, MAY 15

- Game 1 - No. 1 seed Clearwater (16-4) bye
Game 2 - No. 5 Douglass (9-11) at No. 4 Wellington (11-9)
Game 3 - No. 7 Chaparral (2-18) at No. 2 Rose Hill (15-5)
Game 4 - No. 6 Mulvane (4-16) at No. 3 Augusta (11-9)

TUESDAY, MAY 16

- Game 5 - Clearwater (16-4) vs. winner of game 1, 3 p.m.
Game 6 - winners of games 3 and 4, 4:45
Game 7 (Championship) - winners of games 5 and 6, 6:30

FIRST GAME

- Mulvane 000 000 0--0 8
Augusta 011 501 x -8 11
Katie Rose, Sara Simpson 5, and Sara Clasen, Simon and Greenwood

SECOND GAME

- Mulvane 001 000 0 1 8
Augusta 010 014 x -6 9
Kassie Hargrove, Sara Simpson 6, and Sara Clasen, Simon and Keller

The Class 4A State Softball Tournament will be held May 26-27 at the Mulvane sports complex.

Only the top team will advance from the Wellington Class 4A Regional, which opens with first round play Monday, May 15. Clearwater at 16-4 is the No. 1 seed and was given a first-round bye. The other six teams will have to pay their way into the semifinals, which will be held Tuesday, May 15, in Wellington.

The Wildcats (4-16) appear to be the No. 6 seed and will play at either Wellington or Augusta Monday afternoon. Both Wellington and Augusta finished at 11-9 for the year and official pairings won't be released until Saturday, May 13. However, in head-to-head play, Augusta swept Wellington in their doubleheader. Best guess: Mulvane at Augusta Monday and Douglass (9-11), the No. 5 seed, at No. 4 seeded Wellington (11-9).

Clearwater will take on the winner of the No. 4/No. 5 seed game at 3 p.m. Tuesday and if Mulvane wins Monday, the Wildcats will play the 4:45 p.m. contest against the winner of the game between No. 7 seeded Chaparral (2-18) and No. 2 seeded Rose Hill (15-5). The championship game is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday.