

# One-Run S-Ball Losses Keep Girls From A Run

Mulvane's softball season continued on a nearly even basis as the Wildcats split a pair of games Monday night, April 23, at Andover in two Chisholm Trail League contests.

The split left Mulvane at overall 7-9 as the regular season winds down to two more doubleheaders before regionals. The Cats were all over the Trojans in the opener, winning by a 10-2 count, but Mulvane let another close one slip away as the Trojans held off Mulvane, 3-2, in the nightcap.

"It was just another case of letting a second game slip away from us," said Coach Charlie Mason of Mulvane's 5th one-run loss this season. "In the first game we did a pretty good job and (Sara) Simpson pitched another fine game. In the last game, we made a couple errors in the first inning and they got ahead. We just never totally caught up.

The Cats blasted off in the opening frame, scoring four runs, then had four more to ice it in the 5th. Five Trojan errors helped but so did a 2-for-4 game from Josalyn Marksberry, as did RBI hits from Kayla Linnebur, Melissa Doerfer, Danielle Vanderhoof, Dani Phillips, Simpson and Bob Carmichael. Simpson was special again as she struck out seven and didn't allow one base on balls.

In the second game, freshman Shayna Duncan gave up only four hits and walked one but didn't get any offensive support again, as she tumbled to 1-4 for the year. Phillips went 2-for-3 and Marksberry and Duncan each knocked in a run but a 7th inning rally crumbled with runners at 2nd and 3rd and one out.

The Wildcat softball girls once again came close to getting a roll started but had to settle for a split when they visited Buhler Thursday, April 19, for a Chisholm Trail

## FIRST GAME

Mulvane	400 240 0-10	8
Andover	100 000 1-2	8

Sara Simpson and Danielle Vanderhoof; Wurth and Dickerson.

## SECOND GAME

Mulvane	000 011 0-2	6
Andover	200 001 x-3	5

Shayna Duncan and Danielle Vanderhoof; Reynolds and Dickerson.

## FIRST GAME

Mulvane	200 200 0-4	4
Buhler	020 100 0-3	10

Sara Simpson and Danielle Vanderhoof; Robinson and Rayl.

## SECOND GAME

Mulvane	000 410 0-5	9
Buhler	000 231 x-6	8

Shayna Duncan, Dani Phillips 6, and Danielle Vanderhoof; Cruz, Robinson 7, and Rayl.

HR—Danielle Vanderhoof (M).

League doubleheader. Despite high winds, the Cats got another steady performance from righthander Sara Simpson to edge the Crusaders, 4-3, in the opening game but Mulvane couldn't protect a lead in the last two innings in the nightcap and bowed by a 6-5 count.

Simpson struggled because of the wind but held together late in the game. She gave up 10 hits and walked two but she faced only 11 batters over the last three innings when it counted most.

The Cats scored twice in the opening frame to go ahead. Linnebur reached on an error and Doerfer's base hit moved her to 3rd. Josalyn Marksberry hit a sac fly to center that plated Linnebur and Doerfer came home when Clasen grounded out.

Mulvane posted the eventual winning run in the 4th with another two-run outburst. With one out, Clasen walked and trotted home when Vanderhoof clubbed a two-run homer, one of only two hits the Cats had.

In the second game, Mulvane belted nine hits. Katie Rose went 2-for-2 with one RBI, Dani Phillips went 2-for-2 with one run scored, Clasen went 1-for-3 with a two-run double and Doerfer went 2-for-4 with one run scored.

The Cats appeared headed for a sweep when they scored four times in the 4th inning to take a 4-0 lead but the defense collapsed with two errors in each of the 4th and 5th innings to allow Buhler to rally.

"We kept giving them too many outs and you can't give good teams more than three outs," said Mason. "It usually comes back to hurt you and it did. Shayna (Duncan) did her part by putting the ball in play but we didn't make the plays behind her."

Mulvane's tough luck continued Monday night, April 16, when the Cats went to Clearwater to play the undefeated Indians. Mulvane won the first game behind another Simpson gem, a four-hitter in a 3-1 victory. In game No. 2, though, Mulvane was victimized once again by another one-run loss as the Indians clipped the Cats, 1-0, to spoil a fine job of pitching by Duncan.

Simpson shut down the Indians and didn't walk a batter to give the Indians their first loss. Vanderhoof scored the game's first run after hitting a triple in the 2nd inning, and Sara Clasen busted an RBI single. In the 2nd game, Mulvane had runners on in four innings but couldn't break through.