

MHS Softballers; Regionals Next

It started with a bunt, turned into a trickle, then everything broke loose.

We're not talking about the thunderstorm that swept through the Mulvane area Tuesday night, we're talking about the reason the Mulvane High School softball Wildcats didn't sweep Augusta in a Chisholm Trail League twinbill Monday night, May 6, in Augusta.

The Cats won the first game, 5-3, and were sailing along in game No. 2 before the Orioles rallied with three runs in the 5th to win the nightcap, 4-3.

The series was the last of the regular season for Coach Charlie Mason's Wildcats and left them at 9-11 for the season overall and 3-9 in the league.

"If we would have taken care of business, we would have been all right," claimed Mason. "We played real good softball most of the way. It started with a bunt that should have been caught or allowed to go foul and that opened the flood gates for their big inning. There was just a little lack of control there, something young players will do. And again, it shows what a fine line there is between a win and a loss in this league."

The Cats were running smoothly toward a sweep with the 5-3 game in their hip pocket when Augusta's No. 9 batter in the order put down a one-out bunt in the 5th inning that was booted. Another error was followed by three singles and the Orioles had reversed things.

"The second game should have been ours, but they had a lot of things going," added Mason. It was 'Senior Night' in August and we dropped our guard just a little, and that's all it takes in this league."

The rally spoiled a fine pitching performance by sophomore Shayna Duncan, who was cruising behind a 3-0 lead and had pitched a four-hitter to that point.

Mulvane had staked her to a 2-0 lead in the 4th when Sara Clasen drilled a lead-off single and was sacrificed to 2nd by Kayla Linnebur, who beat out the throw. Both girls advanced on a wild pitch and scored when Katie Rose socked a single. Dani Phillips added one in the 5th when she doubled and scored on a Clasen base hit.

Phillips finished with a 3-for-3 game, Rose went 2-for-3 and Clasen had two hits. Melissa Doerfer tripled in the last inning.

The Wildcats racked up 10 hits in the opener, which was unusual support for tough-luck pitcher Sara Simpson. Simpson struck out six and yielded only five hits—four of them for extra bases.

Arkansas City Class 5A Softball Regional

TUESDAY, MAY 14

Game 1 -- No. 2 Kapaun (15-5) vs. No. 3 Mulvane (9-11), 3 p.m.

Game 2 -- No. 1 seeded Arkansas City (15-1) vs. No. 4 Winfield (5-13), 4:45

Game 3 (Championship)--winners of games 1 and 2, 6

The Cat batting power came from Katelyn Carson, who went 2-for-2, Duncan, who went 2-for-4 with two runs scored and two stolen bases, Rose, who had one hit but two RBIs, Stephanie Tatum, who went 2-for-3 with one run scored and Clasen, who was 2-for-4.

Next stop for the MHS girls is the Arkansas City Class 5A Regional Tuesday, May 14. The Cats are playing in 5A this season and will meet up with either No. 1 seeded Arkansas City or No. 2 seeded Kapaun Mt. Carmel. Winfield is the other team in the regional. Pairings won't be set until later this week. The first game is at 3 p.m., followed by a 4:45 contest. The championship will be at 6:30 p.m.

Chisholm Trail League Softball Standings

DIVISION I

Team	LEAGUE OVERALL			
	W	L	W	L
Valley Center	7	1	14	2
Maize	7	1	12	2
Goddard	8	2	15	3
Buhler	4	4	4	6
Augusta	4	8	4	8
Mulvane	3	9	9	11
Wellington	1	9	3	13

DIVISION II

Clearwater	12	2	14	3
Rose Hill	12	4	13	5
Andale	7	7	7	9
Andover Central	2	8	2	8
Circle	1	11	1	11
Andover	0	2	0	10

FIRST GAME

Mulvane 011 201 0--5 10

Augusta 100 000 2--3 5

Sara Simpson and Katelyn Carson; Harrison, and Rinkenbaugh.

SECOND GAME

Mulvane 000 210 0--3 8

Augusta 100 030 x--4 8

Shayna Duncan and Katelyn Carson; Harrison and Rinkenbaugh.