

## Stretch Run

# SB Girls Can't Finish Off AC

Bad things happen when you let opponents hang around. That's what happened Thursday, May 1, at the Mulvane sports complex.

The Mulvane High School softballers didn't put Andover Central down for the count early in the game when the opportunity was there and the Wildcats had to settle for a doubleheader split in two games played at Central.

The Jaguars edged past the Wildcats, 5-4, in extra innings in the opener but Mulvane gained the split by making a six-hit, six-run inning stand up for a 6-1 victory in the nightcap of the non-league game.

The split left Coach Charlie Mason's Cats at 10-6 for the season with two series left in the regular season before regionals.

"When you let a team stay with you, the longer you let them, the more chances they get to put something together and create some problems," admitted Mason. "That's what happened in the first game. We had people on base in just about every inning but didn't score a lot of runs. Finally, they put up some big hits and won the game."

Mulvane had the bases loaded right off the bat in the game No. 1 but failed to score to take advantage of Abby Sorensen's double and walks to Melissa Doerfer and Dani Phillips.

The Cats had singles in the 3rd inning from Stephanie Tatum and Sorensen but didn't score in the 3rd. In fact, the Cats only sent three batters to the plate in that inning. Go figure!

In the 4th, Phillips led off with a double and Kayla Linnebur doubled her home but the no-out threat shrivelled up after Katelyn Carson singled and Shayna Duncan reached on a fielder's choice. That only gave MHS a 1-0 lead.

The Cats scored a run in the top of the 7th when Doerfer, Phillips and pinch hitter Hannah Benven all singled, Benven's delivering a 4-2 lead but the Jaguars rallied against Phillips in the bottom of the inning for two runs to tie things, then won it in the bottom of the 8th.

"The pattern of our losses, aside from the two to Marze, has been our own doing," said Mason. "We did a few things right in that first game, too. We had 11 hits and we got a pinch hit RBI single but we just wasted a couple opportunities that came back to haunt us later. Hopefully, it will be another learning experience that will benefit us later on."

Duncan pitched forcefully in the nightcap. She scattered seven hits but didn't walk a batter as she improved her record to 5-3.

The Wildcats made one big inning hold up for the victory. Doerfer started things with a single and scored when Phillips ripped a double. Phillips trotted home when Linnebur doubled. After a ground out, Carson walked and Duncan made it 3-0 with a base hit. Sara McKnight's double brought in two more and McKnight scored when

## MULVANE Sports

### FIRST GAME

Mulvane	000 111 10—4 11
Andover Central	000 101 21—5 9
Dani Phillips and Katelyn Carson, Jessica Shelburg and Jill Huelskamp	

### SECOND GAME

Mulvane	000 600 0—6 9
Andover Central	000 100 0—1 7
Shayna Duncan and Katelyn Carson, Megan Reynolds and Jill Huelskamp	

### Junior Varsity Results

#### FIRST GAME

Mulvane	01174—21 7
Andover Central	000—0 1
Mulvane battery Whitney Phillips and Stephanie Hughes	

#### SECOND GAME

Mulvane	000 000—0 6
Andover Central	000 001—1 3
Mulvane battery Christy Hartley and Amy Phillips	

## Mulvane 4A Softball Regional Assignment

SCHEDULED FOR MAY 20 & 22

Mulvane, Rose Hill, Andover Central, Clearwater, Chaparral, Douglass, Caney Valley, Wellington

Tatum grounded out. Six runs. Six hits.

"We really hit the ball hard in that inning up and down the line-up," said Mason. "Hitting can be contagious. You get one or two doing it and everybody starts picking it up."

"Duncan also pitched a good game and she got some good defensive help behind her," added Mason. "I know (Candace) Hufford made a good diving catch in leftfield, Doerfer keeps doing a great job at shortstop and Tatum keeps saving us at first base."

In the junior varsity contest, Mulvane scored 17 runs in the 2nd inning and won the opener, 21-0, but lost the nightcap, 1-0, to the Jaguars.

Whitney Phillips tossed a one-hitter in the opener and Tara Roberts and Jennifer Fleming scored three runs each. Stephanie Hughes, Tasha Parman and Amy Phillips had RBI hits and scored a run apiece. Christy Hartley threw a three-hitter in the second game but Mulvane's offense couldn't generate anything despite a three-hit game from Nicole Hackley.

The final two twinbills for Mulvane SBers are home. The girls meet up with Valley Center today (May 8) at the Mulvane sports complex, then finish out the regular season home against Wellington Monday, May 12.

The Wildcats will be hosting the Class 4A Regional May 22 and May 24 at the Mulvane sports complex. The eight schools in the field are Mulvane, Rose Hill, Clearwater, Wellington, Andover Central, Douglass, Caney Valley and Chaparral. Pairings will be announced in next week's News.