

Softballers Stumble Twice In 1-0 Games At Maize

Mulvane and Maize engaged in a pair of epic softball battles Monday, April 12, in Maize for supremacy in the Chisholm Trail League Division I.

The host Eagles scored only two runs but those two runs gave the Eagles the edge in both games. It was a pair of 1-0 battles.

"There wasn't much separating the teams out there Monday night," confessed Mulvane Coach Charlie Mason. "They exploited our weaknesses just enough to scratch out a run in each game. It wasn't much but it was enough."

The losses were the first for Coach Mason's Wildcats after sledding through eight consecutive victories, and it gave Maize a leg up on winning the C-11 Division I championship. The Eagles are 6-0 and the Wildcats dropped to 4-2 in the league and 8-2 overall.

"We had our chances but didn't hit the ball," stressed Mason. "We had the go-ahead run in the 1st game thrown out at the plate. Our pitching did a great job and for the most part, so did our defense. We just didn't put hits together, although we hit it hard a few times, it was right at them."

It wasn't the way Mason and the SB Wildcats wanted to say good-bye to Maize. Next year, the Eagles will be playing in the No. 1 division of the new Ark Valley Chisholm Trail League, so it's doubtful the Wildcats and Eagles will meet in the future.

"Those were too well-played games," emphasized Mason. "They scored when they had to and we didn't. The secret is that they put so much pressure on the other team. You can't make any mistakes and you can't give them more than three outs."

And the Cats did a little of both.

In the opener at Maize, Mulvane was held to only three hits but nearly made the Eagles pay for a mistake in the 4th inning of a scoreless game. Stephanie Tatum singled and took second when Amy Phillips reached on an error. Tatum stole 3rd and tried to score when the catcher threw the ball into leftfield trying to get her at 3rd

base. However, the Maize leftfielder gunned her down at the plate.

The host team finally punched one across on senior Mulvane ace Shayna Duncan in the 6th inning. They did it on two singles and two sacrifices. And that's the way it ended.

Duncan finished with a six batter and walked only one batter.

Tatum, catcher Katelyn Carson and Ashley Martin had the only hits for the Cats.

Tatum was nearly as effective in game No. 2. She issued only three hits but she walked three. One of those walks helped lead to her undoing in the 5th as Maize scored on a couple singles sandwiched around a walk and two stolen bases.

The Wildcat bats were mostly silent. The only Cat hit was a single in the 2nd inning by Duncan.

The nightcap ended with Duncan, who had walked, on 2nd base and Carson, who was hit by a pitch, on first.

The doubleheader sweep of Andover Thursday, April 8, in Andover was much more fun for Mason and the Wildcats. The Cats won both games in one extra inning. Mulvane won the first game, 6-2, then took the nightcap, 2-0, as Tatum hurled a three-hit shutout.

In the opener, Mulvane banged out 12 hits, finally breaking loose from a 2-2 stalemate with a four-run explosion in the 8th inning. Martin singled, Sara McKnight walked and Amanda Hagerman reached on an error before Abby Sorensen drilled a RBI double and Tatum reached on an error with the 4th run scoring.

The big hit of the game, however, occurred in the top of the 7th with Mulvane trailing, 2-1. Amy Phillips walked, Duncan had a single and when the Andover outfielder misplayed the ball, Phillips raced home to tie it.

Carson went 4-for-5 and Sorensen and Duncan each had two hits and one RBI. Duncan also pitched well, striking out seven and yielding only two hits.

In the 2nd game, Martin was the star shining the brightest, as she went 3-for-4 with two RBIs. She drove home Duncan and Carson with a two-out double in the 8th inning.

Tatum had the Trojans all tied up as she gave up only three hits and struck out eight with another fine performance.

"We did see the meaning of team in these games," said Mason. "Our bench really came through for us big-time. Martin and Hagerman both had big hits and Duncan and Tatum, you just can't say enough about the job they did."

The Mulvane defense held together, too. The Cats didn't make an error in 16 innings.

After an open date today (April 15), the Cats will be on the field at home Monday, April 19, taking on Goddard in another big test.

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	000 000 0-0	4
Maize	000 001 x-1	7

Shayna Duncan and Katelyn Carson, Madison Petrich, Rachel Kramer 7, and Nelson.

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	000 000 0-0	7
Andover	000 010 x-1	7

Stephanie Tatum and Katelyn Carson; Rachel Kramer and Nelson.

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	100 000 14-6	12
Andover	000 002 00-2	7

Shayna Duncan and Katelyn Carson; Shani Hanson, Jocelyn Mendoza 8, and Pickard.
HR—Bre Burns (A).

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	000 000 02-2	8
Andover	000 000 00-0	3

Stephanie Tatum and Katelyn Carson; Jocelyn Mendoza and Pickard.

Junior Varsity Results

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	000 00-0	4
Maize	100 0x-1	3

Mulvane battery: Christy Hartley and Stephanie Hughes.

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	300 00-3	3
Maize	210 11-5	6

Mulvane battery: Whitney Sullivan and Kayla Hackley.

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	343 6-16	20
Andover	000 0-0	1

Mulvane battery: Whitney Sullivan and Stephanie Hughes.

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	610 16-14	15
Andover	000 00-0	2

Mulvane battery: Christy Hartley and Stephanie Hughes.

Chisholm Trail League Softball Standings

DIVISION I

Team	LEAGUE		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Maize	6	0	8	2
Mulvane	4	2	8	2
Rose Hill	4	2	5	3
Augusta	1	3	5	3
Valley Center	1	3	3	5
Goddard	1	3	1	5
Buhler	1	5	2	6

DIVISION II

Clearwater	4	0	5	3
Wellington	2	0	3	1
Andover Central	2	2	2	4
Andale	0	0	1	3
Andover	0	2	2	6
Circle	0	4	0	6