

Bats Get Hot

For MHS Sweep

Mulvane head softball coach Charles Mason knows his team has to score runs to win games. They didn't have any problem with that in their home doubleheader against Andover Central Monday, April 4.

The Wildcats pounded out 10 hits in each game on their way to a sweep of the Jaguars, 10-1 and 12-2, to even their record at 2-2 on the season. It wasn't all about offense, though, pitchers Whitney Sullivan and Whitney Phillips pitched complete games, and the defense committed just one error over both games.

"Just one error, that's a factor right there," said Mason. "Playing good defense makes a world of difference. We hit the ball more consistently than we did against Rose Hill, and our pitchers made their hitters put the ball in play."

In the opener, seven different 'Cats had at least one hit, eight scored at least once, and seven drove in one run each. Jordan Bell, Devyn Redford, and Amy Phillips each had two hits while Bell and Whitney Phillips each scored twice. Sullivan went seven innings, giving up just one unearned run on two hits with five walks and four strikeouts.

Mulvane blew the second game open with a four-run fourth inning and ended it in the fifth with a two-run double by Redford, who had two hits, as did Bell. Bell also scored twice, as did Jessica Helwi, Abby Sorensen, and Tara Roberts. Five of Mulvane's 10 hits went for extra bases. Whitney Phillips pitched a five-inning complete game, giving up two runs on four hits with three walks and three strikeouts.

"We just had way too many breakdowns," said Mason.

Mulvane's season got off to a rough start at Rose Hill Thursday, March 31, under less-than-ideal weather conditions. Playing in the cold, the 'Cats bats never warmed up in the opener as Mulvane lost 10-0 in six innings. The second game was much closer, with a final-inning Cat rally coming up one run short in a 7-6 loss.

The Wildcats were shut down completely in the first game, limited to just two hits, both by Whitney Phillips.

In the second game, after Rose Hill took a quick 1-0 lead in the first inning, Mulvane responded with two runs in the second, highlighted by an RBI single by Devyn Redford.

FIRST GAME

Andover Central	000	100	0	1	2	7
Mulvane	221	032	x	10	10	1

Ruppert and Moss, Whitney Sullivan and Stephanie Hughes

SECOND GAME

Andover Central	200	00	2	4	2	
Mulvane	303	42	x	12	10	0

Whitehead, Ruppert 4 and Puent, Whitney Phillips and Stephanie Hughes

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	000	000	0	2	3	
Rose Hill	500	302	x	10	11	1

Whitney Sullivan and Stephanie Hughes, Nicole Dunphy and Kaley Morris

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	020	200	2	6	6	4
Rose Hill	100	402	x	7	8	4

Whitney Phillips and Stephanie Hughes, Courtney Maples, Nicole Dunphy 5, and Christine Karlslake, Kaley Morris 5

Junior Varsity Softball

FIRST GAME

Andover Central	200	00	2	2	
Mulvane	001	11	x	3	4

Herman and Hawley, Lachelle Branine and Amber Smith

SECOND GAME

Andover Central	115	00	7	8	
Mulvane	000	11	x	8	5

Lee and Huetkamp, Lachelle Branine and Amber Smith

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	000	123	5	11	3
Rose Hill	002	013	0	6	5

Lachelle Branine and Amber Smith, Clark and Summerville

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	722	31	15	10
Rose Hill	012	00	3	4

Lachelle Branine and Amber Smith, Ketchersid and Summerville

The 'Cats would extend that lead to 4-1 in the fourth on a two-run single by Phillips, who drove in three runs for the game.

Rose Hill came back with four runs in the bottom of the fourth to take a 5-4 lead, then added two more in the sixth to make it 7-4. The 'Cats rallied, though, for two runs of their own in the top of the seventh, but the rally fell short with the tying run on base.

"We obviously played much better in the second game," said Mason. "We still committed too many errors and didn't score enough runs to make up for it. We just need to make the proper adjustments and make fewer mistakes."

The 'Cats are back on the road for a doubleheader at Andover Monday, April 11, starting at 4:30 p.m.