

Rain Doesn't Slow Down Mulvane Girls In Sweep

The Mulvane softball team hosted a doubleheader against Buhler Monday, April 25, and got both games completed amidst the raindrops. But just barely.

Dealing with steady rainfall which caused a one-hour delay, the Wildcats used the weather to their advantage, scoring 12 runs in the fifth inning of the opener to end the game in five innings, 15-5. The 'Cats jumped on the Crusaders for six runs in the first inning of the nightcap and went on to complete the sweep, 11-4. The 'Cats are now 9-3 on the season (3-3 in AVCTL III), having won nine of their last 10 after losing their first two.

"It's tough for anyone to play under conditions like that," said MHS head coach Charlie Mason. "The umpires didn't want to postpone, and Buhler's coach didn't want to have to re-schedule, so there wasn't much talk about stopping, although we did have to sit through that delay. The most important

things were that we won both games and no one from either team got hurt."

The first game started out quietly enough, scoreless through 3 1/2 innings. That's when the rains (and the runs) arrived.

Mulvane scored three runs in the fourth, but Buhler scored five in the fifth, thanks mostly to six Mulvane errors. The bizarre inning had just gotten started, though. In an at-bat which seemed endless due to the rain delay, the 'Cats would score 12 runs in the bottom of the fifth...without a single hit. "It was all walks, errors, and wild pitches," said Mason. "I've never seen anything like that before. Of course, the weather was a factor, but both teams were equally affected by it."

Mulvane jumped on Buhler early in the second game. Their six-run outburst featured a two-run double by Tara Roberts and a two-run home run by Stephanie Hughes, Mulvane's first homer of the season. Five of Mulvane's 10 hits in the nightcap went for extra bases.

Considering Mulvane's recent winning streak, it seems you would have to shut out the Wildcats to beat them.

That's what happened at Wellington Thursday, April 21. Mulvane rolled to a 7-0 win in the opener behind the pitching of Christy Hartley, but the 'Cat bats went silent in the second game, as Wellington prevailed, 2-0.

In the opener, Mulvane scored a run in the first inning, then added two in the second on an RBI triple by Amanda Hagerman and a wild pitch. The 'Cats blew it open with four runs in the fourth. Amy Phillips led off with a single. One out later, Stephanie Hughes singled and Whitney Phillips reached on an error. Kourtney Bell followed with an RBI triple and scored on a single by Whitney Sullivan.

Hartley had little trouble with the

FIRST GAME

Buhler	000 05—5 2 3
Mulvane	000 3(12)—15 5 7

Hover, Unruh 5, and Guhl; Christy Hartley and Stephanie Hughes.

SECOND GAME

Buhler	011 000 2—4 4 2
Mulvane	621 002 x—11 10 0

Hoyer, Unruh 1, and Guhl; Whitney Phillips and Stephanie Hughes.

HR—Stephanie Hughes (M).

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	120 400 0—7 7 2
Wellington	000 000 0—0 4 3

Christy Hartley and Stephanie Hughes; Weber and Goodrum.

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	000 000 0—0 4 2
Wellington	100 001 x—2 8 1

Whitney Phillips and Stephanie Hughes; Weber and Goodrum.

Junior Varsity

Mulvane 16, Buhler 1
 Mulvane 8, Buhler 2
 Mulvane 10, Wellington 4
 Mulvane 6, Wellington 3
 Mulvane 4, Circle 2
 Mulvane 15, Circle 4

Crusaders. Hartley pitched a four-hit shutout, striking out five and walking none. She only faced 26 batters, just five over the minimum for seven innings.

In the second game, facing the same Wellington pitcher from the opener, the Wildcats couldn't get their offense going. The Crusaders got single runs in the first and sixth innings, which turned out to be all they needed. Abby Sorensen had two of Mulvane's four hits while Jessica Helwi and Amy Phillips each added one. The Wildcats left 10 runners on base in the nightcap.

Starting pitcher Whitney Phillips had a solid game, despite the loss. Phillips allowed only two runs (one earned) on eight hits with one walk and seven strikeouts.