

# Cats' State SB Trip Cut Short



Wildcats Kourtney Bell, Amy Phillips (23), Amanda Hagerman and Lisa Cillessen get set for the next inning at 4A State softball

Mulvane  
Sports

The Mulvane High School softball program's drought at the Class 4A State Tournament continued in 2006.

The fourth-seeded Wildcats lost a pitcher's duel with #5 seed Thomas More Prep, 2-1, in their quarterfinal game at this year's state tournament at Salina's Bill Burke Complex Friday night, May 26. Mulvane finished an outstanding season with a 20-4 record, including a tie for this year's league title in AVCTL Division III, but the 'Cats have still never played on Saturday at the state tournament.

"It's always disappointing when you lose, regardless of when it happens," said Wildcat head coach Charles Mason. "We've been to state four times now, and we still haven't won a game here. That was the primary goal, and we just didn't make it happen. It seems like every year, we draw the most talented team in the tournament. I think that may have been the case again this year, and we still almost won."

The game got off to a rousing start. The Monarchs' leadoff hitter drove the first pitch of the game to deep right-center field, but Mulvane's Chelsea Vaughn made a great running catch just in front of the fence. In the second inning, TMP was able to push a run across for a 1-0 lead. Mulvane's first hit was a single by Amanda Hagerman in the bottom of the second, but she was later caught stealing to end the inning.

In the third, Jordan Cox walked to lead off, then tried to advance all the way to third on a bunt by Stephanie Hughes, but she was thrown out for a double play. In the fourth, a

close call went against the Wildcats. TMP's leadoff batter hit a fly ball down the left-field line that popped out of Cox's glove. For a few seconds, no one from either team seemed to realize that the ball had been called fair. The batter ended up at third base and eventually scored to make it 2-0.

Mulvane had a few more chances. In the bottom of the fourth, Amy Phillips led off with a single but was eventually stranded at second. In the fifth, Cox and Hughes went singled with two out, but Lisa Cillessen flied out to left to end the inning. In the top of the sixth, Cox made a running catch just short of the fence in left field to keep it 2-0.

In the bottom of the sixth, Mulvane finally put together a rally. With two out, Whitney Phillips walked and came all the way around to score on a double to the wall in right-center by Kourtney Bell. Hagerman flied out to end the inning, and the 'Cats

went down 1-2-3 in the seventh against TMP pitcher Kendra Roles.

"It wasn't for a lack of effort," said Mason. "Our league schedule is always so tough, we felt prepared for an environment, like the state tournament. Some of these girls were here two years ago, so I think we came ready to play. We knew we had a chance. It just didn't happen."

In other first-round games Friday, top seed Fort Scott shut outwego, 4-0. #2 seed Marysville edged #7 Louisburg, 4-2, and #6 seed Augusta defeated #3 Tonganoxie, 7-4. In Saturday's semifinals, TMP upset Fort Scott, 1-0, ending the Tigers' 37-game winning streak, and Augusta took down Marysville, 3-0. The Orioles, last year's state runner-up and this year's league co-champions with Mulvane and Rose Hill, won the title by defeating TMP, 6-2. Fort Scott defeated Marysville for third place, 2-0.

## MVP: Whitney Phillips 8 Girls Named SB All-League

Eight Mulvane players were named to the AVCTL III All-League softball team, announced last week.

The Wildcats placed seven on the first team. Named to the first team were senior pitcher Whitney Phillips, senior shortstop Amy Phillips, senior outfielder Tara Roberts, senior catcher Stephanie Hughes, senior DH Courtney Maples, junior third baseman Kourtney Bell, and junior first baseman Amanda Hagerman. Whitney Phillips, Amy Phillips, and Roberts were all first-teamers last year while Hagerman was a second-teamer.

Maples also made the second team as a utility player while senior second baseman Lisa Cillessen also made the second team.

### AVCTL League Softball Standings DIVISION III

Team	League		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
ss-Mulvane	6	2	10	4
ss-Augusta	6	2	16	5
s-Rose Hill	4	2	18	5
Wellington	4	6	5	13
Buhler	2	8	3	16
El Dorado	0	10	0	19

### DIVISION IV

y-Adrian Central	8	0	16	4
Andale	6	2	14	7
Chilhowee	6	4	10	11
Cisco	0	6	5	14
Adrewer	0	6	3	14

(w=qualified for division title)  
(l=was division title)  
(q=qualified for state tournament)  
(sq=was Class 4A state title)

Whitney Phillips was voted the league's Most Valuable Player. Head coach Charles Mason shared Coach Of The Year honors with Augusta's Ray Aguire.

Augusta had four players on the first team, Rose Hill had three, and Wellington had one. Augusta won state title while Mulvane also qualified for state this season.

### AVCTL Division III All-League Softball FIRST TEAM

1st Base—Amanda Hagerman, Mulvane. 2nd Base—Nicole Showalter, Rose Hill. 3rd Base—Kourtney Bell, Mulvane. Shortstop—Amy Phillips, Mulvane. Catcher—Stephanie Hughes, Mulvane. Keya Sears, Augusta. Outfield—Kacie Jones, Augusta. Rainey Nickel, Augusta. Aubree Nighswonger, Rose Hill. Tara Roberts, Mulvane. Pitcher—Nicole Dunphy, Rose Hill; Whitney Phillips, Mulvane. Abby Spivey, Augusta. Utility—Courtney Godrum, Wellington. DH/DP—Courtney Maples, Mulvane.

MVP—Whitney Phillips, Mulvane.  
Co-Coaches Of The Year—Charles Mason, Mulvane, and Ray Aguire, Augusta.

### SECOND TEAM

1st Base—Megan Craig, Rose Hill. 2nd Base—Lisa Cillessen, Mulvane. 3rd Base—Katie Davis, Rose Hill. Shortstop—Kerenee Coburn, Rose Hill. Catcher—Christina Karvake, Rose Hill. Outfield—Lulu Harmon, El Dorado. Jessica Miller, Wellington. Pitcher—Mikhaela Brown, Buhler; Deanne Walters, Wellington. Utility—Jessica Johnson, Augusta. Courtney Maples, Mulvane.

### HONORABLE MENTION

1st Base—Abby Norris, Wellington. Candy Showalter, Buhler. 2nd Base—Maddie Sauerfeld, El Dorado. 3rd Base—Peggy Ingram, El Dorado. Shortstop—Candi Barber, Buhler; Brooke Burns, Augusta. Keyla Nelson, Wellington. Laura Rowell, El Dorado.