

# Fast Start For SB Girls

The MHS softball girls are off to a fast start, one of their fastest ever. Coach Charlie Mason's softball warriors rung up their 4th and 5th straight victories of the 2007 season Monday, April 9, when Circle came to town.

"The girls were coming off a real good game against Rose Hill and the confidence kind of overflowed against Circle," said Mason. "One thing we have over some other teams is the fact that our defense has been extremely solid. We're getting some really good pitching, too."

That's two ingredients to a highly-successful year: good pitching and solid defense.

The Wildcats were all of that on Monday at the Mulvane sports complex, too, as they battered the Thunderbirds in a pair of run-rule, five-inning games. Mulvane won 10-0 and 11-1.

The solid pitching came from freshman Taylor Parsons and senior Whitney Sullivan. Parsons yielded only one hit to Circle in the opener (she also struck out 11) and Sullivan came on with a four-hit gem in the nightcap. That's enough said considering pitching is a big part of the game.

The Wildcat offense wasn't about to let Parsons and Sullivan steal all of the thunder, however. Mulvane busted nine hits in the opener and 14 in game No. 2.

"We got a couple of timely hits and a couple errors by Circle in the second inning of the first game and that allowed us to break open the game early," pointed out Mason. "Once we were out front, we were able to get more aggressive on the bases and at the plate."

The Cat girls scored five times in the 2nd inning and Circle never recovered. Lexi Linnebur started the rally by reaching on an error. Jordan Cox's double produced one run and Jordan Owens knocked in Cox. Chelsea Vaughn rapped a single and Jackie Schwemmer walked before Sullivan plated a run with a fielder's choice and Kourtney Bell finished a rally with an RBI ground out.

Sullivan, Bell and Owens ended up with two RBIs apiece and Sullivan, Bell and Vaughn had two hits each.

In game-2, the Wildcats pushed across runs in every inning. Bell and Linnebur had RBIs in the opening frame. Bell's coming on a solo homer over the fence. Sullivan cracked a two-run single in the 2nd to support her own cause, making it 4-1, and the girls in green wrapped it up with four more in the 3rd inning.

Bell and senior Amanda Hagerman both had three hits and Hagerman scored three runs. Linnebur had two hits and two RBIs and Caitlin Wise scored two times and had an RBI triple to her credit.

Sullivan sailed along with little trouble. She fanned only two and but stayed out of trouble by walking only one batter.

"Anytime you get 14 hits, its a good thing," said Mason. "Our hitters gave it a good effort. Now, we get to go up against No. 1 in the state, so we'll see what we are made of."

The Wildcats will travel to Augusta today (April 12) for a key AVCTL Division III doubleheader, starting at 4:30 p.m.

The freshman pitcher Parsons and the rest of the Mulvane High School softball girls didn't let a little snow and cold weather get under their skin.

The Wildcat girls stepped up on the mound, at the plate and in the field and man-handled Rose Hill in a game Thursday, April 5, decking the Rockets, 9-1. The second game of the scheduled doubleheader was postponed due to the freezing weather conditions.

"The girls stepped up to the plate despite the weather," said assistant coach Debbie Kendrick, who was handling the team in the absence of veteran head coach Charlie Mason. "The girls didn't make many mistakes and Rose Hill did. That was the difference in the ball game. That and, of course, Taylor pitching an awesome game. Rose Hill just couldn't catch up to her."

Parsons held Rose Hill in check, allowing only three hits and striking out 12 batters. Her teammates had her back, too, mak-

## FIRST GAME

Circle	000 000-0	1
Mulvane	050 113-10	9

Moore and Killman; Taylor Parsons and Jordan Cox.

## SECOND GAME

Circle	010 00-1	4
Mulvane	224 3x-11	14

Jessen and Wittlake; Whitney Sullivan and Stephanie Wilson.

HR-Kourtney Bell (M).

## FIRST GAME

Rose Hill	000 001 0-1	3
Mulvane	212 220 x-9	8

Nicole Dunphy and Nicole Summerville; Taylor Parsons and Jordan Cox.

## SECOND GAME

Postponed due to snow.

## Junior Varsity Results

### FIRST GAME

Circle	000 -- 0	0
Mulvane	(12)15x-27	14

Mulvane battery: Haylee Smith and Jessica Goldring.

### SECOND GAME

Circle	005-5	1
Mulvane	(14)34-21	19

Mulvane battery: Audrey Sullivan, Caitlin Wayman 2.

Kyleen Condon 3, and Whitney Spaulding.

### FIRST GAME

Rose Hill	120 020-5	3
Mulvane	140 001-6	7

Rash and Showalter; Haylee Smith and Jessica Goldring.

### SECOND GAME

Postponed by snow.

### FIRST GAME

Mulvane	141 04-10	8
Clearwater	200 00-2	7

Mulvane battery: Taylor Bell and Jessica Goldring.

### SECOND GAME

Mulvane	121 01-5	1
Clearwater	001 10-2	2

Mulvane battery: Aubrey Sullivan and Whitney Spaulding; Jessica Goldring 3.



ing the defensive plays when they counted as the Cats made only two errors under tremendously difficult conditions.

Mulvane's offense got going early, scoring two runs in the opening frame. Lead-off batter Jackie Schwemmer singled to start the game. Jordan sacrificed Schwemmer to second and both runners advanced another base when Rose Hill had an overthrow trying to get Schwemmer at second. Kourtney Bell's ground out scored one run and Cox scored on a Lexi Linnebur grounder.

The Cats scored once in the next inning when Whitney Sullivan reached on an error and scored moments later on another error, then boldly moved to 5-0 in the third when Bell walked and scored on Amanda Hagerman's double. Hagerman scored on a single by Sullivan.

Game over with the way Parsons was pitching.

"We executed when we needed to both on offense and defense and they didn't. That was the story of the game," said Kendrick. "We were able to get runners on base and when we did, we tried to put pressure on their defense. I was really surprised at the defensive mistakes they made."

"It was also good to get it going early with the conditions deteriorating like they were," said Kendrick.

Schwemmer finished with three hits and two runs scored. Bell also had two hits and two runs score as they paced the Cats' eight-hit attack.

The MHS junior varsity softballers boosted their record to an impressive 5-0 Monday by taking two games from an out-manned Circle squad. The scorers were out of sight, a 15-0 shutout in the first game and a 21-5 burst in the nightcap.

Pitcher Haylee Smith mastered the T-Birds in the first game by not giving them even a sniff of a hit. She struck out seven of the 10 batters she faced. The top offensive weapons—and there were many—were Grace Schwemmer with two hits, two runs scored and three RBIs. Taylor Bell with two singles, three runs scored and two RBIs. Lindsay Ring with two runs scored and two RBIs. Sasha Swaney with two hits and two runs scored and Kylie Duncan with two hits and two runs scored.