

'Prom Lag' Cripples MHS Softball Surge

Just chalk it up to "prom lag."
 Mulvane High School softball coach Charlie Mason is glad the Mulvane High School Junior-Senior Prom comes only once a year.

Two days after the prom, the MHS softballers went to Andale for a power test against the Indians and Andale had all the right answers, sweeping both ends of a doubleheader with the Wildcats, 9-2 and 2-1 Monday, April 23.

Andale stayed on its course, rolling to an impressive 13-1 mark. Mason's Cats fell to 6-5 for the season.

What bothered Mason the most was the way his Wildcats played...It was like who are these girls?

"You sometimes have jet lag, we had 'prom lag,' I think," said Mason, whose Cats played at Andale slightly more than 18 hours after the prom officially ended. "We just didn't show up. It was in all areas: pitching, hitting and defense. We had more errors in that first game than we have had all season long. And that doesn't count the mental mistakes that we made which don't show up in the scorebook."

Can you count to seven? That's how many errors the Wildcats had in game one. And overall, Mulvane had nine errors.

Freshman pitching sensation Taylor Parsons had her worst outing of the season, giving up nine hits to go with one walk. But it all started in the field.

"I'm hoping the game was just an one-game happening," added Mason. "I know Andale is right up there with Augusta. Both are among the top two or three in the state. Andale has their whole team back and they've always been pretty good hitters but we made them look a lot better last night."

The contest slowly got out of hand and picked up speed. The Indians punched in two runs with the help of an error in the first inning after Mulvane had a baserunner picked off base in its half of the first inning. The Cats had two more baserunners in the 2nd inning but didn't score. It was like that all night.

After the hosts made it 4-0 in the 3rd, Mulvane came alive to score it's only two runs on two hits, a passed ball and two errors. Normally, that's a recipe for four or five runs.

Amanda Hagerman singled and went to second on a passed ball. She scored when Jordan Owens lined a base hit. She scored moments later on two errors.

"We just didn't show much in that first game," admitted Mason.

Mulvane picked up the playing pace in game No. 2. The Cats scored first when Kourtney Bell singled and scored on a Hagerman double.

That was the offense, however, the rest of the way. Mulvane had only two baserunners the final six innings.

In the meantime, senior pitcher Whitney

Sullivan was throwing a grand game. She went the distance and gave up only six hits and walked three. The Cat defense also picked up the slack behind Sullivan.

"Whitney pitched a heck of a ball game," said Mason. "She deserved to come away with more than a loss. Sometimes, though it takes only one mistake."

The Indians tied it in the 2nd inning, and it remained deadlocked until the last inning when a double and a two-out error at short stop allowed the winning run to score.

"We played better in the second game but we still struggled at the plate," said Mason. "We had only eight hits in the two games, so our hitters struggled a little bit. But it was our defense that was the difference. For us to be in ball games, we have to be solid in all areas and we weren't. We weren't solid last night."

The Wildcats will return to AVCT Division III today (April 26) when they travel to Andover for a league game. The doubleheader will begin at 4:30 p.m.

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	000 200 0-2	3
Circle	202 212 1-9	9
Taylor Parsons and Jordan Cox; Schmetzer and Eck.		

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	100 000 0-1	3
Circle	010 000 1-2	6
Whitney Sullivan and Stephanie Wilson; Faber, Schmetzer G, and Eck.		

AVCT League Baseball Standings

Division III

Team	LEAGUE OVERALL			
	W	L	W	L
Buhler	2	0	2	2
Mulvane	3	1	10	3
Augusta	1	1	6	4
Andover	1	1	4	6
El Dorado	1	1	4	6
Rose Hill	0	4	3	9

Division IV

Wellington	2	0	9	1
Andover Central	3	1	11	1
Andale	3	3	7	7
Clearwater	2	2	3	7
Circle	0	2	5	7
Kingman	0	2	0	10

AVCT League Softball Standings

Division III

Team	LEAGUE OVERALL			
	W	L	W	L
Augusta	2	0	6	2
Andover	1	1	2	8
El Dorado	1	1	3	3
Buhler	1	1	1	3
Rose Hill	1	2	8	3
Mulvane	1	2	6	8

Division IV

Andale	6	0	13	1
Andover Central	2	2	7	5
Clearwater	2	2	7	3
Wellington	0	2	2	4
Kingman	0	2	1	7
Circle	0	2	1	9