

Regional Monday

Mound Duel Goes To RH

It was another classic contest between Mulvane and Rose Hill.

When the two teams played in early April in a snowstorm, the Wildcats had it all their way in a 9-1 contest, but the make-up game Tuesday, May 8, had a totally different outcome. The Rockets won the game, 2-1, on a dramatic home run in the top of the 9th inning.

Rose Hill pitcher Nicole Dunphy was having a hard time beating the Wildcats on the hill so with one swing of her bat, she did what she couldn't do on the mound, slapping a solo homer for the difference-maker.

"We had beaten her three of the last four times," said Mulvane Coach Charlie Mason. "It was a good ball game. Both pitchers pitched extremely well. That's probably the best we've seen Dunphy pitch in about three years, but last night, we took too many pitches."

Speaking of pitches, Mulvane hurler Taylor Parsons had a tremendous game, too. She gave up only four hits and struck out 12 in the make-up game. It wasn't good enough because Dunphy held the hard-hitting Cats to only two hits.

"We had two great opportunities and let both of them get away from us," said Mason. "They scored in the sixth but they scored on an error in the outfield. You can't give good teams an extra out because they will make you pay, and Rose Hill made us pay."

The Wildcats could have enhanced a 1-0 lead in the 3rd but didn't. Chelsea Vaughn doubled and Whitney Sullivan reached on an error by Dunphy, so Mulvane could have had runners at the corners with no outs. Instead, Vaughn was gunned down at the plate trying to take an extra base and the Rockets doubled up Sullivan at second when she tried to take an extra base on the throw to the plate.

Another chance was wasted in the last inning when both Kourtney Bell and Amanda Hagerman walked with two out. But the next batter, Lexi Linnebur fouled out to end the game. "That 3rd inning really hurt us," said Mason. "We could have broke open the game there but didn't."

A day earlier, the Wildcats swept two games from a nearly-winless Kingman squad coming to the Mulvane sports complex for the first time. Mulvane ripped the Eagles in two games, 12-0, and 14-3.

Is Kourtney Bell on a roll or what?

The Mulvane High School third baseman connected for three home runs in four games last week to steal some of the thunder from the Wildcat pitching staff in a four-game sweep last week. The Cats buried Kingman easily in two games Monday evening, May 7, 12-0 and 14-3.

In another home series Thursday, May 3, against Buhler, the MHS girls were equally ruthless as they slashed through the Crusader staff for 11-1 and 10-0 wins.

Bell connected for a two-run homer in game 1 against Buhler, then came back with a solo blast in the nightcap. Against Kingman, she sent one out of the park in the 2nd game, which gave her four for the year, which is a record number for Mulvane's softball program.

In the meantime, the Mulvane mound corps was motoring right along. Freshman ace Taylor Parsons had a no-hitter against Kingman and a one-hitter against Buhler. Senior Whitney Sullivan one-hit Buhler and gave up seven against Kingman, although the Cats were up 13-1 through four innings.

Parsons pitched her first perfect game, mowing down all 15 Kingman batters, 11 of them by strikeout. Top hitters in the opening game were Linnebur, who was 2-for-2 with three runs scored and two RBIs, Jordan Cox, who went 2-for-3 with one RBI and two runs scored and Taylor Bell with a 2-for-2 effort and three runs scored.

In the second game against the Eagles, Sullivan tossed a seven-hitter and struck out six. Mulvane unloaded with Sullivan, and Taylor Bell cracking two hits each, Hagerman knocking in three runs and Jackie Schwemmer doubling in two runs.

Mulvane went right after Buhler in the

Wellington 4A Regional Softball Pairings

At Warden Park

MONDAY, MAY 14

(South Field)

4:45 p.m. -- No. 1 seeded Andale (16-2) vs. No. 8 Kingman (1-19)

6:30 -- No. 4 Mulvane (12-6) vs. #5 Clearwater (10-5)

(North Field)

4:45 -- No. 2 Belle Plaine (13-3) vs. No. 7 Douglass (6-10)

6:30 -- No. 3 Rose Hill (13-5) vs. Wellington (10-8)

TUESDAY, MAY 15

3 p.m. -- Semifinal: winners of South Field games

4:45 -- Semifinal: winners of North Field games

6:30 (Championship) -- winners of semifinal games

opening contest, scoring five times in inning No. 2. "It was just total domination," said Coach Mason. "We got good pitching. Taylor missed a no-hitter by about five feet, which is about how far their only hit went, and Whitney gave up only one hit and didn't walk a batter.

Buhler mistakes also helped create offense. "They made only a couple of mistakes but they came in the middle of innings that turned it into big innings," stressed Mason. "Beating Buhler helped us secure no worse than 2nd place in the league and that was important to us."

In the Ark Valley Chisholm Trail League Division III, Mulvane is 5-2 with one make-up to play, so MHS will likely finish behind only Augusta.

The Mulvane girls erupted for five runs in the 2nd inning to start the rout. Amanda Hagerman singled and Lexi Linnebur walked. After a double steal, Taylor Bell tripled off the wall to score two and then scored when Chelsea Vaughn ripped a single. She scored after a passed ball and a Sullivan base hit, then scored on another passed ball.

Taylor Bell, subbing at 2nd for the injured Jordan Owens, finished with a 1-for-1 night and three RBIs and one run scored. Hagerman went 2-for-2 with two runs scored, Sullivan was 2-for-3 with one RBI and three runs scored and Kourtney Bell had two RBIs on a two-run homer to highlight the three-run 4th.

In game 2, Sullivan faced only 17 batters in five innings of work as she gave up only one hit, fanned six and didn't issue a walk.

The MHS offense started with a bang—off the bat of Kourtney Bell, whose solo homer in the 1st made it 1-0. Mulvane made it 4-0 in the 2nd with three more, then closed out the game with a four-run 5th. That inning saw Linnebur and Cox both walked and Taylor Bell reached on a fielder's choice. Catcher Stephanie Wilson brought in Cox when she reached on a fielder's choice. Bell scored on a wild pitch and Wilson scored on a steal. Maddie Wise walked and stole second before scoring when Sullivan reached on an infield error to finish off the run-rule.

The final games of the regular season will be played today (May 10) when El Dorado is at the Mulvane sports complex for two games starting at 4:30 p.m. The series was rained out on opening day.

SECOND GAME

(Continued from April 5th snow-out game)

Rose Hill 000 001 01-2 4
Mulvane 100 000 00-1 2
Nicole Dunphy and Nicole Semmervill; Taylor Parsons and Jordan Cox.
HR--Nicole Dunphy (RH).

FIRST GAME

Kingman 000 00-0 0
Mulvane 046 2s-12 11
VanLandingham and Stetzer; Taylor Parsons and Jordan Cox.
HR--Lexi Linnebur (M).

SECOND GAME

Kingman 000 12-3 7
Mulvane 123 73-14 11
Robison and Stetzer; Whitney Sullivan and Stephanie Wilson.
HR--Kourtney Bell (M).

FIRST GAME

Buhler 000 100-1 1
Mulvane 050 312-11 10
Brown and Gubi; Taylor Parsons and Jordan Cox.
HR--Kourtney Bell (M).

SECOND GAME

Buhler 000 00-0 1
Mulvane 131 14-10 5
Waggoner, Brown S. and Cox; Whitney Sullivan and Stephanie Wilson.
HR--Kourtney Bell (M).