

Softballers Pull Things Together

After a three-game skid, the Mulvane High School softball girls pulled things back together. Circle came along just at the right time.

Coach Charlie Mason's Wildcats needed a confidence builder and they got one at Circle Monday night, April 7. Mulvane thumped the Thunderbirds, 13-0, as sophomore pitcher Taylor Parsons notched her second shutout this season. Mulvane came back in the nightcap with another success story, 8-1.

That put the Cats back over the .500 mark again at 5-3 as they looked ahead for a super-showdown with powerful Augusta. The Orioles will be at the Mulvane sports complex for a pair of games today (April 10) with games starting at 4:30 p.m.

"It took us a little while to get started but we finally put a couple of big innings together at Circle," said Mason. "We had some good hitting and they helped us out with a couple of mistakes."

The Wildcats ripped 10 hits in game No. 1, slamming the door emphatically with a six-run 6th.

Jessica Goldring went 2-for-4 with three runs scored and two RBIs, Parsons went 2-for-4 with two runs scored and two RBIs, Maddie Wise had two singles and scored a run, Taylor Bell and Lexi Linnebur both scored twice and had one RBI. Sasha Swaney scored twice.

Parsons, who pitched both games, threw a two-hitter and struck out 13 in the opener, then gave up only three hits and fanned 11 in the nightcap. "Taylor was pretty dominant in both games," said Mason. "She can do that."

In the second game, the big gun at the plate was Linnebur, who knocked in three runs on two hits. Goldring came through with a 2-for-3 effort with two runs scored, Stephanie Wilson was 1-for-2 with one RBI and one run scored and Bell had a hit and scored twice.

There weren't any easy outs in the Rose Hill softball line-up Thursday night, April 3, when the Wildcats had their annual run-in with the Rockets.

The Rockets banged the ball all night and the Cats' usually reliable pitching staff had its troubles as the RH Rockets rumbled past the Wildcats in both ends of the doubleheader in Rose Hill. The Rockets rallied with a clutch three-run 7th inning and beat Mulvane, 8-7, in the ninth, then unloaded in the nightcap, 14-8.

"They were typical Rose Hill-Mulvane games," said Mason. "You can't give Rose Hill any breaks because they take advantage of them. The top of their batting order just killed us all night. McDivitt leads off the ball game with a home run and that started things off."

Mulvane's usually reliable hurler, Parsons, lost only four games all of last year, but in this one five-hour stretch, the Rockets handed her two losses, one in each game.

"She didn't have her best stuff and we made some mistakes that really hurt us," said Mason. "They hit the ball on

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	013 126--13	10
Circle	000 000--0	2

Taylor Parsons and Stephanie Wilson, Moore and Killman

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	020 103 2--8	8
Circle	000 001 0--1	3

Taylor Parsons and Stephanie Wilson, Hatfield and Johnson

FIRST GAME

Mulvane	013 020 100--7	11
Rose Hill	200 002 301--8	7

Taylor Parsons and Stephanie Wilson, Kaitlyn Bonar, Kim Clark 7 and Nicole Summersill

HR—Taylor Parsons (M), Kayli McInnes (RH)

SECOND GAME

Mulvane	003 020 1--8	10
Rose Hill	122 414 6--15	17

Haylee Smith, Taylor Parsons 3, Smith 5, and Stephanie Wilson, Kim Clark, Courtney Rash and Nicole Summersill

HR—Courtney Rash (RH)

Junior Varsity Results

FIRST GAME

Clearwater	000 00--0	2
Mulvane	215 44--10	11

Mulvane battery: Kyleen Condon and Stormi Potocak

SECOND GAME

Clearwater	100 10--2	8
Mulvane	345 1--12	11

Mulvane battery: Audrey Sullivan and Kyleen Condon

FIRST GAME

El Dorado	100 11--7	5
Mulvane	121 (10) 6--14	12

Mulvane battery: Kyleen Condon and Stormi Potocak

SECOND GAME

El Dorado	100 12--4	5
Mulvane	303 34--11	11

Mulvane battery: Audrey Sullivan and Kyleen Condon

Parsons and that's all you can say. That's the best Rose Hill has hit against us in a long, long time. They put it in play and put it in play hard."

Still, the Wildcats could have and should have won the opener. Trailing, 2-0, Mulvane bounced back with a run in the 2nd and three in the 3rd to take a 4-2 lead. Two more in the 5th made it 6-2 and normally a lock with Parsons throwing. But a couple of errors and a walk and three hits tied the score at 7-7 in the bottom of the last inning and Rose Hill won it in the 9th.

Wilson went 3-for-5 with three RBIs and one run scored to spark the Cat offense. Linnebur went 2-for-3 with three runs scored, Bell had two hits and Caitlin Wayman had a two-RBI double to send the Cats ahead in the 3rd inning. Parsons also smacked a solo homer in the 3rd.

"We did a nice job coming from behind twice in that game but we just couldn't hang onto it," said Mason.

Rose Hill had a five-run eruption against Parsons in the second game that put the Rockets ahead, 10-5, and the Cats never recovered from that one.

"Again, we made a few mistakes and then got our heads down and they just kept pounding it," said Mason. "There's not a whole lot you can say about that. They had 16 hits and scored 15. We had 10 hits and eight runs. You'd think that was enough to stay in the ball game but it wasn't."

"They hit the ball hard. We made some plays but not all the plays, and when you put in there some uncharacteristic walks as well, it comes out to a big score."