

Finish 2nd In League

Poor Start Dooms Cat Baseballers

BURDEN--Ever try bailing out a boat with a three-foot hole in it? It doesn't work. And neither does falling four runs behind in the first inning of a high school tournament game.

Coach Don Gifford's Mulvane Wildcats couldn't bail out of a sinking ship and went down to a 10-2 defeat Wednesday, May 4, in the championship game of the Walter Johnson League Baseball Tournament here. Augusta shot holes in the title hopes of the Wildcats, jumping off to a 6-2 lead after one inning of play.

Valley Center bombed Sedan, 11-7, for third place.

"We didn't have any choice after that first inning," complained Gifford. "We got down a bunch of runs right off the bat and didn't do anything the rest of the game to get ourselves back into the ball game. Normally, someone will make a great defensive play or we'll string some hits together but we didn't do it this time."

Consequently, the Cats finished second to the Orioles, a team which had split a doubleheader in Mulvane earlier this year, and dipped to 7-10 heading

WALTER JOHNSON LEAGUE TOURNEY Championship

Mulvane	200 00- 2 1
Augusta	810 3x-10
Chris Hicks, Todd Travis 4, and J.C. Shook; Pete Bordyk and Todd Marcotte.	

Third Place

Valley Center 11, Sedan 7.

WICHITA NORTH CLASS 5A-6A

REGIONAL BASEBALL

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

First Round

7 p.m. (at McAdams Park)—Mulvane (7-11) vs. Wichita Southeast (5-11)

TODAY (MAY 12)

At West Side Athletic Field

3 p.m. (semifinals)—Wichita Carroll (10-6) vs. Wichita West (6-8)

5 (semifinals)—Winner of Mulvane-Southeast vs. Wichita South (12-2)

7—Championship game

into the Wichita North Class 5A-6A Regional Tournament at McAdam Park in Wichita.

Because of a Tuesday rainout, the Wildcats were to have met Southeast (5-11) at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 11. A victory would have put the Cats into the semifinals against either Wichita Carroll or Wichita West at 5 p.m. today (May 12) with the championship game and a trip to the state tourney on the line at 7 tonight.

After scoring twice, Mulvane right-hander Chris Hicks had troubles of his own in the initial inning, which included two bases-filled walks.

"We didn't do a bad job the rest of the way," said Gifford. "Chris was having problems with the mound, he couldn't adjust to it. It was just one of those things. He has short legs and the mound was steep. He couldn't step down the hill far enough to get footing and was slipping."

The boys from Mulvane scored twice in the first inning but quickly fell apart as the Orioles countered with six in the bottom of the first as starting pitcher Hicks couldn't find his groove and walked six batters.

Hicks doubled on the first pitch of the game but it turned out to be the only hit Mulvane was to get. Todd Robinson then worked a walk. Both moved up on a wild pitch before Whitmer grounded out to drive in Hicks and J.C. Shook grounded out to drive in Robinson.

Hicks ended up walking eight and was touched for three hits to take the loss. Todd Travis took over in the fourth inning.