

## Streak At Eight

# Big Innings Cure All

A nine-run last inning will cure just about all that ails you, "especially when you're only four runs down," noted Mulvane High School baseball coach David Katzenmeier.

The Wildcat baseballers continued their strong surge, adding four victories this week to run their overall record to 8-3 with eight straight victories. The Cats rallied twice to derail Campus, 9-5 and 12-7, in a non-league doubleheader in Haysville Monday, April 21, and in two Chisholm Trail League encounters, the Cats trimmed Valley Center, 9-5 and 3-1, at VC Thursday, April 17.

The CTL wins gave Mulvane a 5-1 league log.

At Haysville, both victories came off the comeback trail. The Colts held a 5-4 lead after three before Mulvane scored five unanswered runs in the last four innings and the nightcap was even more exciting because the Cats scored nine times in the top of the seventh to pull the game out.

"I keep telling the guys that hitting is contagious and once we started hitting it, it was contagious," said Katzenmeier. Until the 7th, MHS had been held to only four hits but outfielder Mike Snow got things started with probably the smallest hit--a bunt single. "After that, the dam broke. Snow sparked us, it was his idea and he beat it out but it got us going." Curtis Hicks and Danny LeClair followed with base hits to load the sacks. Mike Stump and Kris Withrow quickly unloaded 'em with back-to-back hits driving in two runs apiece. Reserve Geoffrey Burris looped a hit to rightfield to score the eventual game-winner. Later in the rally, Snow cracked a two-run triple and LeClair had a two-run single.

### PREP BASEBALL CHISHOLM TRAIL LEAGUE First Game

Mulvane	300 031 1--8 11
Valley Center	021 200 0--5 5
Jerrold Sorensen, Morgan LeClair 5, and Jeff Belden; Eric Burns and Spike Anderson.	
HR--Wes Moore, Mike Stump 2, Jeff Belden (M).	
Brian Phipps (VC).	

### Second Game

Mulvane	000 102--3 6
Valley Center	000 100--1 2
Morgan LeClair, Curtis Hicks 6, and Jeff Belden; Brian Phipps and Spike Anderson.	

### NON-CONFERENCE First Game

Mulvane	202 302 0--9 13
Campus	041 000 0--5 13
Brian Cusick, Klye Steadman 4, and Jeff Belden; Tillson and Hood, Jacobs 4.	
HR--Dan LeClair (M).	

### Second Game

Mulvane	012 000 9--12 13
Campus	021 211 0-- 7 8
Mike Stump, Jerrold Sorensen 4, Morgan LeClair 7, and Jeff Belden; Mantz, Shoemaker 4, Mantz 7, and Jacobs.	

"Burris hasn't been used much but I inserted him into the line-up for his defense and he came through," said Katzenmeier. "Once we got the lead, I knew we had Morgan (LeClair) warming up in the bullpen.

The righthander LeClair is becoming quite the stopper coming out of the bullpen. He picked up the save and also had a save against Valley.

"It's just nice to have the kids who can come in and do the job when you need it done," emphasized the Cat skipper. "With the staff we have, I figure if we can just hang in there close to people, we're going to win. We have an explosive offense and I'd like to see the offense exploding early rather than late."

Senior Jerrold Sorensen picked up the victory and was saved by the last-inning blow-up after falling behind, 5-3.

In the Campus opener, senior Brian

Cusick logged the first three innings and reliever Kyle Steadman picked up the win as the Wildcats pushed across three runs in the fourth to take the lead and added two more in the sixth to ice things. Two 4th inning errors by the Colts helped a lot and sandwiched doubles by Wes Moore and Snow.

Hicks and Danny LeClair, who finished with a 4-for-4 game including a two-run homer in the third, had RBI hits in the sixth.

Valley Center nearly became a Mulvane graveyard, the Hornets ahead in the opener, 5-3, before a three-run uprising in the 5th put the Cats on top, and Morgan LeClair then came in to polish things off the last three innings without giving up a hit.

Stump provided most of the fireworks for Katzenmeier's Wildcats as he clubbed a three-run homer in the fifth, then added a solo shot in the seventh. He finished with four hits in four trips, had five RBIs and scored three times. Catcher Jeff Belden also hamered a homer and Moore started the game with a four-bagger.

The nightcap against the Hornets was a defensive struggle going one extra inning before Hicks walked and scored on a single by Stump, who scored one out later on an RBI base knock by Mike Shook.

Morgan LeClair started the game and hurled a one-hitter before being relieved by Hicks in the sixth and last inning. LeClair fanned five but constantly had runners on as the MHS defense leaked a bit with three errors.

The Wildcats will be at home today (April 24) for a CTL doubleheader against a strong Augusta team. The games start at 4 p.m. at the MHS baseball field.