



Brian Schmidt plows into third base ahead of the attempted tag by Rose Hill's Gerald Snell in CTL doubleheader Thursday

MHS 3-1 In League

Bats Ring Against Rockets

Mulvane's offense turned vicious when Rose Hill came to town Thursday, April 9, for a pair of Chisholm Trail League games. After opening the season with frail bats, the Wildcats came out glowing against the Rockets and swept a doubleheader by a 12-4 and 3-1 count.

The double dip upped Mulvane's record to 3-1 and 3-1 in the Chisholm Trail League for the defending CTL champs. Rose Hill dropped to 4-3.

"We scored some runs when we needed to and in the second game we got ahead just enough to make things easy for Morgan (LeClair)," said David Katzenmeier, Mulvane High School head coach. "We had some people out so we didn't have the line-up we wanted to have but we decided to go with more stealing and more hit-and-run tactics. The coaches felt like we needed to do a little more of that in these ball games. You can look real good with the hit-and-run or you can look real bad. We had three hits which went through where the third baseman would have been had we not been stealing third base, so we came out looking pretty good."

The Wildcats also came up with the timely hits in both games. Veterans LeClair, Curtis Hicks, Shay Cornejo and newcomer Brian Unruh all looked good,

	First Game	
Rose Hill	013	00-4 5
Mulvane	223	05-12 10
Doug Penrod and Scott Dennis; Curtis Hicks, Shay Cornejo 3, and Brian Schmidt. HR--Scott Dennis (RH).		
	Second Game	
Rose Hill	000	00-0 4
Mulvane	201	0x-3 3
Gerald Snell, Clint Bradfield 3, and Scott Dennis; Morgan LeClair and Brian Schmidt.		

Unruh going 4-for-4 in the opener and LeClair going 3-for-3.

"We just tried to make things happen," added Katzenmeier. "We have two sophomores filling in because of some injuries and a junior catcher and all three really came through for us. Sean Gillespie and John Melick did a fine job for us in the outfield and I can't say enough about Brian Schmidt behind the plate. He's come in there to replace (injured) Jarrod Young and he's handled it."

A five-run fifth inning halted the opening game as Mulvane run-ruled the Rockets. In the nightcap, it was all LeClair, who fired a four-hitter. "I like to get something going in that second game because five innings doesn't last long and when you've got Morgan out there on the mound, it doesn't even last that long," said Katzenmeier. "In those short games, I feel it's important to get out on top quickly. We came out aggressively and scored a couple."



Mulvane wasted little time getting on top of things against the Rockets. Brian Unruh and Shay Cornejo both singled to start the opening game for the Cats. Both scored on back-to-back sacrifice flies to center field by Morgan LeClair and Kyle Steadman.

Cornejo's RBI triple and a single by LeClair in the second inning made it 4-1 in the second before both teams pushed across runs in the third. The Wildcats ended the game in the fifth with a five-run outburst. LeClair and sophomore Sean Gillespie had two-run hits to fuel the uprising which started with catcher Brian Schmidt and outfielder John Melick both walking.

Righthander Curtis Hicks squared his record at 1-1 with the win. In the nightcap, LeClair sailed through five innings of four-hit work to up his record

to 2-0, striking out eight batters in the process.

Unruh and Cornejo again fuelled a two-run first inning that gave LeClair the breathing room he needed. Unruh was struck by a pitch and Cornejo followed by working a walk from RH starter Gerald Snell. Hicks drilled a run-scoring single and Cornejo came around when LeClair grounded to short.

Mulvane's only other mark of the 3-1 triumph came in the third when Hicks had a solid single to right-centerfield and scored on LeClair's double to about the same location.

The Wildcat baseballers will be back in action today (April 16) at home against Valley Center in another Chisholm Trail League doubleheader starting at 4 p.m. The Cats then play Andover in another CTL home battle Monday, April 20.