

'King' Kong's 1st Opponent

There may be some life in the old "King" yet. Mulvane High School, trying to return to Emporia to defend its 4A-1A State Baseball Championship, displayed signs of the brilliance of yesteryear Monday afternoon, May 18, in the opening round of the Class 4A-1A Regional Baseball Tournament at Central of Burden.

The Wildcats from Mulvane went wild with the bats, pounding out 13 hits to slaughter Douglass, 16-2, in the tournament's first game. The nightcap was rained out with Central leading Rose Hill, 11-2, in the third inning.

The rain forced postponement of the championship game, which was to have been Monday night. Central and Rose Hill were slated to pick up their game in the third inning at 3 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, followed by Mulvane meeting the winner at 5 p.m. for the championship.

The regional champ will advance to the 4A-1A State Tournament at Soden's Grove in Emporia. The state meet will be held Friday and Saturday, May 29-30.

"Douglass is a little down but we still played some pretty good baseball," declared MHS skipper David Katzenmeier. "That game could give us a real good springboard to the state championship. Line drives were rolling. It was a good way to start off the regional. If we can continue to score runs, I believe we'll be back to the state tournament."

Right now, only one game separates the Cats from Soden's Grove. Mulvane started quickly against Douglass. Four runs in the first inning came on Dan LeClair's RBI double and a three-run homer by Morgan LeClair.

Dan LeClair chalked up two more RBIs in the second inning when he poked a two-run homer after a walk to Kyle Steadman. Mulvane ran the count to 8-1 with two in the third. Chris Caywood singled and Rob Whitmer doubled him home with the help of an error. Jarrod Young was hit by a pitch, stole two bases, then scored on a Steadman ground out.

Things broke loose in the next inning as Mulvane scored seven more runs to put the game on ice. The big blows of the inning were an RBI hit by Shay Cornejo, a two-run homer by Curtis Hicks, two singles by D. LeClair and singles by Caywood, Whitmer and Young.

"We were hitting the ball pretty good," added Katzenmeier. "It was certainly one of our best games hitting-wise this year. We got up for the game and, like I've told the kids, when they get up, they can beat about anybody in the area."

The senior righthander Hicks, bothered most of the season with arm

CENTRAL 4A-1A REGIONAL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT FIRST ROUND

Mulvane	422 71-16 13
Douglass	001 10-2 8

Curtis Hicks, Kyle Steadman 4, and Chris Caywood; Bulridge, Courtney 4, Lindman 5, and Darter.
HR—Morgan LeClair, Dan LeClair, Curtis Hicks (M).

Central (Burden) 12, Rose Hill 2, game suspended after 3 innings because of rain

PREP BASEBALL Non-League Results

Campus	221 415-15 11
Mulvane	201 000-3 8

Mantz and Jacobs; Shay Cornejo and Chad Phipps.
Winfield 100 310 040-9 6
Mulvane 110 130 001-7 15
Mays and Bailey, Tucker 5; Kyle Steadman, Curtis Hicks 4, Morgan LeClair 9, and Chris Caywood.
HR—Chris Caywood (M).

problems, went the first four innings and scattered six hits in an encouraging effort. "He's still not the Curtis Hicks I remember from last year but he looked good," said the Mulvane mentor. "Anytime we can get him a few innings, I'm going to do it."

Steadman mopped up with a hit-less last inning.

Mulvane's baseballers saw their season record take a dip Monday, May 11, with two losses to two different squads. The Cats were drubbed, 15-3, by Campus in the first game and took a 9-7 licking in the second game against Winfield. Both games were played on Mulvane turf.

The twin losses dropped the Cat record heading into post-season tournament to 8-8 for the season.

Mulvane's junior varsity saw considerable action in the opening game. The Wildcats were no match for the Colts, who scored two in each of the first two innings, then wrapped things up with four in the 4th. Mulvane's only offense came in the first when Donnie Holman walked, Shay Cornejo singled and both scored on Bruce Brashear's single to centerfield. Mulvane scored once more in the third when Cornejo doubled and scored on Brashear's second base knock.

The varsity played in the Winfield game and saw a 6-5 lead slip through their fingers when the Vikings scored four times in the 8th inning.

The Cats had plenty of offense, banging out 15 hits but leaving nine runners stranded. Curtis Hicks led the offense with four hits, including two triples. John Melick, Dan LeClair and Chris Caywood all had a pair of hits. Caywood had one over the leftfield fence. Mulvane's best inning came in the 5th when Hicks tripled and scored on D. LeClair's base hit. After a walk to M. LeClair, Caywood drilled a double to score D. LeClair. A one-hit single by Jarrod Young scored M. LeClair.