

MHS Bats Silenced By Nickerson,

Cats Open Without Scoring

Crippled by a weak bat, the Mulvane High School baseball squad limped out of the 1988 starting gate with a doubleheader at home Tuesday, April 5, with Nickerson.

With only one hit in the rain-shortened two games, the Wildcats were easy prey for a strong Panther squad. Nickerson tore the Cats up, 10-0, in the opener and was ahead, 5-0, in the nightcap when the rains came and caused the game to be suspended.

Mulvane's lone hit was a bunt single in the second inning of the second game by junior second baseman Donnie Holman. "Nickerson had two pretty good pitchers and the combination of the two senior pitchers and seeing live pitching for the first time in a year, it really shut us down," said MHS skipper David Katzenmeier. "We had no

First Game

Nickerson	043	03-10	7
Mulvane	000	00-0	0
Allen and Berridge; Sean Gillespie, Bruce Brashear 5, and Chad Phipps.			

Second Game

Nickerson	112	1-5	6
Mulvane	000	x-0	1
Riley and Berridge; Shay Cornejo, Adam Morris 4, and Chad Phipps.			

offense, zero. I know we have better hitters than we showed today, but they had two fine senior pitchers who have been pitching for them for three or four years, and they just shut us down."

The opener was a loser for junior hurler Sean Gillespie, who started the game for the Cats. He was lifted in the fifth in favor of Bruce Brashear. Senior Shay Cornejo went three innings in the nightcap.

"I don't think pitching was our problem," said Katzenmeier, "al-

though I do think we need some work there. I'm looking for somebody who can throw with control and let our defense work. We didn't give up too many walks, they just hit the ball well."

Lack of offense made it impossible for even one Mulvane rally. "We had lots of strikeouts and very little contact," emphasized Katzenmeier. "I don't think we had that many out of the infield. We went with a lot of underclassmen. We're young and even the juniors we started have very little varsity time. One thing I can say, though, is that we'll get better. I guarantee we'll do better with more work and more practice."

The Wildcats are now 0-1 in the Chisholm Trail League with one game still up in the air, and they'll be at Rose Hill for a 3 p.m. doubleheader today (April 7).