

'King' Isn't Dead; Play Sedan Friday

From The Ashes, Mulvane Rises To State

There's something about the grass being greener at Emporia that Mulvane High School's baseball team and its coach, David Katzenmeier like. They are making it a good habit of ending their season at Emporia.

The Wildcats are going back--back to Soden's Grove in Emporia for the Class 4A State Baseball Tournament following a superb showing Wednesday, May 18, to capture the Central of Class 4A-1A Burden Baseball Regional championship. Mulvane bombed Doug-

less in the first game of the regional, 23-11, behind a 16-hit attack, then got an outstanding pitching performance from senior Shay Cornejo to win the regional in a 4-1 triumph over Rose Hill.

That sent Mulvane and its 8-13 record into the 4A-1A State Baseball Tournament at Soden's Grove against No. 1 seeded Sedan (22-0) in the final game of the day Friday, May 27, at 6:30 p.m. The Cats are the No. 8 seeded team in the eight-team field.

The state will start with Kansas City

Piper (20-1) meeting Silver Lake (10-10) in the 11 a.m. game, followed by Nickerson (19-3) meeting Pittsburg Colgan (14-6) at 1:30 p.m. Riverton (19-3) and Augusta (17-5) play at 4.

Ironically, Nickerson and Augusta are Chisholm Trail League "sisters" of the Wildcats, giving the state tourney a strong CTL flavor.

"It's a great feeling to go back," said Katzenmeier. "I would have liked to have made the trip last year, too, but it didn't work out. This team's been up and down all season, and I kept reminding the kids all during the year that they still could set their sites on going to the state and that's what they did."

The Wildcats won the 4A-1A state championship in 1986 and have gone to the state tourney three of the four years under Katzenmeier and four of the seven years since the program began in 1982. Mulvane qualified for state in 1982, 1985, 1986 and 1988.

"It's nice to be able to reward the kids after hanging in there all season," added Katzenmeier. "We're young and we have learned a lot every game, and it paid off at the end of the season. We have a real challenge to do something at the state but everything depends on how things fall together."

They "fell together" very nicely at

**CLASS 4A-1A STATE
BASEBALL PAIRINGS
FRIDAY, MAY 27
At Soden's Grove-Emporia**
Game 1 - Piper (20-1) vs. Silver Lake (10-10), 11 a.m.
Game 2 - Nickerson (19-3) vs. Colgan (14-6), 1:30 p.m.
Game 3 - Riverton (19-3) vs. Augusta (17-5), 4
Game 4 - Sedan (22-0) vs. Mulvane (8-13), 6:30
SATURDAY, MAY 28
Game 5 - winners of games 1 and 2, 1:30 p.m.
Game 6 - winners of games 3 and 4, 4
Game 7 (State Championship) - winners of games 5 and 6, 6:30

Central of Burden Wednesday. The No. 3 seeded Cats were in a hitting mood against Douglass, which was seeded No. 2. A 13-run third inning pretty much settled the issue and made things easy for Mulvane hurler Dan LeClair. It gave Mulvane an 18-7 lead.

The Wildcats took a 5-1 lead after one inning but Douglass put together five runs in the top of the second and one more in the third before the roof fell in. The big inning featured five consecutive walks to Sean Gillespie, Michael Young, Jeff Lucas, Bruce Brashear and Scott Young followed by a three-run triple by Donnie Holman. Cornejo singled in a run, and Dan LeClair and Gillespie had singles Lucas and Scott Young had doubles and Brashear tripled around two more walks to Chad Phipps and Michael Young.

Cornejo finished the game with four

hits, three runs scored and three RBIs, Scott Young scored three times and had three hits, LeClair had three hits and scored three times and Lucas had two hits and scored three times. Michael Young scored four runs.

LeClair finished the game by scattering nine hits. "Danny pitched a great game and we gave him a lot of support," said Katzenmeier. "When we scored 13 runs in the third, that made it a lot easier for him. Any pitcher looks great with that kind of support. Also that enabled us to rest Shay for the second game. When you come in with this kind of a regional at the end of the season, you kind of tend to forget what kind of season you've had. You just remember going to state."

In the championship game, Cornejo was sharp. He gave up only a first-inning run-scoring single, then closed the door. He struck out 10.

"That second game, in a word, was seniors," said Katzenmeier. "Everybody contributed but I felt the three seniors were a big part of it. Cornejo had his best pitching game of the season and Danny (LeClair) had a

CENTRAL 4A-1A REGIONAL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP

Rose Hill	100 000 0-1 2
Mulvane	002 101 x-4 9
Brad Herndon and Riffel, Shay Cornejo and Chad Phipps.	
HR--Dan LeClair (M).	
FIRST GAME	
Douglass	151 04-11 9
Mulvane	50(13) 05-23 16
Darter, Baldridge 2, Darter 3, and Maxwell; Dan LeClair and Chad Phipps.	
HR--Darter (D)	

towering two-run homer which put us ahead for good, and Jeff Lucas singled in our final run."

After Rose Hill, which had toppled No. 1 seeded Central (Burden), 6-2, in an upset in the opening game, took a 1-0 lead in the first inning, it was all Mulvane. Cornejo walked, then stole two bases before LeClair clubbed a mammoth homer.

Sean Gillespie, who had three singles in the game and scored twice, singled to start the 4th. He came home after a single by Brashear on a sacrifice fly by Scott Young. Gillespie also scored in the sixth to make it 4-1 on a base hit by Lucas.

