

## HHS volleyball struggles with Fleming, Akron tournament

Written by Darci Tomky

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During a busy week of volleyball action, HHS Lady Dragons lost in a home match against Fleming Tuesday, Sept. 22 and brought home one win and two losses from the Akron Invitational tournament Saturday, Sept. 23.

Because of the tournament schedule, all the girls had the opportunity to play a lot of volleyball on Saturday, said Rahe, and they improved their skills throughout the day.

With a season record of four wins and eight losses, coach Sandra Rahe noted the girls need to stay positive even though their record doesn't look the best.

"We have almost reached the point in our season where every game matters," said Rahe. "We will need to come together and peak right now."

With a consistent schedule in the month of October, the Dragons look ahead to district volleyball action Oct. 30.

### **Holyoke vs. Fleming**

Having already played Fleming at the NJC tournament Sept. 12, the Dragons knew what to expect in Tuesday's game. Rahe noted the first game was a little rough with a score of 17-25, but Holyoke picked it back up in the second and third games scoring 20-25 and 22-25.

Rahe said setter Chasity Pelle did a great job of setting up the offense, but the team needs to execute their hitting a little better. Pelle had 17 assists for kills while Marissa Smith had nine kills, Kendra Timm eight and Nora Roth six.

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Timm also had two aces and eight solo blocks. In digging, Elise Nelson had 22 and Megan Colglazier 18.

“We are not making a lot of unforced errors, which is very important, but it just seems like we have that missed serve at a critical point in the game,” said Rahe. “We need to be a little stronger mentally.”

### **Holyoke vs. Otis**

In tournament action Saturday, Holyoke’s first match against Otis ended in a loss 8-25, 15-25 and 20-25.

HHS was short handed in the first game, said Rahe, and they only played six girls the entire game. While it was hard to break the Bulldogs’ momentum from a big lead in the first game, Holyoke fought back in the second and third games and played better, said Rahe. “We had too many unforced errors and just didn’t play to our potential.”

Rahe noted freshman Elissa Baker did a great job playing and keeping her cool in a varsity match, enjoying the pace of the game and performing well.

Smith had seven kills, two aces and two blocks in the competition against Otis while Timm had six kills and four solo blocks. KrisAnna Ham added three kills, and Elise Nelson had one kill and three aces.

Chasity Pelle had one kill, three blocks and 12 assists. Also in assists, Baker came away with two, and Whitney Redman had three.

### **Holyoke vs. Frontier Academy**

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Match two proved to be a big win and confidence booster for the Dragons when they outscored Frontier Academy 25-21, 25-4 and 25-15.

“The girls played exactly how they needed to against Frontier,” said Rahe. “They were a weaker team, but we stayed consistent and didn’t lower our play.”

HHS setter Pelle totalled 22 assists for kills against the Wolverines. Rahe noted she was able to distribute sets to all the hitters, and in turn they were able to convert them to kills. Timm, Smith and Nelson all had six kills, and Erin Vieselmeyer and Ham both had two.

In serving, Smith had seven aces and served for a total of 13 points in the second game. Timm had one ace and in the second game served for eight points in a row. Nelson added two aces to Dragon serving.

According to Rahe, it was good to see Vieselmeyer get some varsity playing time as a freshman, noting she stepped up and did very well.

### **Holyoke vs. Akron**

Holyoke landed a “frustrating loss” in Saturday’s game against Akron losing 12-25, 18-25 and 9-25.

“The Akron game was a disappointment,” said Rahe. “We just never found a rhythm and couldn’t get our offense or defense put together.”

Timm had four kills and two blocks, and Ham had two kills and two aces. Smith completed five kills while Vieselmeyer had one kill and one block. Nelson came away with two kills, and Pelle had 12 assists against the Rams.

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Rahe said the Dragons have a chance to redeem themselves, facing Akron Friday night on their home court.

### JV and C teams play

In competition against Fleming last Tuesday, Holyoke's JV team lost in two games, 21-25 and 24-26.

While they lost four games at the Akron tournament, Rahe noted the JV team played some very stiff competition. "They should hold their heads high at the end of the day," she said.

They scored 8-25 and 11-25 against Akron, and took Frontier Academy to three games with scores of 18-25, 25-22 and 12-15. Holyoke lost against Merino 11-25 and 15-25 and Otis 17-25 and 11-25.

Holyoke's C team lost in Tuesday's game with Fleming 11-25 and 23-25. C team games at the Akron tournament were canceled due to a shortage of players.

### Upcoming action

Next week's *Enterprise* will have results from the volleyball team's game at Sedgwick County Tuesday, Sept. 29. In upcoming action, HHS will take on Akron at home Friday, Oct. 2 at 3:30 p.m. They also travel to Wiggins Tuesday, Oct. 6 for games beginning at 4 p.m.