

## **Softball team finishes 1-1 in district tourney**

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

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An 8-1 win over Yuma, followed by a 0-14 loss to Burlington in district softball action Saturday, Oct. 17 ended the Dragon season with a 6-14 record.

“Holyoke got its chance to show Yuma what they were really made of,” said coach Ashley Clayton. “After losing to Yuma in the regular season 0-10, the Dragons took the opportunity to pounce on the Indians in the first game of the district tournament.

“The Dragons showed a lot of heart and a lot of fight, however came to a season-ending loss,” said coach Clayton when Burlington took a 14-0 win Saturday.

“The girls have a lot to hold their heads high about and a lot to look forward to in the future softball seasons,” said Clayton.

### **Holyoke 8, Yuma 1**

“The Dragons truly played to their potential,” said a proud coach Clayton after the 8-1 win over Yuma.

Ashley Campbell dominated on the mound for the Dragons, earning seven strike-outs. Coach Clayton emphasized she was supported by an awesome Dragon defense, which gave up no errors.

Yuma scored its only run in the first inning to go ahead 1-0, but the Dragons quickly assumed the advantage, scoring two runs in the bottom of the first. Holyoke put four more across home plate in the third and two more in the seventh for the 8-1 win.

Campbell led the Dragons in the offensive department, hitting three for three with a home run, a double and a single, as well as a walk and three RBIs.

Once again, the Dragons were able to find hits throughout the line-up, coach Clayton pointed

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out.

Karci Lockwood was two for four with a double and two RBIs; Makenzie Ault, two for four and two stolen bases; Chandler Gerk, two for four and an RBI; and Macey Pierce, one for four with a double and two RBIs.

Also getting to first on singles were Ashley Gragg, one for one; Marci Vasa, one for three; and Molly Fricke, one for four. Laura Gerk also got on base with a walk.

### **Holyoke 0, Burlington 14**

Burlington proved to be the better team in the second game of the district tournament, outhitting the Dragons 15-1 on the Cougar home field to take the 14-0 win.

The Dragon defense had just one error against the Cougars, coach Clayton noted.

Burlington took a steady lead in Saturday's game, scoring two runs in the first inning and one each in the second and third for a 4-0 advantage. The Cougars really pounded it in the fourth, putting 10 runs across home plate.

With no Dragon runs in the top of the fifth, the game ended on the 10-run rule after four and a half innings.

Campbell was on the mound for the Dragons. In four innings, she earned one strike-out and gave up 14 runs on 15 hits and six walks.

Ault managed Holyoke's only hit in the ball game, a single on two at-bats. Chandler Gerk got on base with a walk.

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