

Dragons fall to Akron, prepare for Indians

Written by Chris Lee

After playing under the comfort of their home lights three weeks in a row, the Holyoke Dragons traveled to Akron with the hopes of handing the Rams their fourth consecutive loss.

Akron entered the game on a three-game skid but made sure Holyoke didn't ruin their homecoming festivities and handed the Dragons a 0-41 loss Friday, Oct. 8.

Holyoke won the toss and elected to defer to the second half. Akron began their first drive inside their own 30 and on the first play of the game put the ball on the turf. Parker Redfern recovered the ball giving Holyoke great field position at the Rams' 24-yard line.

The Dragons moved the ball down to the 12-yard line before turning it over on downs. The drive proved to be the closest Holyoke would get to the end zone the rest of the night.

Coach Rod Trumper said if Holyoke could've eliminated a couple breakdowns on that first possession the tune of the game would've been different. "Their defense just shut us down," he added.

Ram offense goes to air

Holyoke was prepared to try to stop the running game of Akron, which they did, but quickly found out the primarily run-oriented team could also find success through the air.

Coach Trumper said it was a goal of the Dragons to stop the run and force Akron into another offense. He said they felt good with how they played against the single wing but were unable to stop the Rams' passing attack.

Akron quarterback Chance Friedly completed 11 passes for 193 yards. The team also chewed up 195 yards on the ground. In the previous five games, Friedly had only completed 14 passes.

Dragons fall to Akron, prepare for Indians

Written by Chris Lee

Akron scored on five first-half possessions while forcing the Dragons to punt on four drives and forcing a fumble on another.

Holyoke took the ball at their own 30-yard line to open the second half and found success on the ground as Broc Pelle ran for 30 yards on four carries. Reid Baumgartner also found Brett Cumming on a 12-yard pass to help move the Dragons into Ram territory. The drive stalled as Holyoke turned the ball over on downs.

Akron responded by scoring their final touchdown of the game with six minutes left in the third period forcing a continuous clock.

The Rams were looking to score on their first drive of the final quarter but HHS freshman Trevor Dalton picked off a pass giving Holyoke the ball deep in their own territory. The clock ran out on the game before Holyoke could put up a score.

The Dragons now prepare to host defending state champion Yuma Friday, Oct. 15. The game will be the first of a two-game home stand. Highland will visit Max Bernard field Oct. 22 before the Dragons travel to Wray Oct. 29 to wrap up the regular season.

Coach Trumper said the Dragons will face a similar offense to Akron's with Yuma's double wing. He noted the team will be working to keep low in order to stop the Indians.

The Indians hold a 5-1 record. Kickoff is slated for 7:30 p.m.

Stats recorded

Dragons fall to Akron, prepare for Indians

Written by Chris Lee

Pelle led rushing efforts with 52 yards on 17 carries. Baumgartner finished two for eight for 22 yards. Cumming hauled in both passes.

Seth Baker finished with 10 tackles to lead the team. Austin Killin finished with eight.

JV smashes Akron

Holyoke JV team played host to Akron Monday, Oct. 11 and came away with a huge 60-24 victory.

Coach Trumper said the team started slow in the first quarter but began to play and hit hard to take the win.

Other North Central action reported

Other North Central Conference teams played Friday, Oct. 8. Yuma beat Wiggins 46-6 and Wray beat Highland 48-7.