

Lady Dragons slaughter Haxtun and Highland

Written by Darci Tomky

Lady Dragon volleyball teams had a clean sweep last week when the varsity, JV and C teams all finished their regular seasons with big wins against both Haxtun and Highland.

“It was really nice for the girls to end their seasons with two wins,” said coach Sandra Rahe, noting it put the varsity on a three-game winning streak.

“The varsity played well against both teams,” said Rahe. “They were consistent and didn’t have a lot of un-forced errors.”

The Dragons controlled the tempo of the game, she added, continuing to play at their level.



On their way to a win over Highland Friday, senior Heather Duester clears the net for a big hit for the Lady Dragons. ☐☐ —Enterprise photo

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“Our passing and offense all together is coming along, but we will have to maintain a strong defense against tougher opponents,” said Rahe.

In preparation for Districts, the Dragons focused on transitional plays and mixing up the hitting offense. “I am very proud of how the girls are working as we enter post-season play,” Rahe added.

Holyoke vs. Haxtun

Traveling to Bulldog territory, Holyoke brought good passing, aggressive kills and ace serves to the Oct. 21 game against Haxtun. Hard work all season paid off when the Dragons found a sweet victory in three games 25-16, 25-18 and 25-17.

HHS started things off right as Mallory Bennett, Erin Lebsack, KrisAnna Ham and Heather Duester all secured attacks for kills in the first set.

Erin Vieselmeyer, Maddie King, Ham and Bennett added ace serves to the Dragon lead over Haxtun.

The girls connected with the ball, setting up an impressive 12 kills in the second game. Duester, King and Lauren Blomme each landed three, Bennett two and Vieselmeyer one.

Bennett, Ham and Vieselmeyer grabbed block kills while Ham nailed an ace serve.

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The Dragons kept the ball rolling in the third set, with kills by Bennett, Ham, Duester and Molly Brandt; block kills by Vieselmeyer, Blomme and Ham; and an ace by Duester.

In team stats, Duester excelled in serving with 13 serves for eight points while Bennett had 12 serves for four points including two aces.

Bennett led in attacks with 19 including 10 kills. Vieselmeyer had 31 sets including 20 assists for kills.

On defense, Blomme and Ham each landed two solo blocks, and Bennett grabbed one solo block and two block assists. Duester led in digs with 20 while Bennett led in serve receives with 15.

Holyoke vs. Highland

Holyoke took on Highland on the Dragons' home court Friday, Oct. 22. They finished regular-season action with a big win in three games 25-10, 25-12 and 25-19.

In all three games, Holyoke secured the lead from the start, taking advantage of big kills and ace serves. Momentum carried them to the end of each game, giving the Dragons the upper hand and the final victory over the Huskies.

Blomme, Duester, Bennett and King all had kills in the first game while Duester landed two big ace serves in a row.

Duester was on target again in the second set with another two aces during a long serving

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progression. Ham added two more aces and Bennett one.

Vieselmeyer, Ham and Bennett grabbed blocks for kills while Bennett had four big attacks for kills.



**Sophomore Erin Vieselmeyer puts up a set during home-court volleyball action against Highland Friday, Oct. 22. □ □
—Enterprise photo**

The Lady Dragons didn't let up, finishing the final game strong with kills by Duester, Bennett, Vieselmeyer and Blomme. Block kills went to Vieselmeyer, Ham and Blomme, and Bennett's serves earned her another ace.

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In Dragon stats, Duester led in serving with 18 for 13 points including four aces followed by Bennett with 11 serves for six points including three aces.

King landed 17 attacks including two kills, Bennett 15 including eight kills and Duester 10 including three kills. Vieselmeyer had 33 sets with 15 assists for kills.

Bennett nailed 13 serve receives while Duester and Vieselmeyer both had 11 digs followed by Lebsack with 10.

Blomme grabbed three solo blocks and one block assist while Bennett had two solo blocks and two block assists.

JV and C teams play

Both junior varsity and C teams brought home wins last week.

In JV action, Holyoke beat Haxtun in three games, losing the first 19-25 but winning the next two 25-22 and 15-7. JV again lost their first game to Highland Friday 19-25, but they came back for a win in the next two games 25-17 and 15-13.

Holyoke C team dominated Haxtun 25-19 and 25-10. They also beat Highland in just two games 25-21 and 25-17.

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Upcoming action

Holyoke played Yuma in the District pigtail game Tuesday, Oct. 26. Results will be reported in next week's Enterprise.

A win on Tuesday would give Holyoke a spot as the sixth seed in the District tournament Friday, Oct. 29 at NJC in Sterling.

Competing in Pool A, their first game would be at 9 a.m. against #1 Akron. The second match would be Holyoke versus #4 Wray followed by Akron vs. Wray.

Pool B includes #2 Sedgwick County, #3 Burlington and #5 Wiggins.

In the semi-finals, the Pool A winner plays the Pool B runner up while the Pool B winner plays the Pool A runner-up.

The winners of those two games will play for the finals.