

HHS boys fall to Brush, crush Sedgwick County

Written by Chris Lee

Not wanting to head into a two-week break on a losing skid, the Holyoke boys' basketball team was given two opportunities to secure a second, and possibly third win before Christmas.

The Dragons traveled to Brush Friday, Dec. 17 and Sedgwick County Saturday, Dec. 18.

After building up a nice halftime lead against Brush, the Beetdiggers fought back to hand the Dragons their third loss of the season, 48-66.

The following night, the Dragons put together their most complete four quarters of basketball of the season to come away with a 69-49 drubbing of Sedgwick County.



Alex Quintana goes up strong against Skyler Stortenbecker of Sedgwick County during Holyoke's 69-49 win Saturday, Dec. 18.□□

—Enterprise photo

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Holyoke 48, Brush 66

Holyoke played “the best first half of the year,” according to coach Scott Dille against Brush Friday, Dec. 17. “The second half we kind of went back to our old habits,” he added.

The Dragons built up a nice 26-23 lead heading into the locker room, however the Beetdiggers nearly doubled their first half effort by hanging 21 points on the scoreboard in the third quarter and 22 in the fourth to hand Holyoke a 48-66 loss.

Reid Baumgartner sunk five treys, two free throws and two two-pointers to finish with a game-high 21 points. Julian Titze finished as the only other Dragon in double digits with 12.

Holyoke went 8-15 from the charity stripe with Brian DeBoer finishing two for two and Alex Quintana three for four.



Julian Titze attempts a shot over Sedgwick County's Kolby

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Stortenbecker in Saturday's game against Sedgwick County. □ □ —Enterprise photo

Holyoke 69, Sedgwick County 49

Coming off a tough loss to Brush, the Dragons looked to pick up their second win of the season before heading into the Christmas break.

The Dragons used a full-court press to frustrate and disrupt anything the Cougars were trying to do on their way to the 20-point victory.

Holyoke built up a quick 18-9 lead after the first quarter and 38-18 lead at the half.

The Cougars played a little tougher in the second half and didn't let the Dragons pull further away.

Preston King exploded for 23 points to lead all scorers. Baumgartner again hit five from beyond the arc and sunk four free throws to finish with 19.

Dille said it was nice to see another guy they could rely on put up big numbers.

The coach said there was a stretch of six-eight minutes when the team looked a little flat, but overall it was the most complete game the Dragons have put together all season.

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“We were moving the ball well and using our strengths like we have been talking about in the past few weeks,” Dille said. “This was a good step forward.”

The win ends a three-game skid. Dille said it was nice to get the win so the kids won't be dwelling on a losing streak over the break.

The Dragons enter the break with a 2-3 record. One of the priorities of the team is to work harder than their opponents and be in better shape, so they will need to keep after it and keep in shape, the coach added.

Upcoming action

The Dragons will take two weeks off during the holiday break and come back to host Imperial, Neb. Friday, Jan. 7. They will travel to Wiggins the following night Saturday, Jan. 8.