

Boys split weekend games

Written by Chris Lee

Conditioning was something boys' basketball coach Scott Dille said he was concerned about as the Dragons hit the court after Christmas break. Holyoke managed to capture a win over Chase County, Neb. Friday, Jan. 7 but came up short at Wiggins the following night Saturday, Jan. 8.

The home team hosted what coach Dille called a much bigger and thicker Longhorn team Friday night. It appeared Holyoke's conditioning played a key factor as the smaller Dragon team managed to out hustle the visitors to come away with a 61-53 win.

The following night, Holyoke traveled to Wiggins to face a tough Tiger team. The Dragons came up just short, losing 44-48.

Dille was pleased to see the team come away with a win after the break. He said it's easy to take a step back after coming off a long break and was happy to see the Dragons pick up a victory.



Preston King focuses on going to the hoop in the 61-53 victory over Chase County. —Enterprise photo

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Holyoke 61, Chase County 53

After falling behind by two in the opening quarter, Holyoke settled down and began to hit some shots to equal the game at 30 heading into halftime. Junior Julian Titze scored 10 of the team's 11 first-quarter points. Six of his points came from beyond the arc. He hit another three-pointer in the second as did Preston King and Willie Greenman to help end a comeback that tied the game at the half.

The game stayed close throughout the third quarter but the Longhorns held a two-point edge, 42-44 heading into the final period. The Dragons' defense held the visitors scoreless most of the final quarter. With 2:39 remaining in the game Holyoke held a three-point advantage leading 47-44.

Chase County was forced to foul Holyoke for the remainder of the game to try and stop the clock. The Dragons had a good night from the charity stripe going 18-25. This proved beneficial in the final period as they went 12-16 to secure the 61-53 victory.

"I was pleased with the effort," Dille said. He added the team continues to battle and play together no matter what, and it paid off against the Longhorns.

Titze finished with 17 points to lead the team. He was perfect from the free throw line going 4-4. Brian DeBoer also was perfect going 2-2.

King and Reid Baumgartner scored in double digits scoring 15 and 11 respectively. King was 8-10 from the charity stripe.

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with a 10-point lead in the first half. The game was a close contest, with the home team leading 10-0 at the end of the first quarter. The game was a close contest, with the home team leading 10-0 at the end of the first quarter.