

Girls claim dist. runner-up, advance to Regionals

Written by Darci Tomky

- With three district games last week, the Holyoke Lady Dragon basketball team earned district runner-up honors and will be advancing to regionals.
- In the district championship game on Saturday, Feb. 28, the Dragons fell to Wray 46-60. In district action, they also landed two wins, beating Merino 51-50 on Thursday, Feb. 26 and Union Colony 55-28 on



Tuesday, Feb. 24.

- Coach Arlan Scholl noted they had a good district tournament, winning two out of three games. “I was very pleased with the effort that all of the girls gave,” said Scholl.
- “We are very proud to have played in the District Championship game for the sixth year in a row,” said Scholl. “I know the team will be ready to play the upcoming regional game.”
- Scholl commented he would like to thank the great Holyoke fans for their continued support of the Lady Dragons.

Holyoke 46, Wray 60

- Holyoke finished up district games with the championship round against Wray last Saturday with a tough 46-60 loss to the Eagles.
 - Scholl noted, “We played very hard against Wray, but had a poor second quarter, committing too many turnovers.” Wray outscored Holyoke 20-7 in the second quarter, giving them a 15-point lead at halftime.
 - “After getting behind to a team like Wray, it is very difficult to get back and get the win,” said Scholl.
 - Holyoke played strong in the second half, outscoring the Eagles 32-31, but they could not take over the lead Wray established in the first half.
 - Marissa Smith led the Dragon scoring with 19 points including three three-point shots. Maddie Starkebaum earned the team 11 points, and Katie Hoffner came in with nine.
 - From the line, Smith made six out of seven free throws, and Hoffner landed three out of five.
- Statistics

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Holyoke 46, Wray 60

	2	3	FT	F	TP	
						FG
Smith	2	3	6-7	3	19	
Pelle	0	0	1-2	1	1	
Vasa	0	0	1-2	1	1	
Hoffner	3	0	3-5	1	9	
Beavers	1	0	1-2	3	3	
Starkebaum	4	0	3-7	2	11	
Carper	1	0	0-0	5	2	
TEAM	11	3	15-25	16	46	
Wray						
TEAM	15	5	15-23	18	60	
Scoring By Quarters						
Holyoke	7	7	14	18	--46	
Wray	9	20	17	14	--60	

Holyoke 51, Merino 50

□ In Thursday's district game in Sterling, Holyoke came from behind to win against Merino 51-50.

□ "After getting down against Merino, the girls fought back to take the one-point win," said Scholl.

□ Merino dominated the scoring during the first three quarters with Holyoke trailing 33-40 at the end of the third quarter. Holyoke's 18 points in the fourth quarter gave them just enough for the one-point lead at the final buzzer.

□ Smith led Holyoke scoring with 18 points, followed by Hoffner with nine.

□ The Dragons were on target sinking six out of eight three-point shots. Smith made three, Hoffner two and Shelby Beavers one. Beavers also came away with four steals.

□ In free throws, Smith and Phawn Carper both shot three out of four. Carper led the team in rebounds with six.

□ The teams were fairly evenly matched in field goal percentages with Holyoke shooting 17-40 for 42.5 percent and Merino shooting 15-37 for 40.5 percent. However, Merino outrebounded Holyoke 35-24.

Statistics

Holyoke 51, Merino 50

	2	3	FT	F	TP	
						FG
Smith	3	3	3-4	2	18	
Pelle	1	0	0-0	3	2	
Hoffner	1	2	1-2	3	9	
Beavers	0	1	2-6	1	5	
Starkebaum	3	0	1-2	5	7	
Carper	2	0	3-4	3	7	
Roth	1	0	1-3	4	3	
TEAM	11	6	11-21	21	51	
Merino						
TEAM	10	5	15-28	18	50	

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Scoring By Quarters

Holyoke	11	10	12	18	--51
Merino	13	11	16	10	--50

Holyoke 55, Union Colony 28

- ☐ Gearing up for district action with a home game on Tuesday, Feb. 24, the Lady Dragons snagged a 55-28 point win over Union Colony.
- ☐ Holyoke established an early lead and dominated the scoring over Union Colony. After scoring 15 points in the first quarter and 16 in the second, the Dragons led at halftime, 31-11.
- ☐ They kept up the momentum in the second half, scoring 10 points in the third quarter and 14 in the fourth, securing their lead against Union Colony for a 27-point win.
- ☐ Leading the Dragon scoring was Smith with 15 on six two-pointers and one three-pointer. Nora Ann Roth added 10 points, and Hoffner totaled nine including two three-point shots.
- ☐ Mallory Bennett sank two out of two free throws, and Roth landed four out of her five attempts.
- ☐ The Dragons outrebounded Union Colony 37-25. Starkebaum came out on top with nine rebounds. Smith also totaled four steals in the game.

Team stats show the local girls had an overall better field goal percentage, making 20-61 for 33 percent, compared to Union Colony's 10-38 for 26 percent.



Statistics

Holyoke 55, Union Colony 28

	2	3	FT	F	TP	
	FG					
Smith	6	1	0-1	2	15	
Pelle	1	0	1-2	1	3	
Fricke	1	0	1-2	1	3	
Vasa	2	0	0-0	1	4	
Hoffner	1	2	1-1	3	9	
Bennett	0	0	2-2	0	2	
Beavers	0	0	2-6	3	2	
Starkebaum	2	0	1-6	2	5	
Varela	0	0	0-2	1	0	
Carper	1	0	0-0	2	2	
Roth	3	0	4-5	2	10	
TEAM	17	3	12-27	18	55	

Union Colony

TEAM	9	1	7-14	20	28
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Scoring By Quarters

Holyoke	15	16	10	14	--55
Union Colony	8	3	7	10	--28

Upcoming Action

- ☐ As district runner-up, the Lady Dragons advance to regional action this weekend. They face the Limon Badgers on Friday, March 6 at 6:30 p.m. at Standley Lake High School in

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Westminster.