Two impressive performances led to two victories for the Holyoke Dragon boys' basketball team Friday and Saturday, Dec. 2-3.

Friday night, the Dragons traveled to Haxtun for round one of the Phillips County Shootout and came away with a nice 62-37 win over the Bulldogs.

The next night Holyoke traveled to Idalia and left with an 86-2 blowout.

Holyoke 62, Haxtun 37

The Dragons built up a 14-8 lead after the opening quarter and never looked back on their way to the victory over rival Haxtun.

At the half, the Dragons led 33-15. They added 13 more in the third and 16 in the final period. The Bulldogs scored 11 in each of the final two quarters.

"I was pretty pleased with how it went," coach Scott Dille said. "Their effort was really good."

The coach said the Dragons weren't crisp the entire time however. He mentioned they got going too quick some of the time which threw things off.

Defensively, Dille said the team looked great. "I think that's going to be our strength this year," he added.

The coach said he was worried entering the game about Haxtun's size advantage. He noted

Austin Killin and Jeremy Loutensock played very well inside to shut the Bulldogs down.

Austin Killin looks to score Friday night in Haxtun as teammate Trevor Dalton looks on.—Enterprise photo

Offensively, Dille thought the team would be a little bit sharper when they hit the court for the first game of the season. He said nerves probably played a factor in that. “I think we’ll get better as the season goes on,” he added.

“That’s a good feeling to feel like you have things you can work on after that first game,” Dille said.

The coach said he expects Haxtun to get much stronger as the season continues. He noted they are working out a few kinks and learning some new things.

Dille said he likes how Holyoke is starting to mesh together. “I think as the season progresses they’re going to be even more comfortable and find people’s strengths.”

Alex Quintana led scoring for the Dragons with 19 points. Also in double digits for the Dragons were Reid Baumgartner with 15 and Trevor Dalton with 10. Quintana also led the team with seven steals.

Killin led the team with eight rebounds.

Holyoke 86, Idalia 2

Holyoke traveled to Idalia Saturday, Dec. 3 to take on Idalia. The Wolves upset the Dragons the last two years so Holyoke entered the gym with winning on their mind.

The Dragons came away with an 86-2 victory.

Dille said Idalia lost five seniors to graduation and had a few more players out due to injuries in addition to already having low numbers.

Idalia's only points came in the first quarter.

Dille said it's pretty tough to be in a game like that. He noted it gave Holyoke the chance to give numerous players experience on the court.

Early in the fourth quarter, Holyoke's Matt Golden got tangled up with an Idalia player and both players fell to the court. The injured Idalia player was removed from the court on a backboard and stretcher. Both coaches convened with the officials and decided to end the game early.

Dille reported Monday morning the Idalia player was OK and suffered no serious injury.

Baumgartner led the team with 13 points, and Tito Fierro added 10. Sixteen players made the Dragon scoring column.

Upcoming action

The Dragons will host Yuma Friday night, Dec. 9. Dille said the game will be a good challenge to see where the Dragons stand. He said having only one game this week will allow them to focus solely on the Indians.

Holyoke Enterprise December 8, 2011