

Dragons unable to halt Caliche Buffs in doubleheader

Written by April Peregoy

After a final, dramatic push in the seventh inning, the Holyoke Dragon baseball team fell just short of upsetting the Caliche Buffaloes' perfect record, when the teams met in Holyoke for doubleheader action on Wednesday, April 15.

With weather forecasts predicting rain Wednesday evening, the games were bumped up to 10 a.m.

The Buffs earned a 6-2 victory in Game One, then held off the Dragons for a three-run win in the second game, 18-15.

Holyoke 2, Caliche 6

In Game One action, both teams remained scoreless during the first two innings. Then Caliche pushed two across in each of the third, fourth and fifth innings, despite phenomenal pitching performances from Austin Tharp and Logan Krueger.

HHS earned its two runs in the fifth. The game wrapped up with two more scoreless innings.

Tharp and Krueger had five and four strikeouts respectively, for a combined nine for the game. Krueger was credited with the loss with six hits and two bases on balls.

Tharp had five hits and two bases on balls. He also had a .75 batting average and three stolen bases.



Statistics provided to Max Preps by HHS coach

	AB	R	H	RBI
Reid Baumgartner	3	0	1	0
DeBoer	4	1	0	0

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Tharp	4	0	3	2					
Ryan Baumgartner	3	1	0	0					
Krueger	4	0	1	0					
Killin	3	0	0	0					
Gerk	3	0	1	0					
Vasa	2	0	0	0					
Price	2	1	1	1					
Totals	30	2	7	2					
SB - Tharp (3).									
Caliche	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	—6	
Holyoke	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	—2	

Holyoke 15, Caliche 18

Game Two got off to an exciting start with Caliche putting up three runs and Holyoke two in the first inning.

After shutting out the Buffs in the second, the Dragons pushed four across for a 6-3 advantage.

But CHS gained momentum in the next four innings, scoring two runs in the third, six in the fourth, two in the fifth and five in the sixth.

Meanwhile, Krueger helped Holyoke push two runners across the plate in the fourth by hitting a two-run homer. However, in the next two innings, the team only put up one run in each, making the score at the end of the sixth, 18-10.

With Caliche unable to score in the top of the seventh, HHS stepped up to the plate for the bottom of the inning. Experiencing a sudden surge, the Dragons put up five runs, thanks largely to Krueger hitting a grand slam home run.

But it still wasn't enough to overcome the eight-point deficit, and the Buffs took the three-point win.

Krueger batted four for four in the second game, with two home runs, a double and seven RBIs. Ryan Baumgartner hit a triple and Brian DeBoer and Brent Vasa each had a double as well.

On the mound, Brandon Price pitched the first four innings. He took the loss with one strikeout and 11 hits. DeBoer and Brett Gerk covered the remaining three innings. Gerk had two strikeouts.

