“While Burlington was a tough competitor, it seemed that the girls kept themselves out of the games with errors,” said coach Ashley Clayton when the HHS softball team fell 5-17 and 2-12 to Burlington Saturday, Sept. 1.

The Dragons never gave up, however, and in both games came back to keep from being 10-run ruled in the fifth. The first game went the full seven innings, while the second ended by run-rule after the sixth.

Coach Clayton said the games would have been much closer if they could have kept the defensive errors to a minimum. “Coach (Kendra) Schlachter and I were proud of their offensive effort,” Clayton added.

Citing that this year’s team is young and inexperienced, Clayton said she knows they will continue to put in the hard work they need to in order to improve.

“The season is still young, and they are showing a lot of promise,” said the coach. “It’s nothing a lot of practice can’t fix.”

Holyoke 5, Burlington 17

In the first game of an extremely hot day of softball Saturday, Burlington put two runs up in the first inning, one in the second, a whopping eight in the third and one in the fourth for a 12-point lead.

Never giving up, the Dragons scored four in the bottom of the fourth to keep the game alive, 12-4.

Neither team scored in either the fifth or sixth innings, but Burlington put five up in the seventh and Holyoke came back for one to end it at 17-5 for the Cougars.

Holyoke committed 10 fielding errors in the ball game, to Burlington's two. The Dragons had eight hits, while the Cougars managed 16.

Alyssa Killin was on the mound for all seven innings for the Dragons. She faced 43 batters, allowing 16 hits, striking out seven batters and walking none.

Leigha Terry and Killin were both two for four at the plate, with Terry recording an RBI, as well. Vicki Jeffers hit a double in the game and Keeya Marquez had two RBI.

Holyoke 2, Burlington 12

Burlington took a 10-0 lead in game two Saturday, scoring four in the second inning, four in the third and one each in the fourth and fifth.

Holyoke rallied for one in the bottom of the fifth to keep the game alive. But it ended in the sixth when the Cougars put up two runs and Holyoke added one for a 12-2 run-rule game after six innings.

Terry took the mound for the Dragons, facing 36 batters. She allowed 17 hits and walked five batters.

HHS had one error, while Burlington had two in the game.

The Dragons managed six hits. Marquez was two for three with one run. Four other Dragons got on base with a single, including Killin, Carolina Chavarria, Jeffers and Chandler Gerk. Roni Beavers scored a run for the Dragons, as well.

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