

## Dragons grab first win over Sedgwick County

Written by Chris Lee

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A busy week ended on a good note for the Holyoke Dragons.

Coach Scott Dille was very pleased as the Dragons were able to capture a win over Sedgwick County Saturday, Dec. 15.

The win was the first for the Dragons this year and they enter the holiday break with a 1-3 record.

“It was great,” Dille said. “I think it would’ve been a real long break for everybody if we would be sitting without a win.”

The coach said the kids have been working hard and it’s nice to see them rewarded for that extra effort.

After a sluggish start, the Dragons hit the court in the second half and played ball. Dille said he was proud of the adjustments the team made in the second half.

Dille felt the offense moved the ball the best it has all season during the second half against the Cougars.

Holyoke held a slim 16-14 lead heading into the second quarter. Sedgwick County poured it on in the second outscoring the Dragons 23-13 to take a 37-29 lead into the locker room.

After some adjustments, the Dragons took control. Dille felt they crashed the boards better and slowed the dribble penetration from Sedgwick County during the second half.

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Holyoke tied the game at 53 at the end of the third stanza. In nail-biting fashion, Holyoke squeezed out the three-point, 70-67 win after outscoring their neighbors to the north 17-14 in the final quarter.

At the free throw line, Holyoke finished 22-41. Dille said any time a team shoots 41 free throws, they should be able to come away with a win. Had the Dragons hit a few more, they would've been able to breathe a bit easier down the stretch.

Logan Tharp led the team from the charity stripe going 13-26. Dille said the junior was getting pounded during many of his dribble penetrations which sent him to the line a bunch throughout the game.

Dille said the team was scheduled to practice all of this week and will take next week off during the Christmas break.

The coach hopes the win over Sedgwick County will keep the team hungry and in a working mood over the break.

Holyoke will host Chase County, Neb. Friday, Jan. 4 with games beginning at 4 p.m.

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