

Lady Dragons go 1-1 in regional tournament action

Written by Darci Tomky

A 41-36 win over Rye Friday, March 8 started off the Lady Dragons' regional basketball tournament on a good note at Fountain Middle School, south of Colorado Springs.

Unfortunately, they ended their season the next day with a 41-51 loss to Vanguard Charter.

"What a great regional performance, and what a great season for these Lady Dragon basketball players," said coach Arlan Scholl, noting the team finished the 2012-13 season with 15 wins and nine losses, ending up in the "sweet sixteen" in the state in 2A. That's just one win away from being in the final eight and going to the state tournament in Pueblo.

"This group of players continued to work hard throughout the season and showed improvement from week to week and game to game," he said. "They battled through some injuries and adversity and continued to come out and play hard each game."

Scholl thanked and recognized his assistant coaches Kia Kassman and Dave Rice for their "fine help and expertise this year," noting they were a big part of the successes the Lady Dragons accomplished this year.

"And also a big thank you to all the parents and great Holyoke fans and supporters for all you do for our student athletes. You are much appreciated," added Scholl.

He said the team will lose some key players to graduation, but the future remains bright for Holyoke Lady Dragon basketball.

Holyoke 41, Rye 36

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In Friday's game against Rye, Holyoke kicked off with a 13-point first quarter over Rye's seven. Both teams put up 11 in the next eight minutes, giving the Dragons a six-point lead at halftime.

Rye's shooting in the third gave them the 10-9 advantage over Holyoke for the quarter. And again, both teams tied fourth-quarter scoring at eight, giving Holyoke the 41-36 win.

This win kept the Lady Dragons alive and advancing to the second round of regional action on Saturday.

Senior Erin Vieselmeyer led Holyoke scoring with 19 points including six two-pointers, two three-pointers and 1-for-2 in free throws. She also had three blocks for the Dragons.

Maddie King brought down eight rebounds, and Audi Peña had four steals. Both girls also had four assists Friday night.

Holyoke 41, Vanguard 51

Holyoke stuck right with Vanguard during first-quarter action Saturday, March 9, tied at seven points at the end of the first eight minutes. They were outscored by three in the second period, giving Vanguard the 22-19 lead at halftime.

A slow third quarter for the Dragons let Vanguard build up their lead to 12, and Holyoke's fourth-quarter 16 points over their 14 was not enough to challenge them for the win.

Vanguard's 51-41 win over Holyoke earned them the regional championship and a spot at the 2A girls' basketball state tournament.

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In Dragon team stats, Erin Vieselmeyer was the top scorer with 16 points including five two-pointers, one trey and 3-for-4 from the line. The 16 points plus 12 rebounds gave the senior a double-double in her last game as a Dragon.

King had five assists and two steals in the regional matchup.

Akron, Yuma advance to state tournament

Akron and Yuma girls' basketball teams will play in the 2A state tournament this weekend, going in with the No. 1 and No. 6 spots, respectively. Also competing are Lutheran, Vanguard, Sangre de Cristo, Peyton, Simla and Ignacio.

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