

Dragons take down Cougars in doubleheader

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

Holyoke bats continued to stay hot during the Dragon baseball team's 14-9 and 10-0 home victories over Burlington Tuesday, April 2.

HHS is clicking on all cylinders as they consistently put runners on base on offense while Dragon pitchers have given up very little on defense.

Both pitchers to take the mound for Holyoke went the distance, picking up wins in their complete-game performance.

Holyoke 14, Burlington 9

The first game of the doubleheader between the two teams was a slugfest for four innings as each squad made solid contact with the ball.

After shutting down the Cougars in the top of the first inning, three Dragons crossed home in the bottom half of the inning.

Trevor Dalton got things started with a one-out double down the left-field line. Jaydin Goldenstein singled up the middle to bring Dalton home for the first score of the game.

Three batters later, Logan Tharp doubled to the left-center alley, bringing in two more runs, giving the Dragons an early 3-0 lead.

Burlington responded in the second with four runs of their own on four hits and two Dragon

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errors.

Burlington's 4-3 lead wouldn't last long as the Dragons added two runs in the bottom of the second inning to gain the 5-4 advantage. The inning was highlighted with a Goldenstein solo home run to left field that sparked the two-out, two-run inning for HHS.

Holyoke showed their power again the next inning as Deyten Klein sent a Burlington pitch over the left-center fence for a three-run shot. The Dragons picked up six runs in the inning to further their lead to 11-4.



Deyten Klein is greeted at home by his teammates after launching a three-run home run during the first game of the Tuesday, April 2 doubleheader with Burlington.

—Enterprise photo

The Cougars had another big inning in the top of the fourth as five players touched home.

“We have had a few bad innings that we need to cut out. We can't have those types of innings against good teams,” coach John Zilla said.

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HHS scored three more runs in the bottom half of the fourth to take a 14-9 lead.

Both teams went quiet in the remaining three innings as the Dragons held on to the 14-9 lead for their fifth consecutive win.

Alfredo Santos got the start for the Dragons. The complete-game win marks the second win on the season for Santos. Out of the 36 batters Santos faced Tuesday, he walked one, hit one and struck out six.

Offensively, four Dragons had multi-hit games. Dalton led with three hits while Goldenstein, Jesus Hermosillo and Klein each had two apiece. Klein had a game-high three RBIs while Goldenstein, Tharp and Dalton each batted in two runs.

The Dragon power was on display in the game as they had five extra-base hits. Hermosillo, Tharp and Dalton each doubled in the match while Goldenstein and Klein each had a home run.

Holyoke 10, Burlington 0

In six innings of work, Klein didn't allow a single run as the Cougars could only muster three hits in the game.

Pitching has been a point of pride for the Dragons. Pitchers have proven they can not only consistently hit spots, but they can throw into the later innings.

While at the plate, HHS is very dangerous. Hitters in all nine spots are a threat to rope an extra-base hit and once on base, many players can easily steal bases.

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None of the players who start on the team have a batting average below .350. Dalton leads the team with a .576 average.



Dragon catcher Jesus Hermosillo keeps Burlington base runners on their toes Tuesday as he tries to catch them off guard after a pitch by throwing down to first.
—Enterprise photo

Tuesday was no different as seven players recorded hits during the 10-0 win against Burlington in the second game of the doubleheader.

Tanner Smith and Dalton each crossed home twice while six other Dragons also scored in the lopsided win.

After a four-run second inning, the Dragons had a safe 5-0 lead. They tacked on two more in the fifth and three in the sixth to evoke the run rule, giving the Dragons their sixth win of the season.

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Klein gave up just three hits to the 24 batters he faced in Tuesday's game. Of those 24, only three reached base on balls while seven struck out in Klein's third win of the season.

Dalton continued to find success at the plate as he went 3-4 with three RBIs in the game. Tharp had a two-hit performance, driving in one run while Hermosillo was responsible for two RBIs in the match.

Junior varsity improves to 2-2

The Dragon junior varsity squad picked up their first wins of the season Tuesday, April 2 with a pair of victories over Burlington.

In the first match the Dragons won 9-5.

"We saw some good things out of some of the younger kids," coach Marcus Kammer said. "We have a lot of learning to do, but we played a lot better than we did in Haxtun (Friday, March 26)."

In the second game the bats came alive for the Holyoke squad as they beat Burlington 15-5.

Kammer noted that the team is doing a much better job of learning their roles and getting a better feel for their positions.

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