

Lady Dragon volleyball lands big win over Yuma

Written by Darci Tomky

Spirits were high in the HHS gym Friday night, Oct. 15 when Holyoke nailed a big win over Yuma in three sets 25-23, 25-23 and 25-19.

A large crowd was there, clad in pink attire, to cheer on the girls in their “Dragons Dig Pink” game in support of breast cancer awareness month.



HHS volleyball team members are pictured with cancer survivors who were honored at the team's Pink-Out game Friday, Oct. 15. The “Dragons Dig Pink” promotion was coordinated by team member Mallory Bennett and held during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Team members and cancer survivors are pictured from left, front row, Malena McWilliams, Jessica Pell, Jacinda Krueger, Brittney Prottzman, Tia Huffman, Audi Peña, Brandi Orand, Ashley Humphreys and Elissa Baker; second row, Patricia Adams (31), Erin Lebsack, KrisAnna Ham, Lauren Blomme and Whitney Redman; and back row, Becca Weaver, Rachel Schneider, Araceli Banuelos, Molly Brandt, Maddie King, Lindsay Helgoth, Chantel Rafert, Erin Vieselmeyer, Heather Duester, Mallory Bennett, Amy Kropp, Donna Lutze, Wanda Winterrowd, Hilda Hassler and Mardell York. —Enterprise photo

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“Our Pink Out night was a huge success,” said coach Sandra Rahe, noting significant funds were raised for breast cancer.

Several breast cancer survivors were honored before the varsity match, and pink and white volleyballs signed by the Dragons were purchased by Dick Lebsack and Misti Redman.

Last week HHS also took on Caliche Tuesday, Oct. 12, and after a mighty effort on the court, the Dragons could not find a win over the Buffaloes. Holyoke lost the first game 19-25, won the second 25-13, but then lost the next two 14-25 and 22-25.

Holyoke vs. Yuma

HHS grabbed a great win Friday night, but they certainly didn't secure it without a fight. Both Holyoke and Yuma played hard with scores tight in all three games.

“We played a steady and consistent game against Yuma,” said Rahe.

Last week, both against Yuma and Caliche, HHS changed up their lineup. Erin Vieselmeyer took on the setting duties, and according to Rahe, she made the adjustment very well.

Freshman Maddie King started the first set on a good note, landing a kill for the Dragons.

Yuma made a run to establish a lead midway through the set, but a big kill by King and two kills and one block kill by Mallory Bennett held the Indians back.

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Great serving progressions by Vieselmeyer and King allowed the Dragons to pull ahead while kills by KrisAnna Ham and King gave Holyoke the two-point win.



KrisAnna Ham puts up the volleyball as teammate Heather Duester looks on. □□□□□□□□ —Enterprise photo

The second game was another close one, with the two scores never more than four points apart.

Action started with great serves by Ham including one ace. Bennett led in kills with four in addition to two blocks for kills. Vieselmeyer grabbed three tip kills, King one kill and Erin Lebsack one tip kill.

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In the final game, Yuma managed to tie the score twice, but otherwise the Dragons held the lead over the Indians.

Good serving by Ham and Vieselmeyer mixed with kills by Bennett, Vieselmeyer, King and Lauren Blomme gave the Dragons an eight-point lead midway through the set.

Yuma attempted a comeback, lessening Holyoke's lead by five, but a tip kill by Patricia Adams gave HHS the momentum to finish the game strong. A kill by Bennett and an ace serve by Heather Duester secured the Dragons' 25-19 win.

In team stats, Vieselmeyer had 12 serves for eight points, King 12 serves for seven points and Ham 11 serves for five points including one ace.

Middle hitter Bennett led in attacks with 26 including 13 kills followed by King with 17 including six kills.

Vieselmeyer completed 39 sets for 24 assists for kills.

On defense, Bennett and King both grabbed 22 digs while Bennett had 17 serve receives. Three solo blocks and six block assists were also made by Bennett.

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The Lady Dragon volleyball team secured a decisive victory over the Yuma team in their recent match. The game was a high-stakes affair, with both teams displaying exceptional skill and teamwork. The Lady Dragons' strategic play and powerful serves were the key factors in their triumph. The team's performance was a testament to their hard work and dedication throughout the season.