Holyoke Dragon baseball team bounced back after its first two losses of the season to sweep Yuma 5-1 and 9-2 in Holyoke Monday, April 9.

Holyoke's strong pitching staff deserves credit for keeping the Indians at bay throughout the day.

"It was great how the boys responded after two tough loses to Burlington," coach Kyle Bules said. "The pitchers did an exceptional job of keeping Yuma hitters off balance and pounding the strike zone."

Bules also noted the Dragon offense really stepped up as they had a string of 11 hits against Yuma's ace in game one.

"Defensively we did all right but need to always make the routine plays and not give them extra outs," Bules said.

The Dragons will put their 12-2 record up against Front Range Christian Saturday, April 14.

Holyoke 5, Yuma 1

Game one began with neither team scoring until the third inning when Yuma crossed one runner. Holyoke answered as Brett Cumming, Reid Baumgartner and Harry Paulin (pinch running for Jesus Hermosillo) all scored to give Holyoke the lead.

Baumgartner, who started on the mound, sat the Indians down in order in the fourth inning with three consecutive looking strikeouts. He was part of a three up, three down fifth inning with two more strikeouts. He would go on to strike out 12 batters during his complete seven innings of work.

Holyoke catcher Hermosillo caught a Yuma base runner napping at third base and picked him off to end the Indians' sixth inning.

Holyoke's Brett Cumming ducks under teammate Austin Killin at the last second to allow Killin to grab a fly ball in right field Monday afternoon. It was the first of two nice catches for Killin during Holyoke's 9-2 win over the Indians.
—Enterprise photo

Holyoke added two more runs in the bottom of the sixth as Deyten Klein and Baumgartner each crossed home plate. It would be all the runs needed for Holyoke to give them game one.

Baumgartner, in addition to an impressive performance on the mound, had four hits, one RBI and scored two runs.

The Dragon pitcher faced 25 batters. In addition to his 12 strikeouts, he walked four batters, gave up two hits and no earned runs.

Trevor Dalton and Cumming each had a stolen base for the Dragons.

Holyoke 9, Yuma 2

Holyoke was determined to win game two and never let off the gas pedal. After a scoreless first inning, Holyoke sat the Indians down in order in the top of the second.

In the bottom of the inning, Holyoke had the bases loaded with two outs when Cumming stepped up and belted a hit that scored Austin Killin and Klein to give Holyoke the early 2-0 lead. The Dragons added one more run when Baumgartner knocked a hit that scored Logan Zeiler.

Klein’s strong pitching helped hold Yuma at bay in the top of the third giving Holyoke the chance to get back to batting.

Jaydin Goldenstein got the Dragons going in the third when he roped a ball to left field that nearly cleared the fence. The Dragon momentum nearly killed the Yuma spirit as they began to make error after error.

The Yuma pitcher had a balk that scored Goldenstein. Both Killin and Klein managed to score from third on passed balls at home plate.

Zeiler and Cumming scored later in the inning off a Baumgartner double to give Holyoke an 8-0 lead.

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