

HHS finishes with best league record

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

HHS ended the baseball regular season with a bang, topping Wray 10-7 and 11-0 Saturday, May 4 on the strength of eight home runs by the Dragons.

The pair of wins brings Holyoke's season record to 17-2, earning them the No. 1 seed in the 2A District 7 Baseball Tournament beginning Friday, May 10.

Holyoke 10, Wray 7

There was no shortage of suspense and entertainment in the first game of the doubleheader as there were five lead changes.

Holyoke lit up the scoreboard first as Brett Cumming crossed home on an infield error and Trevor Dalton scored on a Logan Tharp single. Wray responded in the bottom half of the inning, taking the lead on a three-run home run.

The Dragons regained the lead in the fourth inning. After Bradley Cumming reached base on a walk, Brett Cumming cleared the bases with the first of many home runs on the day for Holyoke.

The Dragons had a rough fifth inning defensively. In what should have been a three up, three down inning, Wray managed to score three runs on two hits and two Dragon errors to take a 6-4 lead.

"Every game counts now," Coach John Zilla said of the inning. "We can't keep making mental mistakes."

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With Holyoke down two runs in the sixth inning, Brett Cumming once again provided the spark the Dragons needed. After another Wray pitch landed past the outfield fence and Brett had finished trotting the bases on his second home run of the game, the deficit was cut to one and the Dragons had the momentum to make a late-inning run.

Five batters later, Tharp singled to left field, scoring Jaydin Goldenstein and Jesus Hermosillo and taking the lead at 7-6. The Dragons added another three runs in the top half of the seventh inning and held Wray to just one run for the 10-7 victory.

Brett Cumming had an impressive game at the plate, finishing 5-5 with four runs scored and three runs batted in. Tharp was also efficient with a bat, going 3-5 with three RBIs. Goldenstein and Ryan Krogmeier both posted two-hit performances in the game.

Alfredo Santos started on the mound for the Dragons, allowing six runs on seven hits and striking out six. Dalton picked up the save, allowing one run on one hit and striking out three.

Holyoke 11, Wray 0

The second game of Saturday's doubleheader was more of a home run derby for the Dragons than a game. On their way to an 11-0 victory, six Holyoke batters watched hits sail over the outfield fence.

HHS attacked quickly as Dalton, the second batter of the game, connected with a pitch for a two-run home run.

In the third inning, Dragon pitcher Deyten Klein helped his own cause as he unleashed a three-run home run to increase the lead to 5-0.

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Four of the first six Holyoke batters hit home runs in the sixth inning to enforce the run rule and end the match at 11-0. Brett Cumming, Jesus Hermosillo and Logan Tharp all hit solo home runs while Goldenstein connected for a two-run shot.

As dominant as the Dragons were on offense, they were equally as impressive defensively. Coach Zilla called the match the best all-around game of the season for the Dragons.

Klein recorded 12 strike outs in six innings of work, while only allowing one hit.

Upcoming action

The Dragons will take on the winner of the Wiggins/Merino pigtail match in the first round of the district tournament Friday, May 10 at 9 a.m. in Akron.

If they should win, they will play again Saturday, May 11 at 10 a.m.

Junior varsity finishes season strong

The Dragon junior varsity squad ended the season on a high note.

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After sweeping Wray Tuesday, April 30, they tied with Sedgwick County 16-16.

“The kids looked really well and finally came together as a team so I was pleased,” coach John Zilla said.

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