



HOLYOKE

DRAGON TIMES

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Sports Debate

By Mason Sprague

HOLYOKE CO - Do you think sports should be canceled for 2020? Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) has canceled most sports until April. Football, Volleyball and Basketball are all considered contact sports, whether it is contact with another or they all touch the same ball. Most sports are non contact but do involve passing a ball between players to get to an objective. Colorado disease control (CDC) recommends students doing self-building skills at home and to avoid scrimmages. Players in the sports that are active are required to wear masks when they cannot be social distance from other players to avoid the spread Covid-19 according to the CDC. CDC also recommends bringing your own equipment like your own basketball, gloves, etc. Covid-19 is the cause to all of this and all of these precautions are to help not spread the disease. Covid-19 spreads through expelled droplets, so if a player were to breath heavily or cough on the ball and pass it on, there is a chance of Covid transmission. At the time this article was published the schools had not heard any changes to schedules, but there are rumors all over social media of yet another change. Players had accepted the current plan and are tired of being told one thing and then something else changing.

CHSSA

By Ben Kleve

HOLYOKE CO -This year has been long and unpredictable with the Covid-19 and all the bad things that have happened. CHSAA has been unpredictable as well while trying to get all the sports in the fall season to be played in the fall season during the current outbreak. This includes all the sports but golf and softball, which are already being played. Governor Jared Polis denied the first plan to reopen fall sports, but recently there has been some speculation on social media which has yet to be announced to any of the accredited Colorado schools. Their response to this situation has been admirable, but Parents would rather see one decent press statement than have rumors and social media many statements that are not well written.



Clayton

By Dahira Castillo

HOLYOKE CO - Mrs. Clayton is the new Jr./Sr. High School counselor. She moved from teaching science to being the new counselor. Her transition from teaching to counseling has been "awesome so far." She says everybody has been so helpful, kind, and supportive. Mrs. Clayton has always known she wanted to help students make plans and prepare for life after high school. She never really thought the job would be open and as soon as she heard it was, she jumped right on the opportunity. She had taught science in Holyoke for 12 years. She was also the response to the intervention coordinator. Mrs. Clayton will not be coaching junior high basketball this year because she is working on getting her Master's Degree. She says it has taken up most of her free time but she hopes to be able to coach basketball again in the future. Mrs. Clayton enjoys getting to see students step out and take a chance by applying to scholarships and colleges. She adores both teaching and counseling. She misses talking to her students in class but loves being able to help kids with issues they have about school or just personal problems. Our Dragons are so lucky to have her!



Gen Z Slang

By Dahira Castillo

HOLYOKE CO- Generation Z or Gen Z is a very outgoing and fun generation. You might have heard some "slang" this odd generation is using. Some of this slang includes phrases such as "Period!" or "It's the ____ for me". Most phrases are created out of memes such as "Chile anyways.." said by Nicki Minaj during an instagram live after receiving a confusing question. A lot of this slang comes from or is created on the popular app, TikTok. Some phrases out of TikTok include "no♥", "Head empty no thoughts", and fairy comments. Here's a small chart of some popular Gen Z slang.

Wack	Snatched	No cap	stan __ for clear skin
Bhet	Catch these hands	Simp	I can't even
Boomer	Spill the tea	Yeet or get yeeted	lowkey/high key
Straight TikTok	Did me dirty	Hype	Finesse

Softball

By Emma Sprague

HOLYOKE CO-Our softball girls once again have taken a win, they played the Wray Eagles on Saturday and took a win in all three games. Our varsity pitcher was Haley Van Overbeke and our catcher was Correy Koellner, as for JV our pitcher was Elyce Talavera and the catcher was Audrey Talavera, and of course their Coach Sherman Kage and the assistant Coach Kendra Schlacter. To cheer on the our softball girls, we had the party bus that Theron Roll drives, it has loud speakers, so it can blast music in between games to hype up fans and the softball girls, unfortunately it had to leave during the second varsity game. The first varsity softball game the girls had won 10-15 followed by the second game which they had also won 4-5, which had brought us to the JV game, again they had won 2-0. Emali Torres, their first baseman, said "our team is a family, we work together and depend on each other on and off the field." The softball girls have played 6 games and have won four and lost four. Emali is pumped for the rest of the season because she knows they have big things ahead of them. "Wray was a hard team but hard work overcomes talent." Emali says.



Golf

By Anessa Colgazier

HOLYOKE CO - The modern game of golf originated in Scotland. Most cities have a golf course. Golf is a sport that takes concentration and patience. This sport is a stress reliever for most people. This sport is quiet unlike others. The first 18 hole course was on a sheep farm in Scotland. In Holyoke we have two golf courses Holyoke Golf Course and Ballyneal. Ballyneal is more expensive to get into than the golf course in town. Since, Covid- 19 began CHSAA has limited the number of students who can participate in each tournament. Lucky for the boys, golf is an outside spot, so as long as, they are maintaining social distance they can have their masks off while playing. Several new members joined the boys' golf team since there is no other sport happening right now. The Holyoke tournament was a success. The JV team is playing in Sterling today and the Varsity has a couple more events before the finals in early October.



Photo Credit: Michelle Van Overbeke

Colorado Fires

By Teagan Martin

HOLYOKE CO - Colorado is burning. There are many fires in the Rocky Mountains right now. There are at least 15 fires. Currently, the most dangerous fires in Colorado are called: Pine Gulch, Grizzly Creek, and Cameron Peak. According to Summitdaily.com, these 3 fires burned a total of 274,034 acres. The containment for the Pine Gulch fire is 95% contained. The cause is from lightning. It started July 31st. The location of the Pine Gulch fire is located 18 miles North of Grand Junction. This fire has been the worst this year. It has burned 140,000 acres. Cameron Peak fire is the 2nd worst. It has burned a total of over 100,000 acres of land. The containment is only 5%. It started August 13th. Right now, we don't know how the fire started. The location of the fire is near Fort Collins. The last fire that is known of is the Grizzly Creek fire. It has burned 32,500 acres. The fire started by a human on August 10th. This fire is 91% contained. It is near Glenwood Springs. $\frac{2}{3}$ of these fires are almost contained. The fire crews that have been trying to put them out have not had much sleep this past month. There are over 2,000 firefighters working non-stop in Colorado right now. Some of the fire crews have been using airplanes full of red slurry to drop on the flames. The slurry is used to help put fires out. In the forest, people called Hotshots work on the ground. According to Wildlandfirefighter.com, Hotshots, use fire and dig trench lines to put out the fires. The Centennial State is not immune to devastating wildfires, as long as lightning and human error exist, wildfires will always remain in the state.



https://www.google.com/search?q=colorado+fires&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKUwj9tujR-7rAhXowVkkHeDqBRIQ_AUoA3oECBMOBQ&biw=1517&bih=750&safe=active&ssui=on#imgrc=81w2YJMqJahStM

Colorado Weather

By Grace Whisenhunt

HOLYOKE CO - Colorado's weather has been everything but predictable the past few weeks. Just last week, there was snow on the ground and people were asked to dress warmer for the weather. Not even a week later, the weather became hot and humid. Some believe that this is mainly caused by climate change. Another explanation is that the jet stream, which is a river that is responsible for bringing storm systems down to the mid latitudes. The Colorado fires also play a role in the record-setting weather. Even though Colorado is notorious for its unpredictable weather, it has been a very long time since we have seen weather change so dramatically and so quickly like it has the past few weeks. Climate change and the fires currently happening in Colorado are believed to be the main reasons why the weather in Colorado is currently is so unpredictable.



Dragon Pride Poster Contest

By Roslyne Doorn

HOLYOKE CO - In the Holyoke Jr/Sr High School, we have been finding new ways to show Dragon Pride. Each seminar participated in a poster contest to show different perspectives of Dragon Pride. Some of these vary in color or have different themes. Some of the classes used their students' pictures to make their poster unique. The prize for first place was rootbeer floats. This contest is not the first, nor last dragon pride contest to be held. Dragon pride is being proud to be a student here in the Holyoke Junior Senior High School, and being a good role model. The contest was held for students so the classes could express themselves, and for them to show what being a Holyoke Dragon means to them. The contest also showed what they think Dragon pride is. The students at the school worked hard on their posters. The winner was announced on Thursday, September 17. Mrs. Grothman's seminar and they enjoyed root beer floats. We are very happy that the students here are showing their Dragon Pride. We hope to see their pride shows daily, but we also look forward to the next event or contest. #DragonPride



Read, Read, Read!

By Layna Wear

HOLYOKE CO - The 20 Book Challenge is a challenge made by Mrs. Kleve for 8th grade English where students must read at least 20 books by the end of the school year. Many students dislike reading, so this is definitely a challenge for them. Mrs. Kleve's class will be reading 4 books as a class, but the other 16 will be chosen by us. Students have 9 genres they must read from; realistic fiction, historical fiction, mystery, informational, fantasy/science fiction, biography/autobiography, graphic novel, poetry, and picture books. If a student really likes a certain genre, they can read more and fill them in the 'Chapter Book Free Choice' category. Students must read at least 20 minutes per day. Each week students must do something to show Mrs. Kleve they read. They fill out sheets focusing on different aspects about the book. Once they complete the challenge, they will turn in their log for a certificate of completion and a prize. If they wish they can start doing another one.



Trick-Or-Treat?

By Kenzie Rau

HOLYOKE CO - Cute kids, happy faces, and candy for everyone. I think that's why we shouldn't cancel Halloween. Everyone looks forward to the community time that we get together during Halloween. Some people look forward to wearing their costume and going trick-or-treating with their friends. I feel that we should not cancel Halloween this year because, Halloween is one of the holidays that follows COVID-19 guidelines such as, most costumes already have masks, tons of costumes have gloves, almost all costumes are only worn once, and all treats given out are all individually wrapped and sealed. Trick-or-treating means little to no crowds, and staying in one place for a short amount of time. Halloween is a holiday that doesn't involve a lot of personal contact. In previous years, Americans spent over \$7 billion on candy, costumes, etc. With COVID-19 shutting down 60% of businesses, Halloween could help boost our economy, because of the costumes, candy, and the community.



Trick-Or-Treat?

By Grace Whisenhunt

HOLYOKE CO - Due to Covid-19, there has been a debate about whether trick-or-treating should be canceled. Canceling trick-or-treating would slow the spread of Covid 19, therefore I believe that it should be canceled this year. While trick-or-treating doesn't take a lot of contact, there could be germs on the wrapper. Even though you throw the wrapper away, kids rarely wash their hands right after opening candy, which means that the germs that were on their hands would be transferred to the candy and ingested along with it. Even though this might not affect the majority of the children going trick-or-treating, they could go home and pass it onto their families, who could go in public the very next day and spread Covid-19 even more. Also, while many people will most likely wear masks, they are not always effective. Yes, masks do make it less likely for you to catch it, they can not possibly block all germ particles. While trick-or-treating is a loved activity and a tradition for many families, this year just might not be the year for it.



Dear Spike,

By Mrs. Kleve

HOLYOKE CO - The Dragon Times is proud to announce a new regular feature, "Dear Spike." He will be taking questions from students to ask Spike for advice. Spike, our Dragon mascot, now has his own email address: Spike@hcosd.org. He will be available to answer any questions submitted. Know that Spike is ready to answer questions about school, home life, relationships or anything else you can think of to ask. He is looking forward to responding to all of you and helping with any questions you may have. Please feel free to write Spike any time you would like. He checks his email often. Go Dragons! #DragonPride.

