

Wildcats fall to Eudora on homecoming



Louisburg guard Jacob Welsh passes off to teammate Ben Minster under the basket during Friday's homecoming game against Eudora. The Wildcats fell to Eudora 66-30.

The Louisburg boys basketball team tried to slow down the pace against a high-powered Eudora offense Friday, and early on, it seemed to work.

After the first quarter, however, it didn't quite go as planned.

Louisburg, which trailed by six points at the end of the first quarter, allowed 29 second quarter points to the Cardinals and the Wildcats ended up with a 66-30 loss on homecoming. It was also the sixth loss in a row for Louisburg.

"Until we start doing things that we are supposed to do, things that we work on every day in practice, it is going to be like this," Louisburg coach Jason Nelson said. "What we see in practice is different than what we see in games and that mentality has to carry over and it hasn't for some reason."

The Wildcats (6-9) made it difficult on the Cardinals early as they forced the ball inside on offense and were able to get to the free-throw line. In fact, Louisburg went to the line 12

times in the first quarter and found themselves in the bonus four minutes into the contest.



Louisburg junior Jayce Geiman goes up for a shot during Friday's game against Eudora.

Although Louisburg didn't have a field goal in the first quarter, it trailed only 14-8 going into the second period. However the lack of offense, seven turnovers and confident Eudora team made for a tough way to end the first half for the Wildcats

"They are such a good group of kids and they want to be good, but it is about sticking to the game plan," Nelson said. "We talk about controlling the tempo and attacking. We did that. They had seven fouls and we were shooting free throws in the first quarter. We were slowing them down and that is what we wanted. For some reason, we deviated from it and it just kind of snowballed."

Eudora hit four 3-pointers on consecutive possessions at one point during the second quarter, which led to a 13-0 run by the Cardinals that gave them a 43-16 halftime lead. It was a lead the Wildcats couldn't overcome.

Junior Grant Harding led the Wildcats in scoring with eight points and junior Jayce Geiman finished with a team-high five rebounds in the loss.

“We have been focusing on getting the ball inside more and running an inside-out game,” Nelson said. “When we do it, and when we are assertive with it, it works well. When we deviate from that, it kind of spirals out of control. It is not physical because these kids work harder than any group of kids that I have had, but we have to keep doing what we know how to do and not get away from that.”

The Wildcats will try and stop their losing streak Friday when they travel to Ottawa. Tipoff is set for approximately 7:30 p.m.

LOUISBURG		8		8
7	7 - 30			
EUDORA		14	29	12
11 - 66				

LOUISBURG (6-9): Grant Harding 3-9 1-2 8; Alex Dunn 2-2 2-2 6; T.J. Dover 1-4 4-6 6; Jacob Welsh 2-3 0-0 4; Jake Hill 1-2 1-2 3; Dalton Ribordy 0-0 2-2 2; Jayce Geiman 0-7 1-2 1. Totals: 9-33 11-16 30. 3-point field goals: 1, (Harding)