

Hankinson, Rizzo to participate in KC Metro all-star game



Dustyn Rizzo (left) and Korbin Hankinson, both 2017 Louisburg High School graduates, will participate in the Papa John's Kansas vs. Missouri All-Star Game on Thursday at Blue Springs South High School.

For the last four years, Korbin Hankinson and Dustyn Rizzo have strapped on their pads and put on their purple and white Louisburg jersey.

Both players thought those days of playing football were over when their final season with the Wildcats ended last November.

As it turns out, both players will get one last opportunity to team up with each other, but they will wear a different jersey. Hankinson and Rizzo earned a spot on the Team Kansas roster for the Papa John's Kansas vs. Missouri All-Star Game that is put on by the Greater Kansas City Football Coaches Association.

The all-star game will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday at Blue Springs South High School and both players are looking forward to the challenge of going up against some of the top players in the Kansas City area.

“Playing in this game means a lot to me,” Hankinson said. “I’ve always wanted to do this and get to represent the state of Kansas. It’s truly an honor to be selected on this team.”

Rizzo feels the same way as he and Hankinson both prepare to play in their final high school contest.



“I’m excited I get the chance to compete with some of the best kids in the area,” Rizzo said. “It’s definitely a learning experience and it really gets me going when I get to strap the pads back on.”

The two recent Louisburg High School graduates have spent the last week practicing with their new Kansas teammates for two hours each night and will continue to work until kickoff on Thursday.

Hankinson will spend a majority of his time on the offensive side of the ball as a slot receiver and possibly some special teams. Rizzo will see a bulk of his minutes on the opposite side as a defensive end and also on punt return situations.

"It's an honor to play with these guys and it has humbled me, especially playing with guys that are just as good, if not better, than me at my position and on the other side of the ball," Rizzo said.

The head coach of Team Kansas is Basehor-Linwood coach Rod Stallbaumer, who led the Bobcats to an 11-1 mark and a Kaw Valley League championship. Kansas will try and snap a six-game losing streak to Missouri that dates back to 2011.

Anders Vance, a 2016 Louisburg graduate, played in the game last season as an offensive lineman before moving on to play at Pittsburg State.

Following this year's all-star game, Hankinson and Rizzo will be focused on their next stops. Hankinson signed with Missouri Southern, while Rizzo will join the Garden City Community College team this fall.

"Getting to play with Dustyn one more time means a lot to me," Hankinson said. "When I found out we were both selected to play I was very excited because I didn't think I would get the chance to play in an all-star game with someone I've been playing with for almost my whole life.

"Having two kids from Louisburg selected to play in this games shows that Louisburg has a good program. I know a lot of people doubt the program, but we have amazing coaches and kids that love to work hard."

As excited as the two players are to move to college, there will be some mixed emotions after Thursday's game.

"Getting the chance to play with Korbin is nice, knowing this will be the final time we get to strap on the pads together with the same goal in mind," Rizzo said. "I've missed the game and I look forward to playing one last time with him."

KANSAS ALL-STARS

Sam	Arnold	OL	Spring Hill
Zac	Bayless	OLB	Blue Valley North
Blaine	Boudreaux	DT	Mill Valley
Simon	Bradley	OLB	Shawnee Mission East
Kobe	Buffalomeat	OL	Lawrence
Nick	Bulleigh	CB	St. Thomas Aquinas
Matt	Dercher	QB	Blue Valley
Joel	Donn	SS	Mill Valley
Will	Evans	RB	Blue Valley
Harrison	Frazier	OLB	Blue Valley North
Joe	Gleason	TE	Bishop Miege
Gus	Gomez	WR	Blue Valley
Drew	Greene	OL	Olathe North
Colin	Grunhard	C	Bishop Miege
Korbin	Hankinson	WR	Louisburg
Ben	Hartman	WR	Mill Valley
Aaron	Hawes	OL	Piper
Nigel	Houston	WR	Shawnee Mission East
Keilon	Hunter	CB	Blue Valley North
Gyun	Jung	K	Leavenworth
Kirrian	Kirby	OL	Blue Valley
J.J.	Letcher	FS	Piper
Montell	Madlock	ILB	Shawnee Mission West
Michael	Maffry	ILB	Blue Valley
Lawson	Marshall	NT	DeSoto
Jason	Meeker	SS	Shawnee Mission West
Chance	Montgomery	FS	DeSoto

Luke	Murphy	OL	Basehor-Linwood
Jonas	Pippitt	OLB	Gardner Edgerton
Danny	Presler	OL	Shawnee Mission North
Brock	Reed	ILB	Ottawa
Dustyn	Rizzo	DT	Louisburg
Chas	Rollo	RB	Basehor-Linwood
Cornelius	Ruff	RB	Schlagle
Brett	Sabath	DT	Blue Valley Southwest
Will	Schneider	QB	Shawnee Mission North
Hunter	Skeens	CB	Gardner Edgerton
Sam	Stranathan	DT	Gardner Edgerton
Trevor	Thompson	WR	Shawnee Mission East
Garret	Tierney	ILB	Blue Valley Northwest
Drevontae	Tiller	LB/CB	Harmon
Brent	Turner	C	Piper
Jacob	Unruh	DT	Lawrence
Israel	Watson	WR	Shawnee Mission West
Landry	Weber	WR	Bishop Miege
Keegan	Zars	OL	Mill Valley

MISSOURI ALL-STARS

Mohammad	Alkhateeb	DL	Blue Springs
Stephen	Benson	CB	Blue Springs
Sam	Buckner	W/S	Lee's Summit
Genesis	Combs	OL	Raymore-Peculiar
Nick	Cook	FS	Raymore-Peculiar
Roosevelt	Cooper	CB	Hogan Prep

Christian	Cox	X/Y	Center
Sahron	Cunningham	FS	Raytown South
Langdon	Douglas	FS	Center
Diaz	Elliot	DL	Richmond
Salvatore	Garozzo	RB	Lee's Summit
Chester	Graves	OLB	Park Hill
Bryce	Greenwood	OL	Blue Springs South
TJ	Guillory	X/Y	Platte County
DJ	Harrell	CB	Winnetonka
Mohammed	Herb	OL	Staley
Hunter	Heyne	ILB	Staley
Andrew	Houston	CB	Raymore-Peculiar
Tui	Huston-Asaeli	OL	Belton
Kyle	Linville	OL	Oak Park
Ethan	Luft	OLB	Kearney
Roger	McDaniel	DL	Belton
James	McMullen	DL	Winnetonka
Mike	McNair	RB	Platte County
Mason	Moreland	ILB	Excelsior Springs
Kevin	Neal	FS	Platte County
Brady	Orwick	OL	Fort Osage
Jaeger	Plymell	OL	Richmond
Anthony	Pritzel	QB	Kearney
Cody	Richardson	TE/Y	Grain Valley
Zach	Shanholtzer	W/S	Lee's Summit West
Nathan	Shook	DL	North Kansas City
Nick	Snider	X/Y	Belton
Andrew	Stroud	OL	St. Joseph LeBlond
Bennett	Swope	DL	Liberty

John	Taylor	ILB	Center
Norvell	Trent	RB	Center
Kole	Wagener	ILB	Grain Valley
Trace	Weatherford	TE/Y	Park Hill South
Rasean	Weathers	CB	North Kansas City
Collin	West	OLB	Blue Springs South
Damon	Whitmill	RB	North Kansas City
Dominic	Williams	QB	Richmond
Max	Wittman	OL	Liberty