

# Wildcats complete sweep of Paola with victory on Senior Night



Louisburg senior guard Brayden Gage passes the ball off to senior teammate Kohl Vogel during the Wildcats' Senior Night game with Paola on Friday. The Wildcats rolled to a 51-33 victory.

The Louisburg boys basketball team had a chance to sweep rival Paola last Friday during its Senior Night contest.

The Wildcats took full advantage.

Louisburg held Paola to just two points in the first quarter and the Wildcats never let up in the 51-33 victory.

The win gave seniors Brayden Gage, Kohl Vogel, Dylan DeShazer and Noah Hill some bragging rights as they played their final home game.

"It was definitely one of our goals was to beat Paola and it meant everything with them being our rivals," Vogel said. "All of the seniors were ready to compete and that is what we did."

Although they were able to pull away offensively, the Wildcats (9-11) won the game on the

defensive end as they forced 28 Paola turnovers and Louisburg scored 20 points off of those mistakes.

Gage and Vogel and made things difficult on the Panther offense as they consistently trapped the Paola ball handlers at the top of the key and those steals led to several runouts.

For the game, Gage finished with a team-high eight deflections and had four steals, while Vogel had a team-high five steals to go along with a game-high 17 points.

“You could tell our kids had something to play for and that the end of the season is near because we played with that energy and really just made a lot of plays,” Louisburg Ty Pfannenstiel said. “We started off slow, and with both teams playing zone, sometimes that can happen, but our defense really sparked our offense. We got a lot of steals, a lot of deflections and once we got confidence things really kept going for us.”

Three of the four seniors got the Wildcats off to a good start as Hill started the game with four points, and in-between there was a Madden Rutherford 3-pointer to put Louisburg up 7-2. Vogel went on to hit a 3-pointer of his own, along with a pair of free throws and Gage hit a basket to give the Wildcats a 14-2 lead going into the second quarter.



**Louisburg senior Noah Hill goes up for two points on Friday against Paola.**

The Wildcats expanded their lead to 30-8 late in the second quarter after a basket from DeShazer and free throws from Vogel, who went to the free-throw line 13 times for the game. Louisburg went on to take a 31-13 halftime lead.

Along with the seniors, the Wildcats also got a good performance from sophomore guard Weston Guetterman as he joined Vogel in double figures with 11 points.

“It was a great team effort,” Pfannenstiel said. “We talked the other day about everyone having their role and they all have things that they do well. We just really stress that and

playing as a team and playing unselfish. Our energy was good and I thought everyone was playing unselfish basketball. We don't have any individual stars, so it will take a great team effort to win and that was perfect heading into postseason."

Louisburg expanded its lead to 22 points at the end of the third quarter and the Wildcats were able to empty their bench in the fourth quarter to give their four seniors a nice ovation as they said their farewells.

"It was big to beat Paola on Senior Night," Gage said. "It is good to be able to say I was undefeated against them my senior year in all sports. As for the other seniors, I think they feel the same way and it was special that all four of us stepped up on Senior Night and got the win."



**Louisburg senior Dylan DeShazer goes up for a basket Friday against Paola at Louisburg High School.**

Postseason play now begins for the Wildcats as they are the No. 13 seed in the sub-state tournament and will travel to No. 4 Anderson County (14-5) for a 7 p.m., tipoff on Wednesday.

The winner of that game will play the winner of No. 5 Eudora (11-7) and No. 12 Tonganoxie (9-11) on Friday in the sub-state championship. Louisburg has played all three teams this season and have wins over Eudora and Tonganoxie and an overtime loss to Anderson County early in the season.

“They are familiar opponents, but it has been awhile since we have played Anderson County and that is our only focus right now,” Pfannenstiel said. “We have a little different look to us now. We have added a little bit of depth. We were down

DeShazer in that game  
and I don't think we went more than six deep at that time. It  
will be an  
up-tempo game. They like to run and pressure, so we have to be  
able to play at  
that tempo, but also know when it is time to be patient."

<b>LOU</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6 -</b>
<b>51</b>				

<b>PAO</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10 -</b>
<b>33</b>				

LOUISBURG (9-11): Kohl Vogel 3-7  
9-13 17; Weston Guetterman 4-5 1-2 11; Brayden Gage 3-8 0-1 6;  
Dylan DeShazer  
1-4 3-6 5; Noah Hill 1-3 2-3 4; Ben Guetterman 1-3 0-0 3;  
Madden Rutherford 1-2  
0-0 3; Julian Margrave 1-2 0-0 2. Totals: 15-37 15-29 51. 3-  
point field goals:  
6, (Vogel 2, W. Guetterman 2, B. Guetterman, Rutherford)