

Wildcats stay unbeaten with road win at Basehor-Linwood



Louisburg sophomore Hunter Rogers makes a pass to a Wildcat teammate Tuesday at Basehor-Linwood High School.

BASEHOR – A pair of contrasting styles was on display Tuesday at Basehor-Linwood High School as a smaller and quicker Louisburg team squared off with a big and physical Basehor-Linwood squad.

Speed won out this time around.

Louisburg scored a pair of first half goals and never looked back in a 3-0 shutout of Basehor-Linwood and the Wildcats have yet to lose as they are now 3-0 on the season.

“We just needed play quicker so they couldn’t come get to us,” Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. “We struggled a little bit with that early, but we started to play the ball quicker, moving it quicker and then they had to chase us. If you try to play physical with a team that is twice our size, we are obviously going to lose that match. It was good for our boys to realize what our advantage was and to take advantage of that.

"Basehor is a big, strong and talented team and they have a relentless attack. They are really good and I think we held up strong back there."

The Wildcat defense did its job as it posted its second shutout of the season, thanks in part to the Louisburg back line of senior Will Frank, junior Luke Faulkner, sophomore Michael Seuferling and freshman Toby Espina Roca. For Frank, it was the first match of the season after coming back from injury, and the returning starter provided stability in the back.

Senior goalie Garrett Rolofson also turned away several Bobcat shots as he ended the night with five saves.

"The four of them played really well and they did their job," Conley said of his defense. "We rotated through and they kept playing hard. Toby played well, Luke played well on the back side and I think Michael might have been the man of the match. Will did a good job in the middle, so those guys did a good job of holding their line and holding their ground and not giving an inch.

"Will got his first start, so it was nice to have him back. We probably played him a little too much, but that is ok. He was being a leader back there for us."



Junior Treston Carlson celebrates his goal with teammate Braden Yows on Tuesday in the Wildcats' 3-0 win in Basehor. Fifteen minutes into the match, the Wildcats got on the board. Freshman Ethan Ptacek raced down the right side of the field, beat his defender and found the back of the net on a breakaway opportunity to give Louisburg the lead.

Junior Treston Carlson added on to it later in the half when he connected on a shot from 25 yards out that sailed over the Bobcat goalie's head to give the Wildcats a two-goal advantage.

Freshman Cade Gassman cemented the win in the second half with a goal of his own with 13 minutes remaining in the

match on an assist from Braden Yows. Gassman had four of the team's 12 shots on goal and was on the attack most of the night.

"We have spots that we have to clean up really quick, but for the most part I thought we played really well," Conley said. "I thought we possessed the ball well, broke them down a little bit and had a lot of chances on goal where we could have scored even more."



Freshman Ethan Ptacek wins a header Tuesday at Basehor. Ptacek scored the team's first goal.

The Wildcats will try and stay undefeated today when it hosts Bonner Springs. The match has been moved up to 4 p.m. due to weather concerns.

Louisburg, which defeated Bonner Springs in overtime last season, will face a Braves squad that is looking for a little revenge from a year ago.

“Bonner graduated 16 seniors, but they are a much different team and have a different philosophy,” Conley said. “They do a good job of listening to their coach and they are going to play hard and play quick. We are going to have to do our job and execute, otherwise it could be a rough night.

“We have to come ready to go. The Frontier League is the best league in the state when it comes to 4A soccer, so it is going to be a battle every night and I am sure Bonner will be ready to go.”