

Louisburg girls continue dominance with shutout of Tonganoxie



Louisburg senior Olivia Barber controls the ball and makes a move toward the goal during a match earlier this season. Barber scored a goal and had an assist in Louisburg's 6-0 win over Tonganoxie last Thursday.

Youth doesn't seem to be bothering the Louisburg girls soccer team much these days.

All the Wildcats have done is win four straight matches to start the season, including Thursday's 6-0 victory over Tonganoxie at home. It was the first league match for Louisburg this year.

"The girls came out firing again," Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. "They played together and really battled. Tonganoxie has a couple really talented girls and they play hard and work really well together. I felt the girls took their game away from them and really did well.

"I was excited to see the girls get that first league win under their belt. We played well and limited their opportunities. We took away what they wanted to run, which allowed us to dictate how the game was going to be played."

Louisburg used the same recipe as it did in its previous victory over Wyandotte – two goals from Lola Edwards, two

goals from Reese Johnson, and a goal each from Olivia Barber and Bree Gassman.

The Wildcats also garnered two assists from freshman Lexi Hampton and one each from Barber, Gassman and junior Ruth Minster.

“Yeah, those girls are playing really well and just keep getting better,” Conley said. “They are doing a really nice job of taking what the other team gives them. Reese and Bree did very well to attack from the outside, Olivia did a good job in the middle and Lola was all over the field. She is developing so well and is becoming a major threat for us. The entire offensive side of the ball is doing really well and I am pleased with our improvement.”

Although, Louisburg hasn’t had to face much adversity on the back side, the Wildcats are still playing strong defense. They haven’t allowed a goal yet in four games and have outscored teams 25-0.

Against Tonganoxie, the Wildcats gave up two shots on goal and have allowed just five shots on goal for the season.

“The defense is growing each and every game,” Conley said. “They are sound and learning each and every day, a little more each time. We will get a stretch this week against Spring Hill, and it will be interesting to see how we respond.

“We are off to one of the best starts in school history. In 2019. the LHS girls soccer team went 4-0 to start the season with scoring 18 goals and did not concede any. This 2021 group has started 4-0 and scored 25 goals and have not conceded a goal as of yet. They are playing well and doing a really nice job of playing for each other.”

Louisburg will try for that fifth straight win Tuesday when it hosts Topeka West. The match is set to begin a 5:30 p.m.