Wildcats open season with home shutout of Lansing



Several members of the Louisburg team celebrate the season's first goal by Rowan Yows on Tuesday during the Wildcats' home opener against Lansing.

It took a little bit for the Louisburg girls soccer team to get on the scoreboard Tuesday in its home opener against Lansing, but once it did, the goals came in bunches.

The Wildcats scored five first half goals, and it was more than enough to get their first win of the season in a 5-0 victory over the Lions.

"It definitely feels good to start with clear and decisive wins, both at the JV and varsity levels," Louisburg coach Jordan Roquemore said. "There were a lot of great moments and we were able to play 19 different athletes over the course of

the varsity game. It was good for building confidence and experience.”

Senior Rowan Yows had a big night for the Wildcats as she scored the game’s first goal and finished with two on the night to go along with an assist. In all, four different players found the back of the net.

Another senior, Baileigh Johnson, made it a 2-0 lead midway through the first half on a cross from Yows. Freshman Kahlan Harris followed with her first varsity goal to make it 3-0.

Just a couple minutes later, the Wildcats answered again



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past the Lansing goalie for her first varsity score and a gave the Wildcats a

4-0 advantage.

Right before halftime, Yows added her second goal of the night and all but sealed the win for the Wildcats.

“I loved seeing Rowan have a big game, but it was very encouraging to see how many other players scored or created opportunities,” Roquemore said. “We had 14 shots on goal from 10 different players, which shows exceptional diversity in players able to create and finish scoring chances.”

Defensively, the Wildcats limited the Lions’ chances as the back line of Jaden Bentz, Lila Edwards, Faith Sewell, Cora Roche and Caroline Apple kept the ball out of harms way.



Louisburg defender Faith Sewell clears the ball Tuesday against Lansing.

Senior goalie Ally Brown, who played her first-ever soccer game in the net, earned the clean sheet.

Defense was one of the many things that the Wildcat did well in, what they hope, is the first of many victories.

“We had some bright moments with our passing connections and our attack showed a lot of dynamism and potential,” Roquemore said. “However, we still have a lot to work on. Our passing consistency needs improvement and we have some gaps in our formation we need to tighten up.

“Overall, I am very encouraged by what I saw. This team has incredible potential and solid depth at the varsity level. We will continue to improve and sharpen as we play more together and get comfortable in our positioning. Wins are great, but consistent improvement and growth from game to game is a goal I am more interested in achieving.”

Louisburg will try and make it two wins in a row today as the Wildcats travel to Leavenworth. Varsity is set to begin at 6 p.m.