Wildcats get back-to-back wins over Santa Fe Trail, Baldwin



Louisburg senior Alex Saad tries to turn a double play last week during the Wildcats' home game against Spring Hill. After suffering its first loss of the week season last week against Spring Hill, the Louisburg baseball team bounced back nicely with a pair of road victories.

The latest came Tuesday when the Wildcats traveled to Baldwin and earned an 18-1 Frontier League victory in three innings. On Monday at Santa Fe trail, Louisburg overcame a few mistakes and held on for a 12-8 victory.

"We swung it well in both games," Louisburg coach Kade Larson said. "We had some issues defensively against Santa Fe Trail, but did a great job responding the next day against Baldwin. We cleaned those mistakes up and played really well."

Louisburg jumped on Baldwin early with an 11-run second inning and never looked back in the 17-run victory.

Senior Carter Willey and junior Danny Napier each hit a 2-run home run to lead the Wildcats' attack. Napier also tallied a team-high 4 RBIs.

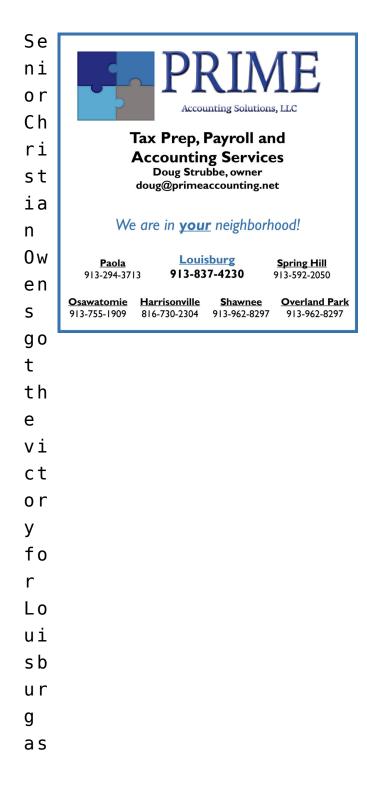


Louisburg senior Jayce Toms makes contact with a pitch last week against Spring Hill.

Seniors Jayce Toms and Luke Schultz each paced the Wildcats with three hits and 3 RBIs. Toms, Rylan Carty and Max Amren also doubled for Louisburg.

Meade Rutherford started for the Wildcats and got the victory. Rutherford pitched three innings and allowed just one unearned run and had five strikeouts. The Wildcats (4-1) also racked up the runs Monday at Santa Fe Trail as they tallied 12 runs on 13 hits. Louisburg took a 12-4 lead going into the bottom of the fifth before the Chargers put together a late rally.

Rutherford and Amren each led the Wildcats with three hits and a double on the night, while Rutherford finished with 4 RBIs. Schultz added two hits and 3 RBIs, while Toms had two hits and 2 RBIs. Junior Bristol Barbour had two hits and an RBI.



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Peyton Simpson and Tanner Simpson combined for three innings of work to preserve the win for Louisburg.

Louisburg will try for a pair of wins Thursday when it hosts Ottawa in a Frontier League doubleheader. First pitch is set for 4:30 p.m.

Wildcats fall in home opener to Spring Hill

Last Thursday, Louisburg hosted Spring Hill in its home debut at Lewis-Young Park, and the Wildcats had a hard time getting anything going against the Broncos.

Spring Hill took advantage of five Louisburg errors and handed the Wildcats an 11-5 loss.

"We have some things to clean up defensively," Larson said. "We showed some great fight and never gave up. We will have to make some adjustments and continue getting better to be where we need to be by the end of the season."

Spring Hill scored two runs in the second, four in the third and three more in the fourth to take a 9-2 lead after four innings.

Schultz had a double and 2 RBIs to lead the Wildcat offense, while Toms and Rutherford each had a run batted in.

Walks also hurt the Wildcats along with their errors. They issued 12 free passes on the night, which led to several Spring Hill runs.