# Kansas makes changes to state basketball format



Press Release from the Kansas High School Activities Association

TOPEKA, Kan. — The KSHSAA State Basketball Tournament format and sites have been selected for the next two seasons. In 2026, the 1A Division I semifinals and finals will be played at United Wireless Arena in Dodge City. The 2A and 1A Division II semifinals and finals will be played at White Auditorium in Emporia while 3A and 4A semifinals and finals will be played at The Hutchinson Sports Arena at Hutchinson Community College.

In the largest school classifications, 5A and 6A semifinals and finals will be played at Koch Arena at Wichita State University. This will mark the first time since 1953 when state championship games of multiple classes were played at the same place.

In 2027, both Divisions of 1A semifinals and finals will be played at Tony's Pizza Events Center in Salina. Class 2A and

Class 4A semifinals and finals will be played at Bramlage Coliseum in Manhattan. The 3A semifinals and finals will be played at The Sports Arena at Hutchinson Community College. The 5A and 6A semifinals will be played at White Auditorium in Emporia.

"The KSHSAA is an association of member schools, and the school leaders have asked for class consolidation of championships." said KSHSAA Executive Director Bill Faflick. "This new format will achieve that result and provide a greater focus on the student athletes competing at the highest level with four state title games being played consecutively on championship Saturday. This modification allows basketball to follow the recently implemented format for championship soccer and football championship games. With more titles being determined at one location, the atmosphere in the championship arenas will be at an all-time high."

The state tournament begins with the quarterfinal round which will be hosted at seven venues in five cities. To advance to the semifinals and finals sites, teams will need to win the state quarterfinal round games which will be played at United Wireless Arena, Tony's Pizza Events Center in Salina, Mabee Arena at Kansas Wesleyan University, Koch Arena, Garvey Center at Friends University, White Auditorium, and the Kansas City Kansas Community College Fieldhouse in Kansas City.

#### 2026 State Basketball Tournament Quarterfinal Schedule:

6A, 4A, 2A Girls, 5A, 3A, 1A Boys Quarterfinals — March 10 (United Wireless Arena, Koch Arena, Friends University, Tony's Pizza Events Center, Kansas Wesleyan University, White Auditorium, KCKCC Fieldhouse)

5A, 3A, 1A Girls, 6A, 4A, 2A Boys Quarterfinals — March 11 (United Wireless Arena, Koch Arena, Friends University, Tony's Pizza Events Center, Kansas Wesleyan University, White Auditorium, KCKCC Fieldhouse)

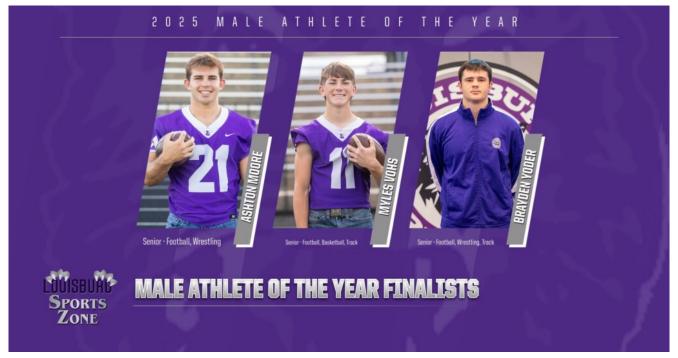
The quarterfinal round games are determined by proximity to the higher seed, not class. The highest four seeds of the state tournament will be placed as close to home as possible in the 28 quarterfinal round games across the state. If the distance from the lower seed is greater than 250 miles from where the game would be played near the higher seed, that game will be played at one of the quarterfinal sites centrally located. State brackets will not be reseeded after the state quarterfinals.

"With the top four seeds earning the right to play close to home, the quarterfinal rounds will provide a better environment and experience allowing more friends and family to attend the quarterfinal round," said KSHSAA Assistant Executive Director and Basketball Administrator Kyle Doperalski. "This new format is a win for teams and school communities with an incredible atmosphere of four state championship games in the same venue on the same day. Fans and media along with non-advancing teams and coaches will have less decisions to make about what site to go to and watch the teams and players they want to see at the state tournament."

The dates of the quarterfinal games are March 10-11, 2026 and March 9-10, 2027. The dates of the semifinals and finals are March 12-14, 2026 and March 11-13, 2027.

Two years ago, the membership expressed desire through the October Regional Administrator Meetings to combine classes at the state basketball tournament. Each class individually supported this concept. Working with the host sites to ensure top level tournament management, it was determined that the best course of action is the final four in each class advance to the site of the semifinals and finals with state quarterfinal games being played in proximity to the higher seed at neutral/college sites.

# 2025 Louisburg Sports Zone Male Athlete of the Year Finalists



Louisburg seniors Ashton Moore, Myles Vohs and Brayden Yoder are the finalists for the 2025 Louisburg Sports Zone Male Athlete of the Year Award.

For the eighth consecutive year, Louisburg Sports Zone will be handing out an Athlete of the Year honor to a male and female athlete at Louisburg High School. I wanted the opportunity to recognize those who exemplify what it means to be an "athlete."

Although I am giving out the award, I wanted the process to be subjective, so I asked the head coaches at LHS to help me out. I asked each coach to send me nominations of who they thought exemplified the Athlete of the Year honor. Then I sent the nominations back to the coaches and they voted for their top 3 male and female athletes. The recipient will be announced in

the coming days.

Below are the three finalists for the Male Athlete of the Year award in alphabetical order by last name.



### Ashton Moore - Senior - Football, Wrestling

Ashton was a letterwinner for both the Louisburg football and wrestling teams this past season. On the football field, Moore was a first-team All-Frontier League and All-State selection at running back and linebacker for the Wildcats as he led Louisburg to a 7-2 record.

On defense, he became the Wildcats' all-time leading tackler with 324 stops and he is second in program history with 26.5 tackles for a loss. He also earned the Bobby Bell Award this past season as the Kansas City area's top small class

linebacker/defensive lineman. At running back, he led the Wildcats with 611 yards on the ground to go along with 12 total touchdowns. He was also selected to play in the Kansas Shrine Bowl.

Moore was also the Class 4A state runner-up in wrestling at 215 pounds. Moore is a 4-time state qualifier for the Wildcats and a 2-time state medalist. He finished the 2025 season with a 41-3 record and has 128 career wins for the Wildcat program. Moore was also a team captain for both the football and wrestling teams.



Myles Vohs - Senior - Football,

### Basketball, Track

Myles was a 3-time letterwinner this season for the football, basketball and track and field teams. On the football field, Vohs was the Wildcats' favorite target at wide receiver as he had 41 catches for 852 yards and 9 touchdowns. He also averaged more than 20 yards per catch. He was an All-Frontier League first team selection and honorable mention all-state.

On defense, Vohs was an honorable mention all-league selection at cornerback with 20 tackles, 7 pass break-ups and he also had an interception for a touchdown. For his efforts, Vohs was also named to the All-Simone Team and was selected to play in the Greater Kansas City Football Coaches Association all-star game.

On the basketball court, Vohs was the team's starting point guard and was one of the top scorers on the team with nearly nine points a game to go along with a team-best 56 assists and 32 steals.

On the track, Vohs earned three state medals this past season, including two in a pair of relays. He ran on the  $4\times100$  and  $4\times400$ -meter relay teams and both earned a sixth place finish at the state meet. Vohs also placed at state in the long jump as he was fifth with a jump of 21-6.5.



### Brayden Yoder - Football, Wrestling, Track

Brayden was a 3-time letterwinner for Louisburg this past season in football, wrestling and track and field. In football, Yoder was a first-team All-Frontier League selection on defense and was a fixture on the Wildcat defensive line. He was second on the team with 68 tackles, including 6 for a loss and a team-high 5.5 sacks.

He was also a second team all-league selection on offense as a lineman. Yoder was one of the leaders on the offensive line that amassed nearly 3,000 yards of total offense. He also earned honorable mention all-state honors.

On the wrestling mat, Yoder was a state qualifier for the Wildcats and finished the season with a 35-12 record at 190 pounds. He was also a regional champion and finished one win

shy of a medal during the Class 4A state tournament.

On the track, Yoder was one of the Wildcats' top javelin throwers on the season and his best throw was just under 150 feet.

### Week 11 Athlete of the Week: Luke Schultz



Here is the Louisburg Sports Zone Athlete of the Week for week 11 of the winter sports season, sponsored by Edward Jones and Craig Holtzen.

### LUKE SCHULTZ, SENIOR, BASKETBALL

Louisburg senior Luke Schultz had a strong season for the Wildcat boys basketball team. Schultz led the team in scoring and rebounding for the 2024-25 campaign as one of the Wildcat post players. He averaged more than 10 points a game to go along with more than seven rebounds a contest. Schultz also scored 27 points during the Wildcats' 3-game week to end their season.

During the season, Schultz recorded a 30-point performance in a win in January and also pulled down a team-high 18 rebounds in another contest. He shot 37 percent from the floor for the year.

The athlete of the week award is announced every Wednesday morning during the winter season and the winner is selected by Louisburg Sports Zone with the help of nominations from coaches.

#### Previous winners:

Week 1: Gavin Lohse

Week 2: Colin Brown

Week 3: Jay McCaskill

Week 4: Brayden Yoder

Week 5: Andrew Jamison

Week 6: Ashlyn Kuhlman

Week 7: Ashton Moore

Week 8: Brooklyn DeWeese

Week 9: Leola Eslinger

Week 10: Colton Prettyman

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### Wildcats end season with loss to Paola on Senior Night



Louisburg senior Luke Schultz drives to the basket Friday during the Wildcats' Senior Night game against Paola.

The emotions were all over the place Friday for the Louisburg boys basketball team.

Not only was it Senior Night against one of their rivals in Paola, but the Wildcats were coming off a buzzer-beating loss two days earlier that all but ended their hopes of making the state playoffs.

Still, they wanted nothing more than to end their season with a win. Unfortunately for the Wildcats, Paola pulled away as it scored 21 third quarter points and handed Louisburg a 53-47 loss on Senior Night.

It was also the final game for five Wildcat seniors in Myles Vohs, Luke Schultz, Gavin Lohse, Billy Vohs and Will Goode.

"I thought they did a really good job because it was just so heartbreaking what happened on Wednesday," Louisburg coach Ben Doll said. "The goal on Friday was to start and play those five seniors a lot and those guys did a really good job playing together. They executed a lot of stuff, hit some shots and we had a lead through a big portion of the game. Billy, who hadn't played a lot of minutes before Friday, did a really good job and was happy for all them to be able to play together and play well for most of the game."

The Wildcats (3-17) just couldn't get much going offensively, but did take a 22-21 lead at halftime. The Panthers caught fire in the third quarter and Louisburg couldn't recover as they shot just 27 percent for the game.

"It was just the story of our season," Doll said ."We weren't the greatest shooting team and we missed a lot of things around the basket and that is a big difference between winning and losing. That was definitely evident in that game. I thought our defense was pretty good. We got into some foul trouble, but still we had some other guys fill in and did a solid job overall, especially at the end."

Louisburg jumped out strong on Paola as it took at 13-5 lead after one quarter and held on for the 1-point halftime lead. The Panthers outscored Louisburg 21-12 in the third quarter to pull away.



Louisburg senior Myles Vohs led the Wildcats in scoring Friday with 12 points and also had six steals.

Myles Vohs led the Wildcats on both ends of the floor as he scored a team-high 12 points to go along with six steals. He also had four rebounds and three assists.

Schultz added nine points in the loss, while junior Derek Frederick added eight. Lohse and Goode each had seven points, while Lohse had a team-high nine rebounds and Goode had seven.

It was a senior class that Doll has gotten to know quite a bit in his two years as head coach.

"Gavin, Luke and Myles played a lot of minutes, not just this year, but last year as well," Doll said. "They provided a lot to our team and I'm definitely going to miss those guys. All those seniors brought important things to our program that we needed. The wins and losses really didn't go the way we wanted them to this season, but the four seniors that were there with us all season were always ready to go at practice. We lost

some close games in the last week of the season, but those guys gave us the opportunity to get us where we needed to go. We just fell short in these last few."

LOU 13 9 12 13 - 47

#### PAO 5 16 21 11 - 53

LOUISBURG (3-17): Myles Vohs 5-13 2-5 12; Luke Schultz 1-8 6-10 9; Derek Frederick 2-4 2-2 8; Gavin Lohse 2-6 3-4 7; Will Goode 2-6 2-4 7; Billy Vohs 1-7 0-0 3; Lance Callahan 0-1 1-3 1. Totals: 14-47 16-28 47. 3-point field goals: 5, (Frederick 2, B. Vohs, Goode, Schultz)

## Wildcats fall at the buzzer to Eudora

The Louisburg boys needed a win last Wednesday against Eudora in the worst way.

The Wildcats found themselves on the outside looking when it came to the playoffs and they had to beat the Cardinals to give themselves a reasonable shot.

Louisburg was right where it wanted to be as it held a 2-point lead with less than five seconds left. It turned out to be too much time for Eudora.

The Cardinals passed the ball up the court and Ryan Osburn hit a running 3-pointer that banked off the backboard and went in as Eudora handed Louisburg a tough 47-46 loss at the buzzer.

"It was a big blow and was incredibly deflating for everyone involved," Louisburg coach Ben Doll said. "We had chances all through the game to give ourselves more of cushion than just a two point game there at the end. Crazy things can happen in that situation and you see it at all levels of basketball.

"You look back and wonder what you could have different at the

end of the game, but there were so many other opportunities earlier as well that would have put us in a better spot," Doll said.

Louisburg found itself down most of the second half, but made big plays in the fourth quarter to take the lead, including a 3-point play from Luke Schultz and an acrobatic drive by Myles Vohs to put the Wildcats up 37-36.



Louisburg senior Gavin Lohse goes up for a basket last week in the Wildcats' loss to Eudora.

Eudora came back to take a 40-37 advantage, but Vohs tied it with a 3-pointer. Gavin Lohse and Derek Frederick each hit a pair of free throws to put Louisburg 46-42.

With under 30 seconds left, Eudora scored on a second chance opportunity to make it 46-44. The Cardinals got the ball with another chance to tie or take the lead, but missed two shots and had to foul with 4.9 seconds left.

The Wildcats couldn't take advantage at the line as they missed both chances, which gave Eudora one last opportunity that it would convert.

The Wildcats played another close game the day before against Blue Valley Southwest, but lost 55-47 to the Class 5A program.

Louisburg used a 13-4 third quarter to get back in the game and take a 40-36 lead, but Southwest went on a 17-7 run in the fourth quarter to pull away.

Will Goode led the Wildcats with a double-double of 17 points and 13 rebounds. Luke Schultz and Gavin Lohse each tallied nine points and Schultz had seven rebounds. Myles Vohs had eight points and three assists.

LOU 8 10 12 16 - 46

EUD 7 15 12 13 - 47

LOUISBURG: Myles Vohs 6-12 3-4 16; Gavin Lohse 3-7 5-6 11; Luke Schultz 3-8 2-3 9; Lance Callahan 2-6 0-0 6; Derek Frederick 0-5 2-2 2; Will Goode 1-6 0-2 2. Totals: 15-47 12-17 46. 3-point field goals: 4, (Callahan 2, Vohs, Schultz)

LOU 17 10 13 7 - 47

BVSW 18 16 4 17 - 55

LOUISBURG: Will Goode 7-15 2-2 17; Gavin Lohse 3-9 3-6 9; Luke Schultz 3-7 3-4 9; Myles Vohs 3-14 1-1 8; Derek Frederick 1-4 0-0 2; Lance Callahan 1-3 0-0 2. Totals: 18-54 9-13 47. 3-point field goals: 2, (Vohs, Goode)

# Wildcats fall to Spring Hill after tough second half



Louisburg senior Luke Schultz scored 10 points and pulled down six rebounds in the Wildcats' loss on Feb. 14 at Spring Hill.

SPRING HILL — For most of the season, the Louisburg boys basketball team hasn't been able to put their full team on the floor, whether due to injury or illness.

It has been a tough stretch at times for the Wildcats to battle through and Louisburg was faced with that again on Feb. 14 when they traveled to Spring Hill.

Louisburg was without one of its top scorers and rebounders in senior Gavin Lohse, while another senior, Luke Schultz was limited with an injury himself.

Still, the Wildcats made the best of a tough situation as they fought the Broncos on their home floor, but fell short in a 57-41 loss.

"Yes, being without Gavin again put us in a bind," Louisburg coach Ben Doll said. "He has been our most consistent producer in the games he has played, but just snake bitten with injuries and other stuff all season. Luke wasn't 100 percent but did a great job with some scoring and on the glass."

Louisburg got out to a good start as it took a 13-12 lead after one quarter and trailed by just one points at halftime. Unfortunately, the Broncos picked up the pace offensively as they outscored Louisburg 34-19 in the second half, including a 17-7 run in the fourth to pull away.

Wildcat senior point guard Myles Vohs led the way for Louisburg with a team-high 11 points and also had seven rebounds and three assists. Schultz also had 10 points to go along with six rebonds.

The Wildcats (3-14) did get some reinforcements however as senior Will Goode played his first game for Louisburg as a late season transfer. Goode, a 6-foot-10 forward, will give the Wildcats a boost they need on the inside as he led the team with nine rebounds to go along with seven points.

"Adding Will into the mix really helped that night," Doll said. "We made things basic and let him try to fit in the best he could. It is unusual to get a transfer that can play right away this late in the season, but we believe he will help us a lot, especially when Gavin is in the lineup."

Louisburg will try and get back on the winning track Tuesday as the Wildcats travel to Blue Valley Southwest. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m.

#### LOU 13 9 12 7 - 41

LOUISBURG (3-14): Myles Vohs 3-11 4-4 11; Luke Schultz 4-9 0-0 10; William Goode 3-12 1-1 7; Derek Frederick 2-7 0-0 6; Ethan Kush 2-7 0-0 5; Owen Marsh 1-2 0-0 2. Totals: 15-48 5-5 41. 3-point field goals: 6, (Frederick 2, Schultz 2, Vohs, Kush)

# Louisburg boys drop league road game at Tonganoxie



Louisburg senior Ethan Kush splits the Tonganoxie defense Tuesday as he goes up for a shot at Tonganoxie High School.

TONGANOXIE — Tuesday's road contest at Tonganoxie was an important one for the Louisburg boys basketball team.

Not only would a win stop a four-game losing streak, but it would give the Wildcats a leg up on getting into the state playoffs. Both teams had the same amount of wins and are vying for spots in the top 16.

Neither of those came to fruition for Louisburg. Tonganoxie used a big third quarter to separate itself and hand Louisburg a 55-48 loss.

Tonganoxie earned its fourth win of the season, while the Wildcats are 3-13 with four games remaining and a game back of earning a playoff spot.

Of all things, it was the free-throw line that made a big difference in the game as Tonganoxie made 18 of 25 attempts to just 8 of 13 for Louisburg.

"That was a tough one due to the substate standings and the fact that we had plenty of chances to win the game," Louisburg coach Ben Doll said. "In the end we just fouled too much. They took 25 free throws to our 13. That makes a big difference in a tight game."

Louisburg got out to a good start as it scored 17 points in the first quarter and held a one-point lead at halftime. It was the third quarter where the Chieftains began to pull away.

Tonganoxie outscored Louisburg 19-10 in that third period as the Wildcat struggled to get much going offensively. The Wildcats shot 30 percent from the floor, compared to 50 percent for Tonganoxie.

The Wildcats were also down starter Luke Schultz, one of the team's top rebounders and scorers, as he was out with an injury.

Senior Gavin Lohse tried to fill that void for the Wildcats as

he made it tough on the Chieftains with a team-high 13 points and 18 rebounds.

Unlike the first matchup between the two teams, the Wildcats were just 4-for-24 from behind-the-arch as they couldn't get those shots to fall from the outside.

Senior Ethan Kush, who started in place of Schultz, made two 3's and finished with eight points. Senior Myles Vohs and junior Derek Frederick also each scored eight and each had a team-high four assists.

"Gavin had another strong night for us in the paint and grabbing rebounds," Doll said. "He was a warrior for sure. Also, it was nice to see Ethan Kush hit a couple big shots from 3 when we needed them."

Louisburg will try and break that losing skid Friday when it travels to Spring Hill in another Frontier League matchup. Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

LOU 17 9 10 12 - 48

TON 14 11 19 11 - 55

LOUISBURG (3-13): Gavin Lohse 6-11 1-2 13; Derek Frederick 4-9 0-0 8; Myles Vohs 2-10 3-4 8; Ethan Kush 3-10 0-1 8; Billy Vohs 1-4 0-0 3; John Guetterman 0-1 3-4 3; Owen Marsh 1-8 1-2 3; Lance Callahan 1-5 0-0 2. Totals: 18-60 8-13 48. 3-point field goals: 4, (Kush 2, B. Vohs, M. Vohs)

### Wildcats fall to Paola in

# overtime, lose to Ottawa on homecoming



Louisburg junior Derek Frederick drives past a Paola defender during the Wildcats' Feb. 4 game in Paola.

PAOLA — The Louisburg boys basketball team was well on its way to stealing a game from its rival on Feb. 4 at Paola.

The Wildcats had a 3-point lead late in the contest and were hoping to get their second league win of the season. Paola had other ideas, however.

Paola forced overtime and then hit free throws down the stretch to hand Louisburg a 58-56 loss in a game where the Wildcats led for much of the second half.

"It's a hard loss because we're obviously struggling in a lot of ways," Louisburg coach Ben Doll said. "At the same time, I think we took a big step forward in a lot of ways. I thought we shot the ball well and our defense was fairly good. We are not looking for moral victories this late in the season, but it was a hard fought game that we played pretty well all the way through it. We just didn't get the calls and situations we wanted in the end."

The Wildcats shot 34 percent from the field, but had three players score in double figures. Louisburg led by two points at halftime and the game remained close throughout. Louisburg's largest lead of the game was seven midway through the third quarter.

Paola put together a mini run, and even took the lead midway through the fourth, but the Wildcats responded to take it right back.



Louisburg senior Myles Vohs gets to the basket for two of his team-high 18 points on Feb. 4 against Paola.

Louisburg junior Derek Frederick hit a pair of free throws to tie the game at 48-all with four minutes left in regulation, then with 2:42 remaining, junior Owen Marsh hit a pull-up jumper to give Louisburg a 50-48 lead. Senior Myles Vohs knocked in a free throw at the 1:50 mark to make it a 3-point game, however Paola's Caden Cohee nailed a 3-pointer to tie the game again.

Paola got the ball back with under a minute left and settled for the final shot, but the Wildcat defense held strong as it forced a fade-away 3-pointer from Steven Bassett that missed and forced overtime.

The Panthers jumped out to a four point lead in overtime, but free throws from Vohs and Luke Schultz cut it to two with 19 seconds left. However, Cohee knocked in two free throws to make it a four-point lead again and the Wildcats ran out of time.

Cohee was big for the Panthers all night as he finished with a game-high 22 points and was 10-for-17 from the free-throw line.

"In overtime Paola's defense tightened up a little bit, but we were battling foul trouble and we didn't have Gavin (Lohse) and he would have been a difference maker in there for us, but the guys who were out there really battled," Doll said. "Paola got the right calls and hit the free throws when they needed to."

Vohs had a big night for the Wildcats as he paced Louisburg with a team-high 18 points, along with a team-high four steals and four assists.

Schultz also finished in double figures with 11 points and had eight rebounds. Frederick had 10 points, while Marsh had seven points and five rebounds.

As a team, the Wildcats shot well from behind-the-arch as they knocked in seven 3-pointers, including five combined from Vohs and Frederick.

"Myles really stepped up and hit some clutch shots for us all

night," Doll said. "Both Myles and Derek hit big shots for us a different times. Derek had been in a slump as of late, so it was good to see those shots go through the hoop and hopefully that will carry over to the rest of the season."

LOU 14 16 11 10 5 - 56

PAO 11 17 10 13 7 - 58

LOUISBURG (3-11): Myles Vohs 6-13 3-6 18; Luke Schultz 3-9 4-6 11; Derek Frederick 3-11 2-2 10; Owen Marsh 3-7 0-0 7; Gavin Lohse 2-3 1-1 5; Ethan Kush 1-4 2-2 4; Parker Stanfield 0-1 1-2 1. Totals: 18-53 13-19 56. 3-point field goals: 7, (Vohs 3, Frederick 2, Marsh, Schultz)

## Wildcats fall to No. 1 Ottawa on homecoming

There was no more difficult task for the Louisburg boys to play than taking on the No. 1 team in the state Friday on homecoming.

For the first half, the Wildcats held their own and tried to slow the game down. Louisburg trailed by just 12 points at halftime, but a big third quarter from Ottawa changed the game.

The Cyclones scored 26 points right after halftime and pulled away to hand Louisburg a 66-34 loss. Ottawa outscored the Wildcats 26-11 in the third quarter to all but seal the win.



Louisburg senior Gavin Lohse scored 15 points to lead the Wildcats against Ottawa.

Louisburg senior Gavin Lohse led the Wildcats in scoring with 15 points to go along with eight rebounds. Luke Schultz finished with eight points, but had to leave early in the second half with an injury.

The Wildcats will try and bounce back this Tuesday as they travel to Tonganoxie. Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

LOU 8 9 11 6 - 34

#### OTT 15 14 26 11 - 66

LOUISBURG (3-12): Gavin Lohse 6-10 3-6 15; Luke Schultz 3-3 2-2 8; Myles Vohs 1-10 2-2 5; Lance Callahan 2-3 0-0 4; Owen Marsh 1-7 0-0 2. Totals: 13-51 7-10 34. 3-point field goals: 1, (Vohs)

# Wildcats drop games to Bonner Springs, Eudora



Louisburg freshman Herschel Strumberger battles for a rebound Friday against Bonner Springs.

The Louisburg boys basketball team hosted Bonner Springs on Friday in hopes of getting back in the win column in Frontier League play.

Unfortunately, Bonner Springs got out to a fast start and the Wildcats weren't able to recover in a 71-41 loss at Louisburg High School.

Louisburg (3-10) did battle back and won the second quarter, but couldn't get much rhythm going offensively in the second half.

"We did come out ready to go early, but had a really bad last few minutes of the first quarter that was hard to come back from," Louisburg coach Ben Doll said. "Their pressure caused us to speed up and we had too many turnovers in that stretch. They are good team that really can get out and pressure the ball which hurt us all night."

The Wildcats found themselves down 22-8 at the end of the first quarter, but responded in the second quarter as they tried to whittle away at the Brave lead.

Sophomore Lance Callahan and senior Billy Vohs combined for three 3-pointers in the quarter and the Wildcats trailed just 37-25 at halftime.

The second half was a struggle offensively for Louisburg as it scored just 16 points in the final two quarters.

Senior Luke Schultz led the Wildcats in scoring with 12 points and a team-high six rebounds. Senior Myles Vohs also finished in double figures with 10 points, while Callahan added eight.

Louisburg is back in action tonight as the Wildcats travel to Paola for a Frontier League matchup. Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

#### LOU 8 17 10 6 - 41

#### BON 22 15 18 16 -71

LOUISBURG (3-10): Luke Schultz 5-10 2-2 12; Myles Vohs 5-14 0-0 10; Lance Callahan 3-6 0-0 8; Gavin Lohse 2-4 0-1 4; Billy Vohs 1-1 0-0 3; Herschel Strumberger 1-1 0-0 2; Owen Marsh 1-5 0-0 2. Totals: 18-49 2-3 41. 3-point field goals: 3, (Callahan 2, B. Vohs)

### Wildcats suffer road loss at Eudora

Louisburg and Eudora were deadlocked in the first half and the Wildcats were right where they wanted to be.

The second half, however, didn't go the Wildcats' way. Eudora held Louisburg to 19 second half points and pulled away for a 65-47 win over the Wildcats on Jan. 28 in Eudora.

"The boys fought hard, but we just lost track of our game plan on them a little bit," Doll said. "We left some of their really good guys open in the second half and we didn't do a good job of helping. They also took advantage of the freethrow line.

"There was a time where we were battling back in the third quarter and we got to the line, but we just didn't make our free throws. We were down eight at the end of the third, and if we hit our free throws it is probably a little tighter game."



Louisburg's Parker Stanfield goes up for a basket last week against Eudora.

Senior Luke Schultz led the Wildcats in scoring with 11 points and nearly had a double-double with nine rebounds. Myles Vohs and Billy Vohs each had nine points, while Billy finished with three 3-pointers.

Junior Owen Marsh led the team with five assists and three steals.

LOU 15 13 8 11 - 47

#### EUD 15 13 16 21 - 65

LOUISBURG: Luke Schultz 4-12 2-5 11; Billy Vohs 3-8 0-0 9; Myles Vohs 4-14 0-0 9; Herschel Strumberger 2-3 1-1 5; Owen Marsh 1-8 1-4 3; Lance Callahan 1-1 0-0 3; Ethan Kush 1-3 0-0 3; Gavin Lohse 1-1 0-0 2; Parker Stanfield 1-5 0-0 2. Totals:

# Schultz scores 30 as Wildcats snap losing skid in win over Wyandotte



Louisburg senior Luke Schultz scored a game-high 30 points as the Wildcats downed Wyandotte in the seventh place game of the Viking Classic on Saturday at Shawnee Mission West.

SHAWNEE MISSION — Going into the seventh-place game of the Viking Classic on Saturday, the Louisburg boys basketball team

was in desperate need of a win.

Injuries and a tough schedule have hampered the Wildcats, but Saturday provided some relief. Louisburg snapped a seven-game losing skid as the Wildcats downed Wyandotte, 67-38, and ended with win in what was a talented tournament field at Shawnee Mission West.

"We knew it was going to be a tough tournament for us and it was," Louisburg coach Ben Doll said. "We knew we were going to be the smallest school in the tournament, but I am hoping the competition makes us better with our 4A schedule down the road."

Senior Luke Schultz provided the Wildcats with a much-needed boost at the right time. Schultz finished with a double-double, which included a game-high 30 points to go along with 11 rebounds.

The Wildcats, who had a 27-19 lead at halftime, exploded for 24 points in the third quarter, with a lot of those coming from Schultz.

"We played much better against Wyandotte on Saturday," Doll said. "First, our pressure caused them to cough it up in the open floor for some easy layups and we ran more zone than usual, which was effective since they are not a good shooting team.

"Luke stepped up a lot in that game as well. He was more aggressive getting to the basket and hit three 3s to go with that. Luke has been a steady guy for us all year and it was nice to see him have a breakout game."

Louisburg's defense came up big as the Wildcats forced 28 Wyandotte turnovers and turned those into 30 points. The Wildcats also had 17 offensive rebounds, which led to 13 second chance points.

Senior Myles Vohs also finished in double figures for the Wildcats as he had 10 points to go along with a team-high five assists. Sophomore Lance Callahan had seven points and a team-high three steals, tied with Schultz and junior Owen Marsh.

The Wildcats will try and build on this momentum as they travel to Eudora on Tuesday as they get back into league play. Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

LOU 14 13 24 16 - 67

#### WYA 8 11 11 8 - 38

LOUISBURG (3-8): Luke Schultz 11-18 5-8 30; Myles Vohs 4-11 1-3 10; Lance Callahan 2-9 1-2 7; Ethan Kush 3-4 0-0 6; Owen Marsh 2-4 1-2 5; Aiden Kennedy 2-3 0-0 4; Herschel Strumberger 1-2 1-2 3; Derek Frederick 0-5 2-2 2. Totals: 25-61 11-19 67. 3-point field goals: 6, (Schultz 3, Callahan 2, Vohs)

# Wildcats open tournament with losses to Ozark, Shawnee Mission West

Louisburg opened the Viking Classic with its first of three games in three days Thursday when the No. 6 seed Wildcats squared off with No. 3 Ozark (Mo.)

The bigger Ozark program got out to a big lead early and never looked back as it handed Louisburg a 63-32 loss.

"Ozark had a ton of size, which gave us issues with their 1-3-1 zone and our guards seeing over all that size," Doll said. "They are a solid team that played very hard against us."

Derek Frederick led the Wildcats in scoring with 10 points, while Herschel Strumberger had a team-high five rebounds and Myles Vohs led Louisburg with three assists. Owen Marsh also

had a team-high three steals.

The Wildcats had much of the same trouble in the consolation semifinals on Friday against Shawnee Mission West. The Vikings held Louisburg to 11 first half points and handed the Wildcats a 56-29 setback.



Louisburg junior Derek Frederick pulls up for a runner Thursday against Ozark in the first round of the Viking Classic.

"The Shawnee Mission West game was a rough one for us as well," Doll said. "Their pressure and scrappy play caused us to turn it over too much and we don't usually score enough to

overcome losing the turnover battle so badly."

Marsh led Louisburg in scoring with seven points and Strumberger added six in the loss. Luke Schultz had five points and a team-high seven rebounds.

LOU 7 7 12 6 - 32

OZA 21 18 13 11 - 63

LOUISBURG: Derek Frederick 3-11 1-2 10; Owen Marsh 4-11 0-0 8; Myles Vohs 2-11 2-3 6; Billy Vohs 1-4 0-0 3; Luke Schultz 1-7 0-0 2; Lance Callahan 1-3 0-0 2; Herschel Strumberger 0-4 1-2 1. Totals: 12-51 4-7 32. 3-point field goals: 4, (Frederick 3, B. Vohs)

LOU 7 4 10 8 - 29

SMW 17 12 10 17 - 56

LOUISBURG: Owen Marsh 3-11 1-2 7; Herschel Strumberger 2-2 2-3 6; Billy Vohs 1-4 3-4 5; Myles Vohs 2-10 0-0 5; Luke Schultz 1-7 2-4 5; Derek Frederick 0-4 1-2 1. Totals: 11-46 9-15 29. 3-point field goals: 2, (M. Vohs, Schultz)

## Wildcats can't overcome big second half from Harrisonville

In what was the first of four games in six days for Louisburg, the Wildcats traveled to Harrisonvile on Jan. 20 in hopes sneaking out with a road win.

The Wildcats had the lead after one quarter of play, but Harrisonville held Louisburg to just 25 points in the final three quarters and downed the Wildcats, 60-38.

Louisburg was without a pair of post players in Gavin Lohse — the team's leading scorer and rebounder — along with Herschel Strumberger.



Louisburg junior Owen Marsh pulls up for a shot in the lane on Jan. 20 at Harrisonville.

Senior Luke Schultz did his best to keep the team in it with a double-double. Schultz pulled down a season-high 18 rebounds to go along with 10 points. Senior Myles Vohs also scored in double figures with 10 and sophomore Lance Callahan added eight.

Harrisonville shot 46 percent for the game, with much of that damage coming in the second half. Louisburg shot just 19 percent and struggled to get going offensively.

"We started out well, but we shot so bad that when they got hot in the third quarter, we couldn't keep up," Doll said. "Luke was a warrior though with his 18 rebounds. He didn't have much help with Gavin and Herschel both out."

#### HAR 9 12 20 19 - 60

LOUISBURG: Myles Vohs 3-13 2-5 10; Luke Schultz 2-12 6-9 10; Lance Callahan 2-3 2-2 8; Owen Marsh 1-8 3-4 5; Parker Stanfield 1-1 0-0 3; Billy Vohs 1-3 0-0 2. Totals: 10-54 13-20 38. 3-point field goals: 5, (M. Vohs 2, Callahan 2, Stanfield)

# Wildcat boys, girls fall at home to Spring Hill in first game of 2025



### Louisburg senior Luke Schultz recorded a double-double Monday in the Wildcats' loss to Spring Hill.

The Louisburg boys basketball team faced an uphill battle before Monday's game with Spring Hill even started.

The Wildcats were without their leading scorer and rebounder in senior Gavin Lohse, who was out with an injury, and had their return from break pushed back a week due to winter weather.

It wasn't exactly the start to 2025 that Louisburg was hoping for and Spring Hill continued that tough trend for the Wildcats.

The Broncos shot better than 50 percent from the field, and put the Wildcats in a hole they couldn't dig out of as they handed Louisburg a 70-37 loss.

"Spring Hill shot so well against us in the first half," Louisburg coach Ben Doll said. "I thought we played hard and didn't do bad defensively in the first half, but they hit big shot after big shot.

"Then in the second half we just ran out of gas and couldn't guard very well. They started getting to where they wanted to go easily and we can't do that and expect to win or be in games. Not having Gavin right now really hurts but we still have to be way better defensively to give us a chance."

Spring Hill shot 56 percent from the floor as it jumped out to a 22-8 lead after the first quarter. Louisburg struggled to get things going in the second half as it scored 12 points in the two quarters.

Senior Luke Schultz led the way with a double-double of 11 points and 10 rebounds, while junior Owen Marsh finished with a team-high 12 points. Another senior, Ethan Kush, also had six rebounds on the night.

Jackson Bruce had a big night for the Broncos as he scored a game-high 22 points on a perfect 9-for-9 from the floor. His teammate, Jordan Miller, had a game-high 10 assists and five steals.

The schedule doesn't ease up for the Wildcats as they travel to No. 1 Baldwin on Friday for a 7:30 p.m. tipoff.

LOU 8 17 4 8 - 37

SH 22 18 16 14 - 70

LOUISBURG (2-5): Owen Marsh 5-8 0-0 12; Luke Schultz 5-12 1-3 11; Lance Callahan 2-3 0-0 6; Derek Frederick 1-7 0-0 3; Ethan Kush 1-4 1-2 3; Myles Vohs 1-11 0-0 2. Totals: 15-49 2-7 37. 3-point field goals: 5, (Marsh 2, Callahan 2, Frederick)

# Rough start for Louisburg girls ends in loss to Spring Hill

It wasn't the start to 2025 that the Louisburg girls envisioned for themselves Monday in a home game against Spring Hill.

The Wildcats couldn't overcome a big Spring Hill run in the first quarter that ended in a 64-33 loss to the Broncos.

Spring Hill opened the game on a 21-3 run and the Wildcats were unable to recover as it is their sixth-straight loss to start the season. Louisburg was outscored by just four points in the next two quarters, which led to some positives.

"Spring Hill is a great basketball team," Louisburg coach Adrianne Lane said. "They have a lot of great players who can handle the ball and take the ball to the basket. After our slow start the girls played with them the rest of the game.

"I thought the girls did a great job playing 1-3-1 defense, and in the second half they did a great job running offense.

We ran a lot of offensive sets and the girls did a great job executing."



Louisburg junior McKenna Lohse pulls down a rebound Monday against Spring Hill.

Senior Ashlyn Kuhlman led Louisburg in a few different categories. She scored a team-high 13 points, including 11 in the third quarter, to go along with a team-best five rebounds and three blocks.

Another senior, Sabra Brueggen, finished with eight points, including going 6-for-8 from the free-throw line. Senior Ally Brown was next with five points.

Brueggen, junior McKenna Lohse and senior Addy Stohs each had four rebounds, while junior Morgan Latham had a team-high three assists.

Spring Hill's Isla Herman led all scorers with 18 points and also had 11 rebounds, while Sydney Buscher had 15 points and nine rebounds for the Broncos.

Louisburg will hit the road Friday as the Wildcats travel to No. 8 Baldwin.

LOU 3 9 13 8 - 33

SH 21 10 16 17 - 64

LOUISBURG: Ashlyn Kuhlman 5-17 0-1 13; Sabra Brueggen 1-2 6-8 8; Ally Brown 2-3 0-0 5; Shylar Whiting 1-3 0-0 3; Jillian Asher 1-8 0-0 2; Morgan Latham 0-3 2-2 2. Totals: 10-44 8-13 33. 3-point field goals: 5, (Kuhlman 3, Whiting, Brown)