Second half struggles lead to Louisburg loss at Spring Hill



Louisburg junior Colyer Wingfield drives to the basket Friday at Spring Hill. The Wildcats fell 54-42 to the Broncos.

SPRING HILL – The Louisburg boys basketball team has had a difficult last couple of weeks as the Wildcats have gone up against bigger schools and better competition.

Going into Friday's road game with Spring Hill, the Wildcats had gone up against programs 5A or above in the last four games. Louisburg made it five in a row against Class 5A Spring Hill, but the Wildcats got the chance to get back into Frontier League play.

Despite a good start, the Wildcats couldn't get that victory they were looking for as they fell to the Broncos, 54-42, and have now lost five in a row.

"Our kids battled," Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. "They played with great effort all night. It was definitely not an effort thing or coming out flat, we just have to be better offensively. We've had a tough stretch here, but our kids have remained positive. I love their attitudes. They are doing everything they can to get a win."

Louisburg (3-9) put together a strong start offensively as it took a 27-22 lead into halftime and had slowed down the Bronco offense. The second half, however, was a different story.

The Wildcats scored just 15 points in the second half, and Spring Hill doubled that output in the final two quarters.

Turnovers were also a problem for the Wildcats as they committed 14 on the night, but Spring Hill scored 16 points off those mistakes. The Broncos also took advantage of opportunities at the free-throw line as they were 14 for 18.

“Only scoring 15 in the second half really put a lot of pressure on our defense,” Pfannenstiel said. “Our defense played well enough to win, but we have to be better on the offensive end of the floor. I think we forced some things. We were forcing some shots which didn’t help. I think if we can be a little more patient on the offensive end, we can become more efficient. Bottom line is that we have to shoot the ball better and when we get to the free throw line, we have to step up and knock them down.

“Overall, we played pretty well defensively. We turned the ball over way too much early in the game. We have to do a better job of valuing each possession. Turnovers are automatic empty possessions.”



Louisburg senior Isaac Guetterman pulls up for jumper Friday at Spring Hill.

Louisburg only had four players score in the contest and senior Michael Seuferling led the way with a team-high 18 points and had three steals. Junior Colyer Wingfield was also in double figures with 11 points and six rebounds.

Junior Mack Newell had a team-high seven rebounds to go along

with eight points as he was forced to sit a lot of the game with foul trouble. Senior guard Isaac Guetterman also had six rebounds.

Louisburg will try and get back on the winning track Tuesday when it hosts rival Paola. Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

LOU 11 16 7 8 – 42

SH 15 7 16 16 – 54

LOUISBURG (3-9): Michael Seuferling 7-13 3-4 18; Colyer Wingfield 5-10 1-4 11; Mack Newell 3-9 2-4 8; Maverick Rockers 2-8 0-2 5. Totals: 17-44 6-14 42. 3-point field goals: 2, (Seuferling, Rockers)

Wildcats fall on the road to Shawnee Mission South

Louisburg put together a good offensive performance as it shot better than 50 percent from the field and knocked down 10 3-pointers.

Despite those good numbers, the Wildcats didn’t have enough to slow down Shawnee Mission South in a 79-51 loss on the road. The Raiders, who are the No. 6 team in Class 6A, outscored Louisburg 23-5 in the first quarter.

Senior Maverick Rockers had a good shooting night from behind the arch as he knocked down six 3-pointers and had a team-high 20 points. Michael Seuferling had 18 points and three 3-pointers as the two players combined for 38 of the team’s 51 points.

LOU 5 19 17 10 – 51

SMS 23 22 27 7 – 79

LOUISBURG: Maverick Rockers 7-10 0-0 20; Michael Seuferling

6-15 3-4 18; Colyer Wingfield 1-5 2-6 4; Carson Kern 1-1 0-0 3; Mack Newell 1-2 0-0 2; Isaac Guetterman 1-3 0-0 2; Hunter Rogers 1-2 0-0 2. Totals: 18-38 5-10 51. 3-point field goals: 10, (Rockers 6, Seuferling 3, Kern)

Despite going 0-3, Wildcats see improvement at Bobcat Invite



Louisburg senior Hunter Rogers puts up a shot near the rim Friday against Olathe West in the Bobcat Invitational at Basehor-Linwood High School.

BASEHOR – Last week was the most challenging part of Louisburg's schedule and for good reason.

The Wildcats took part in the Bobcat Invitational in which they were smallest program going up against a bunch of Class 5 and 6A competition. Despite the uphill climb, the Wildcats battled.

After losses to Basehor-Linwood and Olathe West to open tournament play, the Wildcats faced off with St. Joe (Mo.) Central in the seventh place game Saturday and lost a close, 48-44, contest.

“We definitely faced some great competition this past week.,” Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. “You know, win or lose, we are always looking to take a step forward as a program each game that we play.

“We always stress doing the little things right, and when you don’t, good teams are going to expose you. It was definitely eye opening for us on how quick the game can get away when you turn the ball over or don’t rebound as a team.”

The two teams were tied at 41-all midway through the fourth quarter, but Central went on a 7-3 run to end the game and steal a win away from the Wildcats. Before that, Louisburg went on a 10-2 run to tie it up.

Louisburg had three players score in double figures. Colyer Wingfield led the Wildcats with 11 points and eight rebounds, while Mack Newell and Maverick Rockers also finished with 11 points each.

The Wildcats shot 43 percent from the floor and held Central to just 27 percent. Unfortunately for the Wildcats, they committed 14 turnovers and the Indians turned several of those into points.

On Friday, Louisburg found itself in the consolation semifinals against Olathe West and lost a 72-43 matchup. The Owls outscored the Wildcats 42-22 in the second half to pull away.

Senior Michael Seuferling led the Wildcats in scoring with 13 points, while Rockers finished with nine.



Louisburg junior Mack Newell stretches out for a rebound Friday against Olathe West.

It was a tough opening game last Tuesday against Basehor-Linwood as the Wildcats left with a 88-42 setback.

Rockers led Louisburg in scoring with 11 points, while Seuferling and Wingfield each finished with 10 points in the loss.

“We don’t really look at it as a loss, but more of a learning opportunity to focus on areas where we need to improve,” Pfannenstiel said. “I’m proud of our boys for stepping up to the challenge of playing some bigger schools and representing our community the right way. We are always happy for the opportunity to play and we know that we are now a better team because of the competition that we have played.”

Louisburg will face off against a pair of bigger schools again

this week. The Wildcats travel to Shawnee Mission South tonight, before going to Spring Hill for a Frontier League matchup on Friday.

LOU 8 9 12 15 – 44

CEN 14 7 18 9 – 48

LOUISBURG (3-7): Mack Newell 5-7 0-0 11; Maverick Rockers 4-10 2-2 11; Colyer Wingfield 5-11 1-2 11; Michael Seuferling 3-10 2-2 8; Carson Kern 1-2 0-0 2; Hunter Rogers 0-1 1-3 1. Totals: 18-42 6-9 44. 3-point field goals: 2, (Newell, Rockers)

LOU 9 12 6 16 – 43

OW 13 17 16 26 – 72

LOUISBURG: Michael Seuferling 6-13 0-0 13; Maverick Rockers 4-13 0-0 9; Colyer Wingfield 3-7 1-2 7; Carson Kern 1-3 2-2 5; Isaac Guetterman 1-4 0-0 3; Hunter Heinrich 0-0 2-2 2; Layne Ryals 1-1 0-0 2. Totals: 16-46 5-6 43. 3-point field goals: 4, (Seuferling, Kern, Rockers, Guetterman)

LOU 6 13 12 11 – 42

BL 18 26 28 16 – 88

LOUISBURG: Maverick Rockers 4-7 3-5 11; Michael Seuferling 2-11 5-6 10; Colyer Wingfield 4-10 2-3 10; Mack Newell 2-3 3-4 7; Cade Gassman 2-3 0-0 4. Totals: 14-36 13-18 42. 3-point field goals: 1, (Seuferling)

Week 5 Athlete of the Week:

Michael Seuferling



Here is the Louisburg Sports Zone Athlete of the Week for week five of the winter sports season, sponsored by Louisburg Family Dental.

MICHAEL SEUFERLING, SENIOR, BASKETBALL

Louisburg senior Michael Seuferling helped guide the Wildcats to their first victory since Dec. 10 last Friday when they knocked off Baldwin at home, 75-64. Seuferling had a career night as he finished with a game-high 29 points to go along with four rebounds and four assists.

Seuferling had been one of the team’s go-to scorers this season as he leads the Wildcats with more than 15 points a game and also averages three rebounds a contest.

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: Elijah Eslinger

Week 2: Maverick Rockers

Week 3: Aiden Barker

Week 4: Kaven Bartlett



Wildcat offense comes to life in win over Baldwin



Louisburg senior Maverick Rockers scored 21 points and knocked down four 3-pointers in the Wildcats' 75-64 win over Baldwin on Friday in Louisburg.

Just hours before Louisburg and Baldwin were scheduled to tipoff Friday, the Wildcats found out they would be without

their head coach, Ty Pfannenstiel, who had to sit out with an illness.

It wasn’t exactly the most welcome news as the Wildcats were aiming for a revenge win over Bulldogs after losing to them back in December.

Despite the adversity, Louisburg responded with its best offensive performance of the season.

Senior Michael Seuferling scored a game-high 29 points, while fellow senior Maverick Rockers had 21 in Louisburg’s 75-64 victory over Baldwin to give the Wildcats their first win since Dec. 10.

“I thought we played well,” Louisburg assistant coach Drew Harding said. “Offensively our ball movement was good and we moved well without the ball. That’s something we have focused on in practice so it was nice to see it happening during the game. It was good to beat Baldwin after they beat us pretty good the last time we played them. Coach Pfannenstiel did a great job preparing the team and the boys executed well.”

Harding took over the head coaching reins for one night but didn’t have much notice as he found out mid-afternoon that Pfannenstiel wouldn’t be available.

“I found out that I would be coaching around 2 o’clock that day,” Harding said. “I had a few nerves in between the JV game and the start of the varsity game but I knew Coach Pfannenstiel prepared them well and the team was ready to go. Coach (Pete) Skakal was also a big time help on the bench throughout the game.”



Louisburg senior Michael Seuferling scored a season-high 29 points to lead Louisburg to a win over Baldwin.

Those nerves quickly went away for Harding as he watched the Wildcats score at will against Baldwin. Louisburg shot 60 percent from the floor, led by a pair of seniors.

Seuferling had a career-best 29 points to go along with four rebounds and four assists, while Rockers knocked in four 3-pointers to aid his 21-point performance and he also finished with four assists.

Junior forward Mack Newell also provided an inside presence for the Wildcats as he was a perfect 7-for-7 from the field to finish with 14 points and had a team-high seven rebounds.

“Sci Fi (Seuferling) and Mav were great,” Harding said. “Sci Fi has been playing under control more lately and utilizing his pull up jumper more. Mav really controlled the

game well and shot the ball really well when the opportunity was there.

“Mack had a big game coming off the bench. He played to his strengths and was a big time help on the boards when he was in there.”

The match-up was a one possession game for much of the night, that was until the fourth quarter. Louisburg, which led just 39-37 at halftime, put together a 23-point final frame got enough from its defense to seal the win.



Louisburg junior Mack Newell goes up for two of his 14 points

Friday against Baldwin.

Rockers provided the spark in that final quarter with 11 of his 21 points, including three 3-pointers. The Wildcats also held Baldwin's leading scorer Cole Mahaffey to 14 points on the night.

"I think we played much better defensively in the second half," Harding said. "First half I think we gave up 37, which is far more than we would like. We knew we had to slow Mahaffey down and try to keep him out of the paint because he is tough when he gets in there. Second half, we really focused on a few keys and slowed him down compared to the first half."

Louisburg will try and build on its momentum tonight as the Wildcats travel to Basehor to take part in the Bobcat Invitational. The Wildcats will face off with the host school, Basehor-Linwood, at 7:30 p.m.

LOU 16 23 13 23 – 75

BAL 14 23 12 15 – 64

LOUISBURG (3-4): Michael Seuferling 12-18 3-5 29; Maverick Rockers 8-13 1-1 21; Mack Newell 7-7 0-0 14; Isaac Guetterman 3-6 0-0 7; Luke Hill 0-0 2-2 2; Hunter Rogers 0-0 2-2 2. Totals: 30-50 8-13 75. 3-point field goals: 7, (Rockers 4, Seuferling 2, Guetterman)

Fast start not enough for Wildcats in loss to Eudora



Louisburg junior Colyer Wingfield pulls up for a shot Friday during the Wildcats' game at Eudora High School. Wingfield finished the game with 14 points and four 3-pointers.

EUDORA – The Louisburg boys basketball team put together one of its best offensive performances of the season Friday, but as luck would have it, it wasn't enough.

The Wildcats traveled to Eudora and faced off with the Cardinals, who is currently the No. 1 team in Class 4A. Despite getting out to a good start, the Wildcats had a tough time slowing the Cardinals in a 68-57 setback.

Louisburg took the lead going into the second quarter, but Eudora scored a combined 49 points in the next two quarters to pull away from the Wildcats.

"I thought we played pretty well," Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. "It was one of our better outputs offensively, which should give us a little more confidence. Eudora has a really nice team this year. Our kids showed a lot of poise and toughness. We just have to limit our mistakes."

Mistakes haunted the Wildcats as Eudora forced 18 Louisburg turnovers. The Cardinals took advantage as they outscored the Wildcats, 17-2, in points off turnovers and also pulled down nine more offensive rebounds.

The Cardinals had three players in double figures and were led by a 15-point performance from Conor Dunback as eight different players scored for Eudora. They made it a difficult defensive task for Louisburg.

“I told our boys before the game that it was important that we came out aggressive and started off well,” Pfannenstiel said. “I really had no concerns with that because our kids play pretty fearlessly. They don’t get caught up in the emotions of the game – they just play.

“Eudora is a tough team to guard because they have so many options offensively. They have good size inside, they have shooters, and they have a lot of guards that can handle the ball and create.”

Louisburg (2-4) jumped out to a quick 7-0 lead to begin the game and led 10-6 going into the second quarter. From there, the Eudora offense took over.



Louisburg senior Maverick Rockers drives to the basket Friday against Eudora.

The Cardinals scored 21 points in the second quarter to take a

27-23 halftime lead. Eudora put the pressure on even more with a 28-point third quarter to help put the game away, even with a 19-point third quarter from the Wildcats.

The Wildcats had three players score in double figures and senior Michael Seuferling led the way with a team-high 16 points and five rebounds.

Junior Colyer Wingfield finished with 14 points, including a season-high four 3-pointers and also had eight boards. Senior Maverick Rockers added 11 points and eight assists in the loss, while junior Mack Newell had a team-high nine rebounds to go along with eight points.

“I thought we played smarter,” Pfannenstiel said. “I talked to some of our guys over the break about taking smarter shots. I wanted guys like Michael and Colyer to hit those mid-range shots. Sometimes I think we just play into the hands of the defense by driving it all the way to the basket and instead I wanted to see them get some good mid range looks.

“Mike and Colyer executed pretty well and we shot the ball pretty well. Hopefully seeing the ball go through the hoop gives us more confidence moving forward.”

Louisburg will try and get back on the winning track Friday when it hosts Baldwin. The Wildcats’ game with Bonner Springs, that was scheduled for today, was postponed due to covid problems within the Bonner Springs program.

“It was good to be back on the court,” Pfannenstiel said. “That break seemed extra long this year for some reason. Our kids are excited to get back and play on our home court. Each night in the Frontier League is always tough, but our kids are excited for the opportunity.”

LOU 10 13 19 15 – 57

EUD 6 21 28 13 – 68

LOUISBURG (2-4): Michael Seuferling 7-12 2-3 16; Colyer Wingfield 5-8 0-0 14; Maverick Rockers 2-6 6-8 11; Mack Newell 4-7 0-0 8; Isaac Guetterman 1-4 0-0 3; Cade Gassman 1-2 0-0 2; Hunter Rogers 1-1 0-0 2; Carson Kern 0-2 1-4 1. Totals: 21-42 9-15 57. 3-point field goals: 6, (Wingfield 4, Rockers, Guetterman)

Top 10 Louisburg Sports Stories for 2021



It was a successful, and eventful, 2021 for Louisburg High School athletics and for those who are connected to the Wildcat program. This past year created a lot of school history for LHS and several programs brought back state hardware.

Below are the top stories from 2021, along with a brief explanation of each. Included in the explanation is the link to the actual story from the event.

When putting the list together, I took a lot of things into account – whether it was team vs. individual, popularity of the sport, historical achievements and the interest it drew on the web site.

This year was a blast to cover and I am looking forward to seeing what 2022 will bring. Thank you to everyone for their

support and can’t wait for it all to begin again.



10. Louisburg golf team qualifies for state

INDEPENDENCE – For the second time in as many seasons, the Louisburg boys golf team qualified for the state tournament.

Except this time, the Wildcat team is made up of a completely new roster.

The Louisburg group of Johnny Eberhart, A.J. Arriola, Johnny Thompson, Sam Wheeler, Dacey Wieland and Jackson Olson shot a 392 to finish third at the Class 4A regional meet at Independence Country Club.

The Wildcats were just three strokes behind runner-up Field Kindley. Independence won the regional title with a 361.

Louisburg last went to state in 2019, but the 2020 season was canceled due to COVID-19.

Eberhart led Louisburg with an 87 and finished fourth overall

and was the lone Wildcat to make the cut for the second day.



9. Compliment steps back from volleyball program after 15 seasons.

When Jessica Compliment walked off the floor following her team’s semifinal sub-state loss to Bishop Miege back in October of 2020, the only thought on her mind was how that match was more like a state championship battle.s

It wasn’t your normal match as the two perennial state contenders had to square off so early in the postseason. She was proud of her team and was looking forward to another season of helping Louisburg volleyball get to another state

tournament.

Little did she know, it would be the last time she would find herself on the Lady Cat sideline.

In late January, Compliment submitted her resignation as head volleyball coach as she will be stepping away to spend more time with her growing family.

Compliment certainly left her mark on the Louisburg volleyball program as she finished her 15th season back in October and has an impressive resume to show for it.

In the decade-and-a-half as the Lady Cat coach, Compliment guided Louisburg to eight state tournament appearances and placed in the top four of seven of them.

She also finished nine wins shy of 400 as she posted a record of 391-226 and helped Louisburg to three state championship matches.

Shortly after, the district hired assistant coach Leanna Willer to take over the program.



8. Wildcat boys soccer wins Frontier League title, advances to regional title

It had the drama of a state championship match, but instead the No. 1 and 3 ranked teams in the state were playing for the Class 4-1A regional championship title.

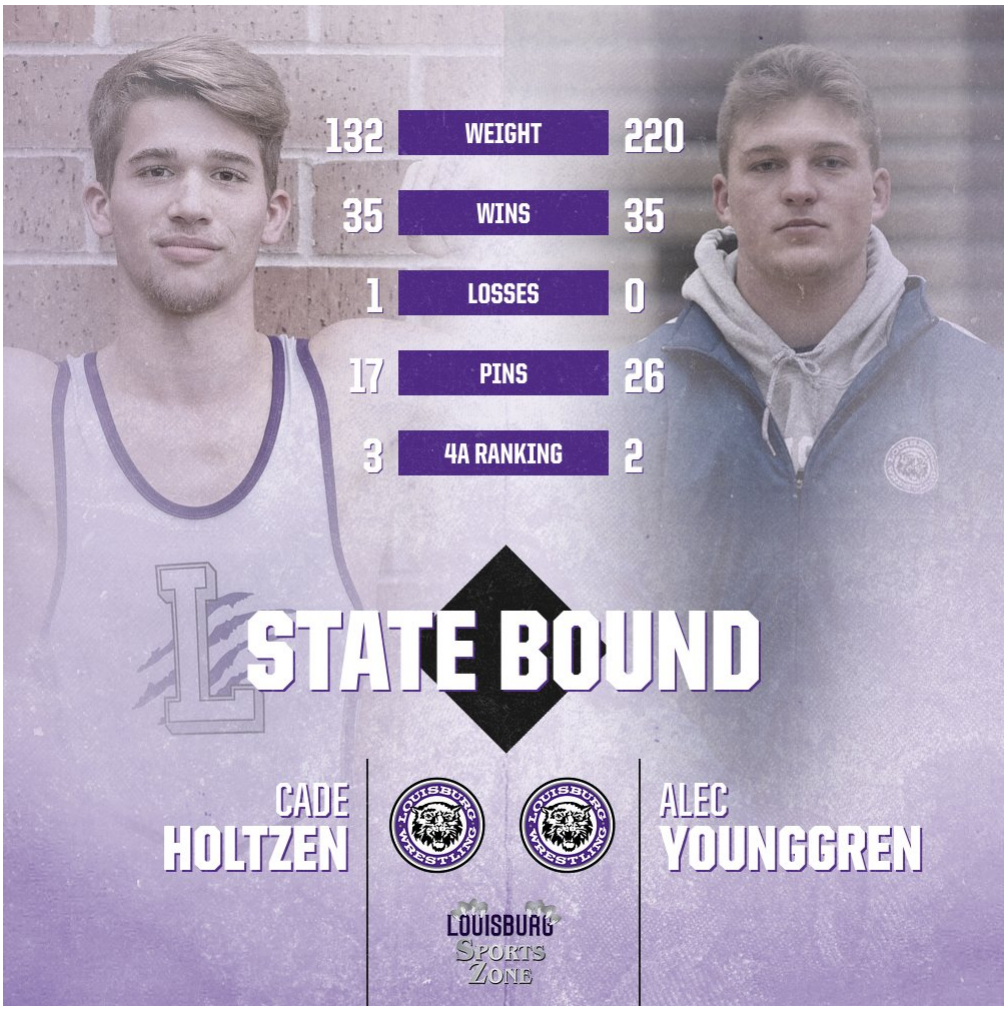
Louisburg hosted Bishop Miege in hopes ending the Stags' string of consecutive state championships.

Instead, the Wildcats once again saw their season come to a close after a 2-0 loss to the Stags at Wildcat Stadium and ended their season with a 12-5-1 record.

The loss was heartbreaking defeat for the Wildcats, who had

their sights set on another state final four – and possibly – a state title. To make matters worse, it was to a Miege team that has handed Louisburg a loss in five of the last six postseasons.

Earlier in the season, the Wildcats were crowned as co-champions of the Frontier League with Spring Hill.



7. Wildcat wrestling medals two

SALINA – Cade Holtzen and Alec Younggren didn’t get to leave Salina with what they were hoping to earn.

Only a select few get to leave with the title of “state champion,” and both Louisburg seniors were close to reaching their goal. Despite that, both wrestlers helped the Wildcat team to their best state finish in nearly 11 years.

Younggren reached the championship match, only to finish second at 220 pounds, while Holtzen rallied back to medal third at 132 during the Class 4A Kansas State Wrestling Championships at the Tony's Pizza Events Center. The two wrestlers combined to score 30 points, which put them 14th in the team standings.

Louisburg hadn't finished that high since 2010, when Austin Hood won his first of three state titles and his brother Bryce, took second. The Wildcats were 10th that year.



6. Louisburg cross country qualifies both teams for state, medals four.

WAMEGO – It wasn't the finish Louisburg wanted following the Class 4A state cross country meet, but the Wildcats left with more than their fair share of hardware.

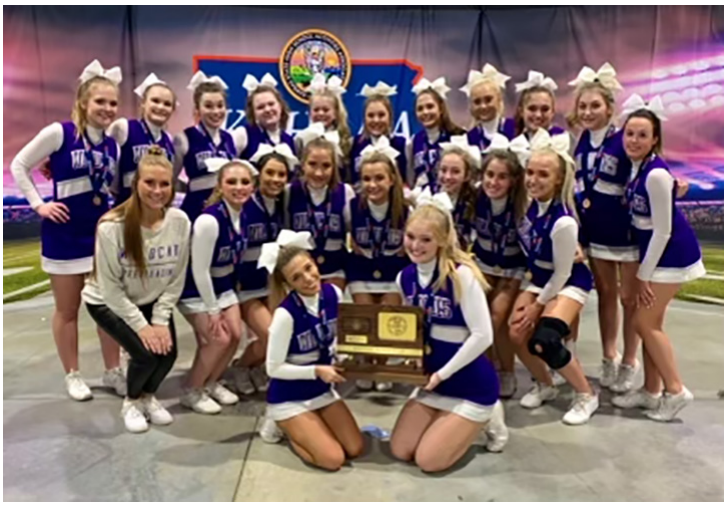
Louisburg was awarded four state medals following the meet at

Wamego Country Club, including three on the girls side for the second straight season.

The Lady Cats had hoped to earn a team plaque for the second year in a row, but took fifth overall with 144 points. Eudora won the girls championship with 56, Baldwin was second with 64 and Winfield was third with 93.

Sophomore Emma Vohs led the charge for Louisburg as she finished sixth overall. Sophomore Maddy Rhamy and senior Reese Johnson also medaled for the Lady Cats.

In his first year with the boys program, senior Jaden Vohs had a strong final run for the Wildcats as he medaled 12th overall.



5. Louisburg cheer finishes runner-up at state competition

TOPEKA – The Louisburg High cheer program knows a thing or two about being one of the last teams left standing at the Game Day Showcase.

Louisburg, which won a state title in 2019 and took third in 2020, found itself one of the two teams left standing.

When the final results were announced in November, the judges

awarded the Wildcat cheer squad the state runner-up plaque. Paola won the state title, while Baldwin made it a Frontier League sweep as it took third.



4. Wildcat girls take fourth at state soccer

WICHITA – The Louisburg girls soccer team may have left the Class 4-1A Kansas State Girls Soccer Championships with a pair of losses, but the Wildcats took a lot of pride in what they accomplished.

For the fourth straight season, Louisburg advanced to the state final four and the Wildcats finished fourth in the state – a far cry where many people thought they would end up. The Wildcats lost a pair of 2-1 matches to Mulvane and then to McPherson in the third-place match at the Stryker Sports

Complex in Wichita.

Louisburg, which lost 12 seniors from a season that didn't happen due to COVID, returned just three varsity players. Despite all that, they ended up being one of the top teams in the state.



3. Louisburg girls basketball snaps 47-year state drought, takes third at state

SALINA – The tears were abundant following Louisburg's loss to McPherson in the Class 4A state semifinal game.

The Lady Cats saw their season come to an end after their 58-46 loss to the Bullpups in Salina, but as hard as the finality of it was to take, they know what is the bigger

picture.

Before the game even started, Louisburg already wrapped up its best finish in program history and became the first Lady Cat team to place at state as it finished third.

A season that finished with a 19-5 record and a third place state trophy, is one that will always be remembered in Louisburg history.

“It means the world to me to finish third at state,” senior Megan Foote said. “Obviously it wasn’t how we wanted to finish, but that’s okay. I’m still beyond proud of this group and the accomplishments we have made. We are the best girls basketball team in Louisburg history. I’d say to be a part of that, is pretty awesome. I’m honored.”

For the last three quarters of the game, Louisburg actually outscored McPherson 43-37, but it was the first quarter that the Lady Cats weren’t able to overcome.

McPherson scored the first 15 points of the first quarter and took a 21-3 lead going into the second period.



2. Wildcat basketball advances to first-ever state title game, finish runner-up

SALINA – The result of the state championship game is not what the Louisburg boys basketball team will focus on several years from now.

The fact that the 2020-21 Wildcats recorded the best finish in school history, will be more than enough for them to fondly reminisce about.

Louisburg, which played in its first-ever state championship game in Salina, fell to state power Bishop Miege, 94-40. As disappointing as the result was, many of the Wildcats were looking bigger picture.

“We will forever live in history with this senior class and with this team,” senior Weston Guetterman said. “Until someone

wins it at least, we are going to be the bar that everyone looks to. It is a proud moment for all of us.”

In the state semifinal, the Wildcats got a revenge victory with a come-from-behind 58-55 win over Augusta to advance to the state title game.



1. Wildcat track wins second state championship; Wright wins three state titles.

WICHITA – On the 10th anniversary of the Louisburg boys’ first state track championship, this year’s team wanted to do something to commemorate the historic event.

The Wildcats decided they wanted to win one of their own.

Louisburg edged out Andale for the state championship Friday during the Class 4A Kansas Track and Field Championships at Cessna Stadium in Wichita.

It is just the second track championship for Louisburg and just the fourth team state championship in school history.

The first one was a golf title in 1977, and then football won its first state title in 2010. The track team followed with its first later that school year in 2011 and the Louisburg cheer squad won a state title in 2019.

“There are no words to describe how incredibly proud I was of the entire team,” Louisburg coach Andy Wright said. “It was a total team effort. It was a moment I will never forget as a coach, and how exciting that it came down to the final race. Everyone gave it their all, and I just couldn’t happier as a coach to see all of that hard work pay off for them with the greatest reward.”

Tom Koontz led the Wildcats with four state medals, including a state championship in the 110-meter hurdles.



On the girls side, Delaney Wright made some history of her own.

Wright was the favorite to win state titles in her three events at the Class 4A State Track and Field Championships.

She didn’t disappoint.

Wright not only won three state championships, but she won them in convincing fashion, breaking two school records in the process. The Louisburg junior won the long jump, 400-meter dash and the 200-meter dash on her way to an historic day in Wichita.

“My experience at state track this year was amazing,” Wright said. “The people competing there were super nice and my teammates made it more fun. It meant a lot to pull off winning three state titles.”

Wright became the first female Wildcat athlete to win three state titles in the same year as she helped the Lady Cats to a fifth place finish in the team standings – also the highest finish for Louisburg girls track and field.

“I can’t say enough how awesome of a competitor Delaney is,” Louisburg girls coach John Reece said. “I know she went to state with one thing on her mind – win. She did just that and truly performed to her best. Winning three different events is an incredible feat.”

Wildcats fall in final two games before holiday break



Louisburg forward Colyer Wingfield puts a shot up over a pair of Piper defenders Thursday at Louisburg High School.

It was just a seven point game early in the fourth quarter and the Louisburg boys basketball team put itself in a position to try and knock off Piper in its final game before the holiday break.

Then in the final five minutes, the Wildcats could no longer keep up with the quicker and more athletic Piper team.

The Pirates used a suffocating press in the fourth quarter and scored 24 points in the final period to hand Louisburg a 65-42

loss Thursday in Louisburg.

“I thought we battled,” Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. “We were right there for the first three quarters, but couldn’t quite capitalize when we had some chances. Our kids always play hard, but against a talented team like Piper, we have a very little margin for error.”

Louisburg (2-3) faced an uphill battle for much of the game as the Wildcats’ center – Mack Newell – had to sit with foul trouble. Piper was able to take advantage as it outscored Louisburg 30-12 in the paint.

The Wildcats turned the ball over 21 times and the Pirates scored 15 points off those mistakes – much of which came in the fourth quarter.

“I thought we handled their pressure pretty well for the first three quarters, but it definitely wore on us in the fourth,” Pfannenstiel said. “When we got gassed, Piper took advantage with their depth. We really struggled to rebound, especially when Mack got in foul trouble. He and Colyer (Wingfield) are kind of our guys on the boards, but we have to do a better job with everyone else contributing as well.”

Three Wildcats accounted for all but five points of the team’s total.

Senior point guard Maverick Rockers tried to keep the Wildcats in the game with 17 points, including three 3-pointers. Fellow seniors Michael Seuferling and Carson Kern each finished with 10.

Wingfield led Louisburg with nine rebounds on the night and Seuferling finished with four assists.

Louisburg will be back in action in the new year as the Wildcats travel to Eudora on Jan. 7 to resume its season.

LOU 9 9 13 11 – 42

PIP 12 19 10 24 – 65

LOUISBURG (2-3): Maverick Rockers 6-11 2-2 17; Michael Seuferling 3-13 4-9 10; Carson Kern 3-5 2-2 10; Hunter Rogers 1-2 1-2 3; Colyer Wingfield 1-4 0-6 2. Totals: 14-38 9-21 42. 3-point field goals: 5, (Rockers 3, Kern 2)

Louisburg comes up short on the road at Baldwin

Louisburg was riding a two-game win streak heading into its Dec. 14 road matchup against Baldwin.

Unfortunately, the Wildcats didn’t have much of an answer for Baldwin’s Cole Mahaffey.

Mahaffey scored a game-high 25 points and pulled down eight boards to help hand Louisburg a 57-41 loss.

“Baldwin is really improved,” Pfannenstiel said. “They have a couple of players that have made big strides since last season. Once again, we were pretty cold from the field, so we really put a lot of pressure on our defense to get stops. Mahaffey had a big night. He was too much for us.”

The Wildcats struggled from the field as they shot just 30 percent from the floor, while Baldwin shot almost 48 percent and knocked down seven 3-pointers.



Louisburg senior Isaac Guetterman drives to the basket for two points on Dec. 14 at Baldwin.

Baldwin outscored Louisburg 16-8 in the second quarter and the Bulldogs took a 30-18 halftime lead. Baldwin also outrebounded Louisburg 40-26.

“I told the kids after the game that we are going to work hard to try and generate some more offense, because it’s going to be hard to win games in the 40s,” Pfannenstiel said. “We got more shot attempts up than Baldwin, now we just have to get them to fall. We are making improvements in areas, now we just have to find some consistency and confidence.”

Michael Seuferling led Louisburg in scoring with 15 points and was the lone Wildcat to score in double figures. He also finished with a team-high four steals.

Colyer Wingfield scored seven points and pulled down a team-

high seven rebounds.

LOU 10 8 11 12 – 41

BAL 14 16 11 16 – 57

LOUISBURG: Michael Seuferling 7-15 0-0 15; Colyer Wingfield 2-7 3-8 7; Maverick Rockers 2-11 0-0 6; Isaac Guetterman 2-5 0-0 5; Carson Kern 1-4 1-2 3; Hunter Rogers 1-3 0-0 3; Mack Newell 1-8 0-0 2. Totals: 16-54 4-10 41. 3-point field goals: 5, (Rockers 2, Seuferling, Rogers, Guetterman)

Week 2 Athlete of the Week: Maverick Rockers



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

MAVERICK ROCKERS, SENIOR, BOYS BASKETBALL

Louisburg senior Maverick Rockers was a big reason for the two Wildcat wins last week against Burlington and Anderson County. Rockers averaged 14 points a game, three rebounds and two steals as Louisburg earned a victory at Burlington and a win

over Anderson County in its home opener.

Rockers really came up big for the Wildcats against Anderson County as he scored a game-high 17 points to help Louisburg to a close 6-point win at home.

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: Elijah Eslinger

Wildcats' defense propels Louisburg to victory in home opener



Louisburg senior point guard Maverick Rockers goes up for two of his team-high 17 points Friday in the Wildcats' victory over Anderson County.

It wasn't the best of shooting nights for the Louisburg boys basketball team Friday in its home opener against Anderson

County.

The Wildcats shot just 31 percent from the floor in what was a tightly-contested contest.

As much as they struggled from the floor, the Louisburg defense shined as it forced more than 20 turnovers in their 42-36 victory over the Bulldogs.

“We always talk about how there are going to be nights when you have off nights offensively,” Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. “That’s just how basketball is sometimes. But we can never have a bad night defensively. We feel like if we can be good on the defensive end of the floor each night, we will always be in the game.

“We wanted to put pressure on their guards and make it tough for them to get into their offense and get it into their big guys. We forced 20 turnovers, so I’d say that was the biggest difference in the game.”

Louisburg (2-1) forced 22 Bulldog turnovers on the night and did it with a pesky defense that recorded 12 steals

The Wildcats did all that while getting out rebounded 35-23 and only converting 12 field goals. Louisburg trailed by two points going into halftime, but held Anderson County to just six points in the third quarter to take the lead back.

“It was a good win for us versus a team that had a lot of size and experience,” Pfannenstiel said. “We haven’t really shot it well so far this year. I like that we are being aggressive attacking the rim, but with our size, we are going to have to be willing to take some shots from the perimeter and hit some pull up jumpers in the lane.”



Louisburg sophomore Luke Hill tries for a steal in the second half of Friday's game against Anderson County.

When most of the Wildcats were struggling offensively, senior point guard Maverick Rockers was the one who kept his team in the game.

Rockers scored a game-high 17 points, including a pair of 3-pointers, and was 5-for-6 from the free-throw line in 31 minutes of action. He also had a team-high four steals on defense.

"Mav has been great," Pfannenstiel said. "He's got a great feel for the game. He can be a real game manager from the point guard position, but we are going to rely on him to score for us this year on offense. As good as he's been on offense, he's been equally as good on the defensive end. He's playing hard on both ends."

Louisburg led by just four points going into the final quarter, but the Wildcats expanded that lead to nine late in the game. They were able to ice the game at the free-throw line.

Junior Mack Newell was second on the team in scoring with eight points and led Louisburg with six rebounds and had three steals and two blocks.

Senior Carson Kern also helped keep the Bulldogs at bay with three free throws in the final minute.

The Wildcats will try and make it three wins in a row tonight when they travel to Baldwin for a 7:30 p.m. tip.

“We just need to find ourselves offensively,” Pfannenstiel said. “I think if we can be a little more patient and get good looks at the basket, we should find a little more consistency there. We are going to have two good tests this week. We are going to have to play well.”

LOU 11 6 12 13 – 42

AC 8 11 6 11 – 36

LOUISBURG (2-1): Maverick Rockers 5-14 5-6 17; Mack Newell 3-6 2-2 8; Michael Seuferling 1-6 4-7 6; Carson Kern 1-2 3-4 5; Colyer Wingfield 1-5 2-4 4; Luke Hill 1-3 0-0 2. Totals: 12-39 16-23 42. 3-point field goals: 2, (Rockers 2)

Seuferling’s game winner

lifts Louisburg to first victory of season



Louisburg senior Michael Seuferling (2) was congratulated by his teammates Tuesday at Burlington High School following his game-winning shot with one second left.

BURLINGTON – In a one point game between Louisburg and Burlington, chaos took place in the final 20 seconds.

Missed shots, fighting for loose balls, diving on the floor – both teams left it all out on the floor hoping the game would go their way. With Louisburg down a point, the Wildcats got the bounce they were looking for.

After a couple missed shots, Louisburg senior Michael Seuferling was in the right place at the right time as he got the rebound and scored to give the Wildcats the one-point lead with 1 second remaining.

Burlington couldn't get a good look and Louisburg got the 52-51 win, which was its first of the season.

"The (assistant) coaches were telling me that we still had a timeout left, but I thought we might be able to get a putback and that might be our best opportunity there," Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said of the final 20 seconds. I am glad I didn't because it worked out.

"We talk about playing hard, smart and tough and you can never fault our kids' effort. They are always going to play hard,

but there will always be mistakes made in games. Burlington is a good team and can do a lot of things. We were able to take advantage of some things and the ball just kind of bounced our way at the end.”



Louisburg junior Mack Newell stretches out for a rebound Tuesday against Burlington. Newell had a team-high 13 for the game.

The Wildcats (1-1) struggled at times in the first half and it led to a 26-19 deficit going into halftime, so Pfannenstiel decided to change it up. Louisburg went to a zone defense and it seemed to slow down Burlington.

Louisburg doubled its first half scoring output in the third quarter with 19 points and tied the game at 38-all going into the final quarter.

“We came out in zone in the second half to change things up a

little bit and it turned out to be pretty effective and got us back in it," Pfannenstiel said. "We got stops when we needed to and we made big plays at the end and that was the biggest thing. Things went our way, got some our extra opportunities and we were able to get it done."

Seuferling, who finished with a game-high 22 points, came to life in the third quarter to help give the Wildcats the boost they needed. The Louisburg senior scored 13 points in the third and later would come up with the late game heroics.

"Michael is someone that plays with a lot of energy all the time," Pfannenstiel said. "It doesn't matter if we are up 30 or down 30, you are going to see the same type of player. He just goes about the game the right way. We need him on offense for us this year. This summer he had a lot of really good games and he is good in transition."

Louisburg was down five points with 45 seconds left, but Seuferling hit a basket to cut it to 3. Burlington then hit 1 of 2 free throws to make it a four point game.

Junior Colyer Wingfield grabbed the rebound on the miss and went the length of the floor to make the layup and was fouled. He converted the 3-point play to make it a one-point game.

Louisburg fouled again and Burlington missed the front end of the 1-and-1 and the Wildcats had the chance to pull out the win. After a couple missed shots, Seuferling fought for the rebound, got it and drove to the basket to score with one second left.



Louisburg senior Carson Kern pulls up for a 3-pointer Tuesday against Burlington.

Several Wildcats hit big shots down the stretch in the second half. Senior guard Maverick Rockers scored in double figures with 11 points and a pair of three pointers, while senior Carson Kern came off the bench to score six.

Wingfield and Mack Newell were big in the rebounding department for Louisburg as Newell had a game-high 13 rebounds. Wingfield finished with nine boards.

“We had a lot of guys really step up for us,” Pfannenstiel said. “Carson Kern gave us good minutes off the bench and Mav was solid for us again. Then Colyer and Mack were both solid for us on the boards. What they did rebounding for us was huge.”

Louisburg will try for back to back wins tonight as the

Wildcats host Anderson County for their home opener.

LOU 12 7 19 14 – 52

BUR 13 13 12 13 – 51

LOUISBURG (1-1): Michael Seuferling 9-20 4-7 22; Maverick Rockers 4-10 1-2 11; Mack Newell 3-9 0-0 6; Carson Kern 2-4 1-2 6; Colyer Wingfield 1-2 3-6 5; Isaac Guetterman 0-1 2-2 2. Totals: 19-46 11-19 52. 3-point field goals: 3, (Rockers 2, Kern)