

# Wildcats roll Bonner Springs to pick up second straight win



**Senior Konnor Vohs puts up a shot during a game earlier this season. Vohs and the Wildcats cruised to a 70-47 victory over Bonner Springs on Tuesday.**

BONNER SPRINGS – For four quarters, the Louisburg boys basketball team had possibly its best performance of the season and it showed in the score.

The Wildcats went on the road to Bonner Springs on Tuesday and came away with a 70-47 win over the Braves to earn their second consecutive victory.

Louisburg, which defeated Eudora a week ago, is off to a good start in 2021.

“This was an important win for us,” Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. “We played well at Eudora, but we needed to put back to back games together. It’s honestly the most complete game that we’ve played in my four years as coach. From start to finish, we were really good for all four quarters.

“Bonner is a good team. I knew it was going to take a great effort to win, and fortunately we were clicking on all cylinders.”

The Wildcats (5-2) controlled the first half and took a 35-18 halftime lead and never looked back.

Not only did Louisburg make nine 3-pointers, but they also controlled the glass and did a lot of work on the inside. The Wildcats out-rebounded the Braves by 20 and scored 34 points in the paint.

Junior Julian Margrave finished with a double-double to lead the Wildcats. Margrave finished with a team-high 19 points and 10 rebounds, while senior Ben Guetterman had 16 points to go along with eight rebounds.

Senior point guard Weston Guetterman had 10 points, seven rebounds and four assists. Senior Dawson Barnes also had a big game on the glass with seven rebounds, while senior Konnor Vohs added nine points and five rebounds.

"We played team basketball," Pfannenstiel said. "We had a lot of guys step up and contribute in lots of different ways. We need guys to play with great effort and play to their strengths and everything will come together like it did this time.

"We were good on the glass. We stress the importance of getting all five guys on the defensive boards and the stats show that we did a nice job of that. We have improved in our rebounding since the start of the year. We are focused on what needs to happen when a shot goes up and we execute well."

Louisburg will try to keep its winning ways going tonight when it travels to Baldwin for a 7:30 p.m. tipoff.

"I really enjoyed watching us play with energy and confidence," Pfannenstiel said. "No matter who was on the court or who was on the bench, they were all playing for each other and genuinely happy for each other. We are starting to come together. I hope we can continue to build off of this momentum."

**LOU 14 21 20 15 – 70**

**BON 7 11 10 19 – 47**

LOUISBURG (5-2): Julian Margrave 6-11 5-5 19; Ben Guetterman 6-12 1-2 16; Weston Guetterman 4-12 1-2 10; Konnor Vohs 4-9 0-0 9; Maverick Rockers 2-5 0-0 6; Andy Hupp 2-3 2-4 6; Michael Seuferling 1-8 0-0 2; Dawson Barnes 1-2 0-0 2. Totals: 26-62 9-13 70. 3-point field goals: 9, (B. Guetterman 3, Rockers 2, Margrave 2, W. Guetterman, Vohs)

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## **Lady Cats stay perfect with easy win over Bonner Springs**



***Louisburg junior Delaney Wright drives to the basket during a game earlier in the season. The Lady Cats downed Bonner Springs, 57-34, on the road Tuesday.***

BONNER SPRINGS – The Louisburg girls basketball team once again had their perfect record on the line – and once again – the Lady Cats passed with flying colors.

The Lady Cats jumped out to a 16-point halftime lead Tuesday at Bonner Springs and never looked back in a 57-34 victory over the Braves. The win is the Lady Cats' seventh straight to start the year.

“Overall, I thought we did a good job as a team,” Louisburg coach Adrienne Lane said. “I also was very proud of the girls for holding onto their lead and playing smart in the second half. All of the girls on the varsity roster got into the game and all the girls contributed.”

Louisburg focused on getting the ball inside and it seemed to work against Bonner Springs’ zone defense. Senior Madilyn Melton and junior Jordan Mynsted dominated the paint for Louisburg.

Melton finished with a game-high 17 points, while Mynsted also finished in double figures with 13 and had six rebounds.

“Bonner ran a 3-2 zone which was a defense we had not seen yet, so our offense was focused on getting the ball to the inside,” Lane said. “I thought once we recognized the defense the girls did a good job running our offense. Madilyn and Jordan both did a great job finishing. As a team we also rebounded well, and we finished the game with 18 offensive rebounds.”

It wasn’t the best of shooting nights for the Lady Cats as they shot 35 percent for the game, but they attacked the offensive glass and it led to 16 second chance points.

Louisburg out-rebounded Bonner Springs 48-31 and also played well on the defensive end.

Seniors Alyse Moore and Megan Foote were active on the boards. Moore pulled down a team-high 14 rebounds and Foote recorded 12 from her guard spot. Foote also had a team-high five steals and four assists.

“The girls did a great job defensively and being aggressive paid off against Bonner,” Lane said. “We ended the night with 10 steals and 29 defensive rebounds. The team did a great job running the floor and converting the steals and rebounds into baskets.”

Louisburg will square off with Baldwin tonight in a rematch of one the Lady Cats' closest games of the season. Tipoff is set for 6 p.m. at Baldwin Jr. High School.

**LOU 20 13 13 11 – 57**

**BON 10 7 6 11 – 34**

LOUISBURG (7-0): Madilyn Melton 7-10 3-4 17; Jordan Mynsted 6-14 1-1 13; Alyse Moore 3-7 1-2 7; Brooklyn Diederich 2-8 2-2 6; Brianne Kuhlman 1-5 3-4 5; Megan Foote 1-10 1-4 4; Delanie Tally 1-1 0-0 3; Adyson Ross 1-4 0-0 2; Delaney Wright 1-5 0-0 2. Totals: 22-63 11-17 59. 3-point field goals: 2, (Foote, Tally)

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## **Week 4 Athlete of the Week: Megan Foote**



Here is the Louisburg Sports Zone Athlete of the Week for week four of the winter sports season, sponsored by IronHorse Family and Cosmetic Dentistry.

## **Megan Foote, Senior, Girls Basketball**

Louisburg senior Megan Foote was a big piece to the Lady Cats'

victory over No. 4 Eudora on Friday. Foote was second on the team in scoring with 12 points and had three 3-pointers. She also finished with a team-high three assists to go along with three rebounds.

It was Foote's defense that helped lead the way as well. She shadowed all-state player Harper Schriener most of the game, which was key in the Lady Cats' win.

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: Jordan Mynsted

Week 2: Julian Margrave

Week 3: Alec Younggren

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# Wildcats get first win of

# 2021 with victory over Eudora



***Louisburg senior Weston Guetterman drives to the basket and gets fouled Friday during the Wildcats' game at Eudora. Guetterman scored a team-high 17 points.***

EUDORA – There were a lot of unknowns with how the Louisburg boys basketball team was going to look in its first game after the holiday break.

The Wildcats had just four days of practice before they squared off with Eudora on Friday and head coach Ty Pfannenstiel wasn't sure how rusty his team was going to be.

After the first quarter, Louisburg shook off all the rust it had and pulled away for a 59-45 victory over the Cardinals at Eudora High School. It was the first time in 10 years that the Wildcats had won at Eudora.

"It was all kind of new for us," Pfannenstiel said. "We only had like four days of practice after Christmas break and we didn't know what we were going to get. We were wearing masks in a game for the first time and this is a tough place to play. I don't think we have won here since 2011.

"I really thought we played well. We got off to a slow start, and we tend to do that here for some reason. We battled hard and made plays. I think switching to a zone energized us a little bit and took them out of their rhythm. It was a good first game out of the gate."





***Louisburg senior Ben Guetterman fakes out a Eudora defender Friday.***

Louisburg (4-2) fell behind early as Eudora went on a 9-1 run to begin the game and led 15-10 after the first quarter. From then on, the Wildcats employed a zone defense and it seemed to slow the Cardinals down.

The Wildcats went on a 15-2 run in the second quarter to take an eight-point halftime lead. Senior Weston Guetterman led the charge with six straight points to give Louisburg the lead and then Michael Seuferling followed with back-to-back baskets to extend their advantage.

That zone defense helped force 18 Eudora turnovers, which led to 17 Wildcat points. Louisburg also had 10 steals on the night.

"We worked on it a little bit at practice, but not a whole



lot,” Pfannenstiel said of the zone. “We focus more on just playing with energy, and a lot of times when we play zone we think that is time to relax. We did work on it one day this week and our focus out of it was to be aggressive.

“Zones can mess with some teams and I think we rebounded really well out of it. It helps when the other teams doesn’t hit shots too. You look smart when it works, but you look dumb when the other team knocks a few shots. I thought our guys did a good job in it though.”



***Andy Hupp splits two Eudora defenders for a basket Friday in the Wildcats’ 14-point win.***

Eudora trimmed a double-digit Louisburg lead to six late in the third quarter, but senior Konnor Vohs knocked down a 3-pointer and assisted Ben Guetterman on his basket to put the Wildcats back up 11.

From there, the Wildcats controlled the game and built a 17-point lead at one time and never looked back.

Weston Guetterman gave the Wildcats a big boost offensively as he scored a team-high 17 points, while Ben Guetterman and Julian Margrave scored 14 and 13 points, respectively. Margrave also had a team-high six rebounds.

Senior Andy Hupp was also active on the defensive end with five rebounds and a team-high four deflections, to go along with two assists.

"We were very balanced when it comes to our minutes and we have an eight-man rotation right now that everyone gets in there, plays to their role and does their part," Pfannenstiel said. "The kids played with confidence and that was huge."

Louisburg will try to make it two straight wins tonight when it travels to Bonner Springs. Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

**LOU 10 15 13 23 – 59**

**EUD 15 2 11 17 – 45**

LOUISBURG (4-2): Weston Guetterman 6-11 3-4 17; Ben Guetterman 5-13 2-3 14; Julian Margrave 3-11 5-7 13; Michael Seuferling 3-5 1-3 7; Konnor Vohs 1-2 3-4 5; Dawson Barnes 1-1 0-0 3; Andy Hupp 1-1 0-0 2. Totals: 20-44 14-21 59. 3-point field goals: 7, (W. Guetterman 2, B. Guetterman 2, Margrave 2, Barnes)

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## **Lady Cats stay perfect with**

# win over No. 4 Eudora



***Louisburg celebrates its 54-49 victory over No. 4 Eudora on Friday at Eudora High School. It was the sixth straight win for the Lady Cats.***

EUDORA – Louisburg had hoped to continue its hot streak after the Christmas break, but the Lady Cats had the No. 4 team in Class 4A waiting for them.

On Friday, No. 7 Louisburg traveled to Eudora in a battle of state-ranked teams and the Lady Cats pulled off one of their biggest wins in recent memory.

Louisburg used a 23-point third quarter to get out to a big lead and the Lady Cats were able to hold on for a 54-49 victory and they are now 6-0 on the season.

“The girls were very excited to get the win at Eudora,” Louisburg coach Adrienne Lane said. “When I got back to the locker room, they were cheering and screaming. This was a huge win for them, not only in the game sense, but also emotionally and mentally.”

Eudora, which has gone to the state tournament the last two seasons, featured a talented group that included a first team All-Frontier League player in Harper Schreiner.

Defensively, the Lady Cats made things difficult on Schreiner and the rest of the Cardinals. Louisburg forced 15 turnovers and had 10 deflections that led to points in transition.

Senior guard Megan Foote started on Schriener defensively and the rest of the Lady Cats provided help throughout the game. Even though Schreiner still finished with 19 points, 11 rebounds and five assists, the Lady Cats slowed the Cardinals down enough and they took advantage.

“Our goal to slowing down Harper was contain her when she had the ball and don’t let her get the ball back once she gets rid of it,” Lane said. “Our defense on Friday was excellent. We did a great job helping and containing like we worked on. The girls who did guard Harper did a tremendous job of not letting her get the ball back. They face guarded her, which they are not used to, and they did great.”



***Senior Madilyn Melton gets on the floor for a loose ball Friday against Eudora.***

Offensively, the Lady Cats got a big game from Foote and

junior Jordan Mynsted.

Mynsted scored a game-high 14 points to go along with nine rebounds, while Foote added 12 points – including three 3-pointers – to go along with a team high three assists.

“Megan had a huge night,” Lane said. “She guarded Harper for most of the game and she had two huge 3’s in the third quarter. She also did a great job leading the team and keeping them calm towards the end of the game.

“Jordan had another big night for us as well. She just a natural scorer and we are super lucky to have a player like that on our team. Jordan also had nine rebounds, which was huge.”

In what was a back-and-forth first half, the Lady Cats came out strong after halftime. Louisburg scored 23 points in the third quarter and they never looked back.





***Senior Megan Foote pulls up for one of her three 3-pointers Friday against Eudora.***

Schreiner opened the third quarter with a 3-pointer to give Eudora the lead, but Louisburg responded as Foote hit two 3-pointers in the frame to give Louisburg a 32-29 advantage.

Senior Brooklyn Diederich followed up with a basket to put Louisburg up five, while senior Alyse Moore hit 3-pointer of her own and scored five straight to put the Lady Cats up seven.

After two Mynsted buckets and a Delaney Wright basket later, Louisburg had an 11-point lead.

Louisburg went through a scoring drought in the fourth quarter as Eudora battled back to cut the Lady Cats' lead to just one with two minutes left in the game.

Senior Madilyn Melton provided the Lady Cats with the cushion they needed as she scored Louisburg's first basket of the quarter with 1:40 left in the contest. Melton added another 40 seconds later to put Louisburg up 49-45.

A Schreiner basket cut the lead to two, but sophomore Brianne Kuhlman and Mynsted combined to go 3-for-4 from the free-throw line to seal the win.

"Madlyin's two baskets in the fourth quarter were huge and definitely gave us the confidence to finish the game with the win," Lane said. "I felt like the girls were playing 'safe' in the fourth quarter, which is what we talked about.

"As we mature into the season I hope we can improve our "safe" play by looking for scoring opportunities as well as taking care of the ball. Making free throws in close games can make or break a team, and Brianne and Jordan did a great job finishing."

Along with Foote and Mynsted, Moore was also productive for the Lady Cats with nine points and seven rebounds. Melton finished with eight points, six rebounds and three assists.

Diederich also affected the game with with five rebounds from her guard spot to to along with a team-high four deflections, three assists and two blocks.

Louisburg will try for its seventh straight win Tuesday when it travels to Bonner Springs. Tipoff is set for 6 p.m.

**LOU 17 5 23 9 – 54**

**EUD 13 9 14 13 – 49**

LOUISBURG (6-0): Jordan Mynsted 6-15 2-4 14; Megan Foote 4-9 1-1-12; Alyse Moore 4-6 0-4 9; Madilyn Melton 4-10 0-0 8; Brooklyn Diederich 2-8 0-0 4; Delanie Tally 1-2 1-1 3; Brianne Kuhlman 0-4 2-2 2; Delaney Wright 1-5 0-0 2. Totals: 22-59 6-12 54. 3-point field goals: 4, (Foote 3, Moore)



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# Top Louisburg Sports Stories of 2020



There hasn't been a year like 2020, and for most people, they are ready to put it behind them and forget it ever existed.

Still, with all the challenges that 2020 brought, there were still plenty of positives to talk about when it came to Louisburg High School sports. History-making state places and state medals were plentiful on this list, but it wasn't all positive. Louisburg had to say goodbye to a beloved town figure and athletes had to deal with the loss of spring sports.

Below are the top stories from 2020, 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. Thanks to the cancellation of spring sports, I don't have the top 10 like I normally do, but I got close.

This year was a blast to cover, when I had the opportunity, anyway. Still, I am looking forward to what 2021 will bring. Thank you for everyone's support and can't wait for it all to begin again.



## **8. Ratliff-Becher wins state powerlifting title**

After winning a state championship in 2019 Reilly Ratliff-Becher had every intention of backing up her performance during the Class 4A State Powerlifting Championships on March 7 at Piper High School.

In fact, the Louisburg senior wanted to improve it. Last

season, Ratliff-Becher took first in everything but squat, which she got runner-up.

This time around, she got the clean sweep.

Ratliff-Becher took first in bench, squat and clean and that led to her second straight state championship in the 180-pound class.

“It means a lot to me that I was able to win the state title again,” Ratliff-Becher said. “I set a goal for myself to win first in everything since I had got second in squat last year and I achieved it. Even though it wasn’t my best showing with the numbers I got on my lifts.

“The competition was very good this year, as it always is. But, fortunately with all the work I put in to at least maintain my numbers from last year, meant I was able to lift bigger amounts than my competition.”



## 7. Conley named state and midwest coach of the year

After a third place finish to end the year, Louisburg boys

soccer coach Kyle Conley was recognized among the state's best.

Conley was named as the Class 4-1A Coach of the Year by the Kansas Soccer Coaches Association in November.

He guided the Wildcats to a 16-2 record on the season and the team's highest finish in program history when Louisburg ousted Rose Hill, 3-0, in the state third-place game.

Just a few weeks later, Conley was honored once again – this time on the girls' side.

Despite the lost season, the United Soccer Coaches wanted to recognize coaches for their past accomplishments and for what this past spring was supposed to hold.

Atop that list was Conley as he was named as the Small School Midwest Coach of the Year.

"I am absolutely honored to receive this award," Conley said. "There are so many great coaches in the Midwest, but to me this is a program award. None of this is possible without everyone involved; girls coming to work their tails off everyday, parents traveling and supporting us anywhere and everywhere, community helping with supporting the program, the school supporting the girls, etc. Without the support and buy in from the girls, parents and community none of this is possible."

The Wildcat girls program has had a successful start in its four years. Conley has a 54-22-2 record during that span, that included two state runner-ups and another state final four appearance.





## 6. Louisburg cheer places third at state

The Louisburg cheer squad had to do its postseason competition a little different this year thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It didn't seem to bother them much as the defending state champions found themselves right in the thick of things again.

Although they didn't repeat as champs, they were still among the state's best as the Wildcats cheerleaders finished third in the state back in November.

Unlike performing in front of judges like they did in 2019, the Wildcats had to video tape their performance and send it in to be judged. It fared well as they tallied 83.35 points to finish in the top 3.

Baldwin earned the state title with 88.85 points and Abilene was second with 85.25.

Members of the Louisburg cheer squad are Bella Feikert, Addison Drake, Brooklyn Harmon, Jayden Trester, Maddy Carpenter-Ross, Sophie Katzer, Sammy McDaniel, Julia Arriola, Andrea Gaza, JoJo Hendrickson, Sydney Dudzik, Abby Bradley, Anna Poe, Sienna Finch, Mable Graham, Audrey Anderson, Zoe Weers, Anna Morrison and Maggie Madison



## **5. Holtzen, Owens earn state medals for Wildcat wrestling**

Ryan Owens and Cade Holtzen both had their own agendas going into the state wrestling tournament.

Owens, qualified for state last year, but left without a win and he vowed to fix that this time around. As for Holtzen, he came up short in his efforts for a second state medal as a



sophomore last season and had all the motivation not to come home empty-handed again.

Both wrestlers more than made up for their rough patches a year ago.

Owens and Holtzen left Salina with a state medal during the Class 4A Kansas State Wrestling Championships on Friday and Saturday at the Tony's Pizza Events Center.



Owens made it to the semifinals and wound up earning a fourth-place medal at 120 pounds, while Holtzen finished fifth at 126 pounds.

It also marked the first time since 2016 that Louisburg finished the season with multiple state medalists, when Nathan Keegan and Mason Koechner each brought home medals.



The Wildcats nearly had three medalists as sophomore Brandon Doles finished one win shy of a state medal at 160 pounds with a 2-2 record.



#### **4. Dennis steps down as LHS team doctor**

Almost every day of the week, if you were looking for Damon Dennis, he could be found at his office on 11 S. Broadway St., helping treat those pesky aches and pains, taking X-rays, or mending those beaten up athletes after a game.

Doc D – as he is affectionately known – opened Louisburg Chiropractic Office 28 years ago and has served as the

Louisburg High School athletic team doctor for almost that same amount of time.

Dennis has seen it all. The walls in his office are lined with mementos from his years of service to both the community and the high school.

He has taped thousands of ankles, seen even more patients and has touched many lives during his time in Louisburg. That is why this week is one of the more emotional times in his life.

In May, he left Louisburg Chiropractic Office and handed the reins over to Dr. Jake Polzin. Add to that, Dennis also stepped away as LHS' team doctor and left an absence on the sidelines and behind the mic that many in Louisburg have come to know.

"My decision to step down and sell the practice has turned out to be the hardest thing I have ever done," Dennis said. "I have poured everything I have into my job and community. It has become my entire existence. I was taught from a young age to serve others and your community. I feel like the pressures I have put on myself have become unhealthy. I have put about 40 years work in to 28 and feel like there is never going to be a good time to make such a huge life change.

"That being said, I feel like I need to make changes while I am still able to do the things that will be best for my family. Dr. Polzin came along and I think he will carry on the work at the office wonderfully. We are a lot alike in many ways. I could not have found anyone better to replace me."

For many, Dennis has been a big part of people's lives, especially in the athletic arena. He has served as the LHS team doctor since 1992 and has treated many athletes in those 28 years.





### 3. Girls Cross Country Takes Third at State

For 23 years, the Louisburg cross country program has been chasing a top three finish at the Class 4A meet.

The Wildcats have had several teams qualify, especially in the last few seasons, but have always come up short of their goal. Following Saturday's race in Wamego, the Wildcats can finally stop running after it.

The Louisburg girls put together an historic performance at the Class 4A Kansas State Cross Country Championships at Wamego Country Club. The Lady Cats earned a state plaque with a third place finish as they surpassed Buhler by eight points to record the school's first top three state finish.

Junior Reese Johnson, sophomores Claire Brown, Bree Gassman and Nova Ptacek, along with freshmen Lola Edwards, Maddy Rhamy and Erin Apple, will all go down in school history as they became the first Wildcat team to bring home state hardware.

"It means the world to me to be a part of the first team ever to place at state," Rhamy said. "Coming into the state meet, I was just hoping our team would be in the top half, so you could imagine my excitement when our team placed third. I didn't even know we made school history until our coaches told us."

Rhamy was one of two freshmen who earned top 10 finishes individually, along with Edwards. Rhamy finished eighth overall in 20 minutes and 58 seconds, while Edwards was right behind her in 10th in 21:02.

Junior Reese Johnson also garnered a state medal as she was 15th in 21:28 to help the Lady Cats to an historic performance.

It was a proud moment for many in the Louisburg program, and included in that is John Reece. The longtime Wildcat head coach was all smiles following his team's performance.

"It is 23 years the making," coach Reece said. "You always have the plans and goals to get to state and then you get a group to go to state and do something great. This year was one of those. With the Frontier League as tough as it is, and then getting third there, put it in our heads that maybe we could do this. They all went out and ran their races, and that just shows their grit and determination and who they are."

A week earlier, the Wildcats also made history as it was the first time in school history when they qualified the entire boys team to the state meet as they took third at regionals.



## 2. Boys Soccer Finishes Runner-Up At State

As the Louisburg players huddled around their state plaque, many of them looked at it in awe and wonder.

“Hey guys, we won this,” a player shouted.

The statement was obvious at the time, but nonetheless, their excitement was more than warranted.

For the first time in program history, the Louisburg boys soccer team brought home a plaque from the state final four as the Wildcats defeated Rose Hill, 3-0, on Saturday in the third place match of the Class 4-1A state tournament at Stryker Sports Complex in Wichita.

It was only the second time in school history that the Wildcats had it made it this far, with the other being in 2016, when they finished fourth.



“There are only six teams in the entire state that get to end their year with a win and we wanted to be one of those teams,” Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. “We want to be able to hang up a banner on our field and we wanted a plaque so that no one can forget what these kids earned and what they did this season. I am so proud of all of them.”

It was a program defining moment for the Wildcats as they began the weekend searching for a state championship, but lost 2-0 to Bishop Miege on Friday in the semifinals. Still, recording the best finish in school history is nothing for someone to hang their head about, and the Wildcats came out Saturday wanting to make sure they brought some hardware home.

“It’s absolutely crazy to think about what we have accomplished this year, partly because I have only played soccer in high school,” senior captain Logan Faulkner said. “Bringing a state plaque back will just be a reminder of what we did and how we reached our goal.”



# **1. COVID-19 Cancels Spring Sports**

In March, Kansas Gov. Laura Kelly closed all schools for the rest of the 2019-20 school year due to the spread of COVID-19.

When most students hear school has been closed, especially in the winter, cheers erupt. In this case, however, the tone was much more somber – especially among the senior class.

Proms were canceled. Any plans they had for a graduation ceremony were put on hold, and for more than 30 seniors, their last opportunity at playing a sport at Louisburg High School was taken away.

In fact, close to 200 students were planning on participating in an activity in the spring, but with no school, the Kansas State High School Activities Association followed suit and canceled the spring season the day after Gov. Kelly's declaration.

Students, parents and coaches alike have had to come to grips that a season they had been looking forward to all year, was never going to happen. Tears flowed, walls were punched in frustration and some were left speechless.

There would be no game days, no Senior Nights and no postseason runs. Athletes had to figure out how to cope with this fact and it was a challenge for the Louisburg girls soccer, track and field, baseball, softball, golf and swim teams.

Many of those teams had big postseason aspirations after success in 2019 and were left wondering what could have been.

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# Wildcats fall to Shawnee Mission East in final game before holidays



***Louisburg senior Dawson Barnes goes up for two points during a game earlier this season. The Wildcats fell to Shawnee Mission East on Thursday, 74-50.***

With its next opponent, Piper, in quarantine due to COVID-19, Louisburg worked to find an opponent the Wildcats could play before the holiday break.

The Wildcats found a talented one in Shawnee Mission East. Louisburg traveled to the Lancers on Thursday and went up against the No. 7 team in Class 6A. Louisburg quickly found out why they are one of the teams to beat in the state's largest classification.

Shawnee Mission East took a 12-point lead at halftime, but it extended it even more in the second half and the Wildcats fell, 74-50.

"SME was a good challenge for us," Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. "Their length and ball pressure caused us some problems, but I thought we competed hard. It was a much more physical game in how it was called, so it took our boys a while to adjust to that style of play. We probably won't see another team with that much size across the board, but I think we will definitely learn from this game."

“East is ranked in 6A for a reason. They’ve got a nice team. When you play against good teams, they expose your weaknesses. We have some things we need to clean up and work on moving forward. We are definitely better for having played a good team like them”

Senior point guard Weston Guetterman provided a bulk of the Wildcat offense as he scored nearly half of the team’s points. Guetterman finished with a team-high 23 points and also had two assists and a pair of steals.

Junior forward Julian Margrave also had a big game for the Wildcats as he added 17 points and seven rebounds. Michael Seufferling and Ben Guetterman each had five points to round out the Louisburg scoring.

The Wildcats (3-2) still found themselves in the game and were only by 12 at halftime, but the Lancers’ offense had the Wildcats on their heels as they scored 44 in the second half to pull away.

Louisburg will now have the challenge of going on a long winter moratorium that won’t allow the Wildcats to practice together until Jan. 5. Three days later Louisburg will travel to Eudora for its first game of 2021.

Still, Pfannenstiel is happy with where his team is at heading into the new year.

“I think our season is off to a good start,” he said. “We’ve already had a few hiccups to our schedule because of COVID, but our kids have rolled with it and made the most of their opportunities. We’ve played a tough schedule so far. I don’t think we are satisfied with being 3-2, but we know where we are and where we need to improve. Our team will never shy away from a challenge, so I think this season is going to be a lot of fun because the Frontier League is a dog fight each night.

“Once we get a chance to get back together after the KSHSAA

mandatory two week moratorium, it will be a grind the rest of the way. With all things considered, we are happy and fortunate to be playing basketball and hopefully our hard work and effort on the court will display that.”

**LOU 7 11 12 20 – 50**

**SME 14 16 20 24 – 74**

LOUISBURG (3-2): Weston Guetterman 9-12 2-2 23; Julian Margrave 6-15 5-5 17; Michael Seuferling 2-6 1-2 5; Ben Guetterman 2-9 1-4 5. Totals: 19-46 9-13 50. 3-point field goals: 3, (W. Guetterman 3)

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## **Lady Cats stay perfect as they roll Coffeyville in final game of 2020**



***Senior Alyse Moore goes up for two of her 12 points during the Lady Cats’ 60-20 win over Coffeyville-Field Kindley on Thursday in Louisburg.***

About 24 hours prior to its final game before the holiday break, the Louisburg girls basketball team had a change in its schedule.

The Lady Cats were scheduled to play Piper, but the Pirates

were forced to go into quarantine, which left a hole in Louisburg's schedule. It didn't take long to find a replacement and the Lady Cats hosted Coffeyville-Field Kindley.

Louisburg found the perfect way to end the 2020 part of its season. The Lady Cats took care of business as they rolled Field Kindley, 60-20, on Thursday at Louisburg High School and moved to 5-0 on the season.

Not only are the Lady Cats unblemished to start their season, but they are currently ranked No. 7 in the Class 4A poll put out by the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association.

"The girls are super excited to be 5-0," Lane said. "It is a great start, especially with how the season began and us not being able to be together to practice to start the year. I think they have done a great job coming back together after we were quarantined and getting the whole team thing down."

Louisburg certainly played like a team against Field Kindley as eight different players scored, and even ones who didn't, contributed in other ways.

Junior Jordan Mynsted came off the bench to lead the Lady Cats in scoring with 22 points and also had a team-high five steals on the defensive end.



***Senior Megan Foote glides in for a lay-up Thursday against Coffeyville.***

Senior Alyse Moore also sparked the Lady Cats with her play on both ends of the floor as she finished with 12 points, seven rebounds and a pair of steals.

“Alyse did awesome,” Lane said. “She will guard anyone that I ask her to, she will bang on them, box out and rebound. She gets on the floor and runs the floor hard. Couldn’t be happier with her.”

Another senior, Madilyn Melton, also scored in double figures with 10 points and had team-high six deflections. Senior Megan Foote had seven points, four deflections and four steals.

Senior Brooklyn Diederich had a team-high five assists and also had two steals.

It was the Lady Cats' defense that stole the show against Field Kindley as they forced 32 turnovers on the night, which turned into 22 points for Louisburg. The Lady Cats also tallied 23 steals and dominated on the inside.

Louisburg led 14-5 at the end of the first quarter, but went on a 20-2 run before halftime to all but seal the win.

"They did great and I really thought we played as a team, maybe more than any other game so far this season," Lane said. "Hopefully we will continue to see that as the season goes on – looking for each other up the court, making good passes to the weak side. I thought we did a great job."





***Louisburg junior Delaney Wright battles a Coffeyville player for a rebound on Thursday.***

The Lady Cats are now on moratorium until Jan. 5, which means no contact with coaches. Louisburg will get three days to practice before its first game back, which is Jan. 8 against No. 4 Eudora.

Still, Lane believes her team will get the work in on their own so they don't lose too much of what they have already built.

"I know the girls are going to try and get some shooting in over break on their own and still run to stay in shape," Lane



said. "Hopefully they can do that and work together somehow. It is going to be tricky only having three days of practice before our first game back, but we have done before and maybe this is how this season is going to go. I think we will be fine.

"Starting this way has developed a lot of team unity. We are very proud of them as a coaching staff with the way the girls have been working, especially since we are always throwing new stuff at them. Hopefully we can keep this going after Christmas."

**LOU 14 20 17 9 – 60**

**CFK 5 2 9 4 – 20**

LOUISBURG (5-0): Jordan Mynsted 9-16 4-4 22; Alyse Moore 6-9 0-3 12; Madilyn Melton 5-8 0-0 10; Megan Foote 3-5 0-0 7; Adyson Ross 1-1 1-2 3; Brianne Kuhlman 1-4 0-0 2; Sierra Hahn 1-2 0-0 2; Emma Prettyman 0-2 2-4 2. Totals: 26-57 7-14 60. 3-point field goals: 1, (Foote)

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## **Lady Cats lean on defense for first win over Baldwin since 2014**



***Megan Foote (left) and Brooklyn Diederich celebrate Foote's made basket and the foul Tuesday during the Lady Cats' home game with Baldwin.***

When you pair your worst offensive performance with the best team you have played to date, it usually doesn't work out well.

The Louisburg girls basketball team were facing both of those Tuesday when it hosted Baldwin. The Lady Cats struggled to score against one the Frontier League's best teams.

So, the Lady Cats leaned on their defense and it paid off in a big way. After scoring just 11 points in the first half, Louisburg came to life with 31 in the second half and held on for a 42-39 victory over the Bulldogs.

It was the first time since 2014 that the Lady Cats had defeated Baldwin and they stayed perfect on the season in the process.

"I could tell they really wanted this game, maybe more than the others, just because they were super hungry and they had their eyes set on the prize," Louisburg coach Adrienne Lane said. "I was so proud of them of how we came back after only scoring 11 points in the first half and not quitting. Baldwin's defense was very good and didn't allow us to do much, but that third quarter was huge and our defense was a big reason why."

Down 21-11 at halftime, the Lady Cats ramped up their defense and held the Bulldogs to just six points in the third quarter and that allowed them to creep back in the game.

In all, Louisburg forced 26 Baldwin turnovers, which turned into 16 points and the Lady Cats put it all together in the fourth quarter. The Lady Cats scored 19 points in the final quarter to pull in front.

"This was a huge win for us," Lane said. "The girls were so excited after the game was over and they just played super hard. They deserved it and the defense won us the game. Offense was a little tricky at times, and we will get better at that, but our defense and rebounding were key for us. I think a win like this sets the tone for the rest of the season."



***Senior Madilyn Melton looks to put a shot up over a Baldwin defender. Melton finished with a team-high 17 points.***

Senior Madilyn Melton sparked the Lady Cats' rally as she scored 10 of her team-high 17 points in the fourth quarter and was 6-for-6 from the free-throw line. Melton also had 11 rebounds to record the double-double and had five blocked shots.

The Lady Cats were bothered at times by the length of

Baldwin's post players, but Melton made an adjustment and attacked.

"Madilyn made a lot of big baskets for us and it was probably her best game of the season so far," Lane said. "She battled against their post the whole game and she fought. To start she was kind of fading away from her, and we just told her to go into her and shoot it. She got some big points in the fourth quarter that way and she never quit."

To start the fourth, Louisburg found itself down four, but Melton helped bring them Wildcats back with six straight points. Sophomore guard Brianne Kuhlman also hit a jumper in the lane to give the Lady Cats a 32-31 lead.

Senior Brooklyn Diederich hit her biggest of the shot of the night on a 3-pointer with three minutes left in the game to put Louisburg up four. Melton and Kuhlman combined for the final seven points.

Baldwin had one final chance to tie the game as they had the ball with 10 seconds left, but the Bulldogs were unable to get shot off.

"The goal of that was to not foul the 3-point shooter and rebound.," Lane said. "They didn't even get a shot off and the girls really played that perfectly."

Diederich was second on the team in scoring with eight points, but she also did it on the defensive end with four deflections, four steals and four blocks.

Senior Alyse Moore was second on the team with six rebounds, while senior Megan Foote led the offense with five assists and also had three steals. She also converted two 3-point plays.

Louisburg will try and stay perfect as they host Coffeyville-Field Kindley tonight in a replacement game for Piper, who was forced to quarantine. Game time is set for 7:30 p.m.



**LOU 9 2 12 19 – 42**

**BAL 9 12 6 12 – 39**

LOUISBURG (4-0): Madilyn Melton 5-16 6-6 17; Brooklyn Diederich 3-9 0-0 8; Brianne Kuhlman 3-6 1-2 7; Megan Foote 2-5 2-4 6; Alyse Moore 1-7 1-6 3; Jordan Mynsted 0-7 1-3 1. Totals: 14-56 11-21 42. 3-point field goals: 3, (Diederich 2, Melton)

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## Despite slow start, Wildcats roll Baldwin



***Louisburg senior Weston Guetterman drives to the basket for two of his team-high 19 points Friday against Baldwin.***

It wasn't the start the Louisburg boys basketball team had hoped for Tuesday against Baldwin.

Baldwin scored the first eight points of the game to take a decent sized lead, but it was the way the Wildcats finished that more than made up for the slow start.

The Wildcats scored 27 points in the fourth quarter and held the Bulldogs to 28 points in the final three quarters to pick up a 70-41 win at Louisburg High School. It was Louisburg's third straight victory since its season opening loss to

Tonganoxie.

"We definitely struggled out of the gate getting down 8-0, but managed to work our way back into it," Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. "We were pretty effective defensively all night, but it took us awhile to get things going offensively. Defense has to be a constant each night. There will be nights that things don't go your way offensively, but if you play well defensively, you're always going to have a shot."

It was the defense that sparked the Wildcats when they didn't have their best night offensively.

Louisburg forced 20 turnovers on the night that turned into 27 points and outscored the Bulldogs in transition, 18-0. The Wildcats also controlled the glass as they outrebounded Baldwin 44-31.

"We want to really pressure teams with our defense," Pfannenstiel said. "We've done a pretty good job of that the last few games. If we can make teams uncomfortable, that usually results in some turnovers that can jump start our offense."

"I thought we are pretty good on both ends in the second half. I really liked the tempo of the game in the second half. That's how we want to play this year. Our hope is that our style will wear teams down late in games. So far it's been positive for us."

Down 8-0 to open the game, it was senior point guard Weston Guetterman that helped bring the Wildcats back. Guetterman scored eight straight to tie the game and then Maverick Rockers knocked down a 3-pointer to complete the 11-0 run.

The Wildcats (3-1) were down two points going into the second quarter and it would be the last time they trailed.



***Junior Michael Seuferling pulls up for a 3-pointer Tuesday against Baldwin.***

Louisburg took a 10-point lead into the final quarter and then the Wildcats took off as they outscored Baldwin 27-8 to end the contest. The Wildcat did a lot of their damage inside as they outscored the Bulldogs 40-10 in the paint.

Guetterman led the Wildcats in scoring as he had a good night from the field. He finished with a game-high 19 points to go along with six rebounds and three steals.

Two other Wildcats also scored in double figures. Junior Michael Seuferling scored 15 points, while senior Ben Guetterman added 12 points and six rebounds.

Junior Julian Margrave was big on the glass for Louisburg as he pulled down a team-high 14 rebounds and added two steals and a block.

"Weston has been great for us all year," Pfannenstiel said. "He really sets the tempo for us and picked us up offensively. It was a good team win. Everybody contributed and played great team basketball. Time to get back to the practice court and prepare for the next one."

That next one is tonight when the Wildcats travel to Shawnee Mission East for the final game before the holiday break. Tipoff is set for 6:30 p.m.

**LOU 11 13 19 27 – 70**

**BAL 13 9 11 8 – 41**

LOUISBURG (3-1): Weston Guetterman 8-16 2-3 19; Michael Seuferling 6-12 2-3 15; Ben Guetterman 3-11 5-6 12; Maverick Rockers 3-6 0-0 7; Julian Margrave 3-13 0-1 6; Dawson Barnes 2-2 0-0 4; Konnor Vohs 1-2 1-1 3; Andy Hupp 1-1 0-0 2; Isaac Guetterman 1-1 0-0 2. Totals: 28-64 10-14 70. 3-point field goals: 4, (Seuferling, W. Guetterman, Rockers, B. Guetterman)