Lane ready to lead Lady Cats as head basketball coach



Adrianne Lane was hired as the new head girls basketball coach earlier this month and will take over for Shawn Lowry, who was the head coach for the last seven seasons.

Following the resignation of head coach Shawn Lowry in early February, Adrianne Lane made her way to the bench for the Louisburg girls basketball team to fill in as an assistant coach.

As it turns out, Lane is going to stay there — but in a bigger role.

During the USD 416 Board of

Education meeting on March 9, Lane was officially hired to be Louisburg's new

head girls basketball coach and will replace Lowry, who spent the last seven

seasons guiding the Lady Cats.

" T

am very honored to be offered this position at LHS," Lane said. "The

timing of this opportunity is perfect for me and my family, and I am so

thankful to be asked to step into such a valued position. After coaching the seventh

grade girls the past two seasons, I am super excited to get back into coaching

at the high school level again."

Lane came to Louisburg after coaching and teaching for several years at Drexel (Mo.) High School. She served as the Drexel head girls coach from 2006 to 2012 and was able to capture a lot success.

She

posted a 90-36 record during her time with the Drexel program and coached in

two Missouri all-star games. Before that time, she served as a junior varsity

coach during the 2003-04 season at Piper High School.

Lane has been the business teacher at Louisburg High School for three years and has spent the last two seasons as the LMS seventh-grade girls coach. She also was an assistant coach for the LHS softball team for one season.

In 2020, Lane was an assistant for interim coach Leanna Willer and Willer will return as the junior varsity coach next season.

"Being

asked to help this season I do feel will benefit me in the future," Lane said. "I

got to know the girls on a coach/player level and not just teacher/student

level and I believe these relationships will make the transition

into next season easier. When I was asked to step in and help,
I felt very

honored that the assistant coaches trusted me and my basketball knowledge."

Even

though the season is still months away, Lane is excited to get started with her

new team over the summer as she begins to put her fingerprints

on the program.

" T

would say my coaching style is aggressive," Lane said. "I like to play man-to-man

defense if possible and run the court. Defenses will change depending on

the team we are playing, but every defense we run will be based on man to man principles.

"As for offense, I feel that all offenses should be based around a team's personnel. We will run the court on offense when we can, and we will try and be aggressive on the offensive boards. I believe in the big 4: defense, rebounding, transition and free throws. If we can do these four things, we can be successful as a team. I have high expectations for my players and I will expect them to work hard on and off the court."

Lady Cats place three on All-Frontier League basketball team



Louisburg junior Madilyn Melton earned second team All-Frontier League honors with the team was released late last

week. She was one of three Lady Cats to be awarded recognition.

In a year that saw three teams

from the same league go to the state tournament, the 2019-20 version of the

Frontier League was a very difficult one.

Eudora, Piper and Baldwin all

advanced to the state tournament and Piper earned a spot in the Class 4A final

four. Although the Louisburg girls basketball team didn't have the season it

was hoping for with an 8-13 record, the Lady Cats were still recognized by the area coaches.

Three Louisburg players were named

to the All-Frontier League basketball team when it was released late last week.

Junior Madilyn Melton was awarded second team honors, while juniors Alyse Moore

and Brooklyn Diederich were named to the honorable mention squad.

"Given

the up and down season that we had, I think we were definitely well-represented

on the all-league teams," Louisburg interim coach Leanna Willer said. "The

Frontier League is extremely strong, especially in girls' basketball. We have

some true basketball talent in our league, and I was glad to see that other

coaches and schools recognize what these three brought to the court this

year.

"We

are so proud of all three of these girls and we're very excited to have all three

of them returning next year. They are very deserving of this recognition."

Melton

had a big year for the Lady Cats at the forward spot as she led Louisburg in

scoring at 13.3 points a game and finished with 7.1 rebounds a contest. She

also averaged two steals and 1.3 blocks a game.



Junior Alyse Moore was named to the honorable mention team after leading the Lady Cats in rebounding.

"Madilyn

finished the season very strong for us," Willer said. "She was

our clear

leading scorer, but she also stepped up her rebounding and defensive game to

become very valuable on both ends of the floor. At the beginning of the season,

we were looking for her to have a big year, and I believe she expected the same of herself.

"Madilyn

had a bit of a tough time getting to the rim toward the beginning of the year,

but she started to learn to be more physical and find ways to score. Teams

recognize that she is the player to stop when they play us, but her skill and

experience help her overcome."

Moore

also had a strong season for Louisburg as she led the team in rebounding with

nearly eight a game to go along with nearly three steals a contest. She also averaged 8.9 points a game.



Junior Brooklyn Diederich was the team's leading 3-point shooter and was awarded honorable mention all-league status.

As

for Diederich, she finished the season with an average of 6 points a game and a

team-high 29 3-pointerse, but she also led the Lady Cats on defense. She

recorded a team-high 5.7 deflections and 1.7 steals a game.

"Alyse

is the type of player who gives 100 percent effort, 100 percent of the time,"

Willer said. "She goes full speed and refuses to give less. She would run

through a brick wall for her teammates only to get back up and do it again. On

the court, Alyse is physical and leads the team in rebounds

and steals. Her

speed and physicality allowed us to play the type of defense we wanted and

additionally, Alyse was our second leading scorer this season — a huge asset on

both offense and defense.

"Brooklyn

is one of those girls that just has a nose for the ball. She may be small, but

she covers more court than anyone else and leads the team in deflections. If

there's a chance, Brooklyn will get a hand on the ball. Brooklyn plays like the

energizer bunny — she just doesn't quit. She was our third leading scorer and a

person we want out there on the floor. We know she will play smart, give the

effort that we need, and take care of the basketball."

ALL-FRONTIER LEAGUE GIRLS BASKETBALL

First Team

Evelyn Vazquez, Piper, junior

Harper Schreiner, Eudora, sophomore

Alli Frank, Spring Hill, junior

Josie Boyle, Baldwin, senior

Riley Hiebert, Eudora, senior

Trinity McDow, Paola, senior

Kim Whetstone, Bonner Springs, senior

Second Team

Grace Barnes, Piper, senior

Ayreona Carter, Piper, senior

Madilyn Melton, Louisburg, junior

Anna Burnett, Baldwin, senior

Reagan Hiebert, Eudora, senior

Honorable Mention

Lauren Gray, Tonganoxie, senior
Sophia Ficken, Ottawa, sophomore
Kirsten Evans, Ottawa, sophomore
Jenna Harvey, Baldwin, junior
Kate Ediger, Paola, sophomore
Alyse Moore, Louisburg, junior
Brooklyn Diederich, Louisburg, junior

Wildcat boys earn three spots on all-league team



Louisburg sophomore Julian Margrave was a unanimous selection to the All-Frontier League first team and was one of three Wildcats to be named to the team.

The Frontier League was one of the better leagues in the state in Class 4A as it sent two teams to the state tournament this past season.

Among them were several talented

players and Louisburg had three players recognized on the allleague list that

came out last weekend — among them was one of the best players in the league.

Sophomore Julian Margrave earned

first-team honors, while juniors Weston Guetterman and Ben Guetterman were both

named to the honorable mention squad for a Wildcat team that finished their

season with an 8-13 record.

"This is the best our team has been represented in my three years so I'm pleased," Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. "When Piper, Bonner, and Tongie joined the league last year, that made it even tougher to make the all-league teams, so it's impressive that we were well represented. I thought Julian, Weston and Ben all had great seasons and were very deserving.

"I'm glad the coaches of this league recognized them for that. These things just don't happen.

These kids work

for it. When your best players are your hardest workers, you're always

going to have a chance. Our expectations are high for next year and I look

forward to continue working with these guys."

Margrave was a unanimous selection for the

first team among the league coaches and was among the top scorers in the league.

As a sophomore, Margrave averaged 16.3 points a game to go along with seven rebounds.

"Julian

had an incredible year," Pfannenstiel said. "He meant a lot to our team,

especially on the offensive side, so for him to take on that role as a

sophomore and produce the way he did was very impressive. He was the

second leading scorer in the Frontier League this season, which is incredible

when you think about the great players and teams in this league.

"Julian

works hard. He's always the last one to leave the gym every day, so it doesn't

surprise me one bit that he had such a breakout year. Julian was a

unanimous selection for first team, so that shows you what the coaches in this

league think of him as well. I'm just glad we have him for another two

years. He's just scratched the surface of what kind of player he is going

to develop into."



Louisburg point guard Weston Guetterman was an all-league honorable mention selection

Point

guard Weston Guetterman and shooting guard Ben Guetterman both had strong

seasons for the Wildcats as they were among the league leaders on the team in scoring.

Weston

averaged 11.2 points, to go along with four assists and a four rebounds a game.

Ben finished the year as he averaged 11.1 points a contest and 5.5 rebounds.



Junior shooting guard Ben Guetterman earned honorable mention all-league honors.

"Weston was so valuable for us at the point guard position," Pfannenstiel said. "He was the primary ball handler for us and

did a great job of handling the defensive pressure that teams would put on us. Not

only did he control the ball for us, but he was a big scorer for us as well. He

had some big nights for us offensively and brought a lot of energy and

leadership each night.

"Ben had a big year and he is an explosive offensive player and a very good rebounder. His biggest offensive nights were

when he had big offensive rebound numbers. Ben is a kid that

when he plays with confidence, teams have a tough time stopping him."

ALL-FRONTIER LEAGUE BOYS BASKETBALL

First Team

Tamar Bates, Piper, junior

Christian Arndt, Piper, senior

Julian Margrave, Louisburg,

sophomore

Trey Moala, Paola, sophomore

Kobe Johnson, Ottawa, senior

Alex Johnson, Spring Hill, senior

Second Team

Ty Shelley, Piper, senior

Rishaud Dockery, Bonner Springs, senior

Cade Gollier, Ottawa, senior

Cooper Jones, Spring Hill, junior

Dallas Bond, Jr., Tonganoxie, junior

Honorable mention

Dilyn Taylor Cantu, Piper, junior

Jaron Briggs, Piper, sophomore

Noah McCullough, Ottawa, sophomore

Heston Robbins, Tonganoxie, junior

Weston Guetterman, Louisburg, junior

Ryan Weber, Spring Hill, junior

Gabe Eskina, Piper, senior

Ethan Byers, Bonner Springs, senior

Trent Stimac, Bonner Springs, sophomore

Ben Guetterman, Louisburg, junior

Ryan Wokutch, Paola, senior

Jordan Barth, Baldwin, senior

Matthew Garber, Baldwin, senior

Ty Abts, Eudora, junior

Noah Watkins, Eudora, senior

Tucker Shackelford, Eudora, senior

Rylee Beach, Tonganoxie, junior

Inspired effort nearly gives Lady Cats upset of Baldwin



Louisburg senior Haley Cain goes up for a jumper during the team's game with Baldwin on Tuesday at Baldwin High School.

BALDWIN CITY — When it was all

said and done, the Louisburg girls basketball walked off the court for the

final time this season following a 44-32 loss to Baldwin Tuesday in the Class

4A sub-state semifinals.

There was obvious disappointment

for the Lady Cats following the defeat, but the setback didn't deter from what

was one of their best performances of the season — especially on the defensive $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($

Louisburg held Baldwin to 28

end of the floor.

percent from the floor and forced 19 turnovers as it was a tight game until the final minute.

Baldwin would go on to defeat No.

4 Labette County on Friday in the sub-state championship and the Bulldogs will

join fellow Frontier League members Eudora and Piper in the state tournament this week.

"We

are so proud of these girls and how they showed tremendous resilience

throughout that game," Louisburg coach Leanna Willer said. "It would

have been easy for the girls to see themselves as underdogs and let the

game get away from them, but they fought every step of the way. I believe it

showed everyone just how much heart and soul this team can play with when we

truly play together."

The Lady Cats (8-13) got up on the

Bulldogs early as they took a 10-6 lead at the end of the first quarter thanks

to a 3-pointer from Brooklyn Diederich and a basket from Madilyn Melton in the

final minute to give them some momentum.

Louisburg's offense cooled in the

second quarter as it managed three points, but the Lady Cats still found

themselves down just five at halftime — thanks in part to their defense.

Louisburg was active defensively as they recorded 33 deflections to go along

with 12 steals and four blocks in the game.

"Our

defensive effort was huge," Willer said. "We are not a team that tends to score

a lot of points, so maintaining a strong defense and holding the other team to

a low score was ideal. We had all kinds of players making big plays — getting

steals, deflections, applying ball pressure, fronting their post, etc. It was a

solid team effort and we worked really well together. Communication stepped up

as well, and that energy carried us through our comeback in

the fourth quarter."

That

comeback seemed to give the Lady Cats, who were the No. 12 seed coming into the

tournament, a chance for an upset and a spot in the championship game.

Down 23-18 going into the fourth quarter, junior Alyse Moore hit a pair of free throw and Melton connected on a basket to cut the lead to one. Baldwin knocked down a shot to go back up three, but after a Delaney Wright made free throw, junior Megan Foote knocked down a 3-pointer to give Louisburg a 26-25 lead midway through the frame.



The Louisburg girls basketball team leaps off the bench after Megan Foote hit a 3-pointer to give the Lady Cats the lead in the fourth quarter.

Unfortunately

for the Lady Cats, Baldwin answered with a 3-pointer of its

own to take the

lead back. The Bulldogs would go on to make 12 of 14 free throws down the

stretch to ice the game and the Lady Cats didn't have a chance to catch up.

"We'll

give credit where credit is due — Baldwin was extremely good from the free-throw

line that night, especially during the fourth quarter," Willer said. "Fouling

was the only way for us to stop the clock toward the end, and they were just

solid — we couldn't catch a break. We always say that free throws win games,

and Baldwin's girls did an excellent job."

Melton scored a bulk of the Lady

Cats' points as she finished with a team-high 18 points to go along with nine

rebounds and two steals. Diederich was next on the team in scoring with six

points, but was also active defensively with a team-high 11 deflections and

Foote also had 10 of her own. Both players also had three steals.

Moore was second on the team with seven rebounds, while Wright had five deflections, a steal and a block.

Although, the Lady Cats came up

short, Willer was excited to see her team's effort in what was team's most

important game of the year.

"This season has definitely been a roller coaster filled with many

ups and downs," she said. "It's been an emotional ride for all of us, but I

think we finally saw during that last game how truly special this team could

be. We battled through so many tough moments and I believe we are all stronger

for it. It has been a truly unforgettable year that I won't soon forget. I am so

proud of the determination our team had to finish out the season strong."

L0U - 32	10	3	5	14
BAL - 44	6	12	5	21

LOUISBURG (8-13): Madilyn Melton

6-14 6-9 18; Brooklyn Diederich 2-10 0-0 6; Alyse Moore 1-6 2-2 4; Megan Foote

1-3 0-0 3; Delaney Wright 0-6 1-2 1. Totals: 10-46 9-14 32. 3-point field

goals: 3, (Diederich 2, Foote)

Despite furious comeback, Wildcats fall to Iola in overtime



Louisburg junior Weston Guetterman drives to the basket for two of his 17 points Wednesday during the Class 4A sub-state semifinal in Iola. Guetterman tied the game with three seconds left on a lay-up to send it to overtime.

IOLA — Louisburg found itself down 20 points on the road in the fourth quarter Wednesday against Iola in the Class 4A substate semifinals and its season looked lost.

The end of the Wildcats' year appeared imminent — that was until they put together their best quarter of basketball all season. Louisburg scored 32 fourth quarter points and rallied to force overtime

Unfortunately for the Wildcats,

that rally didn't extend to the extra period. Iola controlled the overtime and

ended Louisburg's season with a 77-68 win.

"It was a tough game," Louisburg

coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. "We were flat and we played poorly for three

quarters. It would have been real easy to pack it in, but we made a heck of a

comeback in the fourth quarter to give us a shot. Things just didn't go our way

in overtime."

Things weren't going the Wildcats'

way through the first three quarters as Iola shot better than 55 percent from

the field, while Louisburg struggled to get things going

offensively as it

scored 16 first half points. The Wildcats trailed 30-16 at halftime, despite

getting out to a 6-0 lead to start the game.

Louisburg (8-13) was behind 50-30

to start the fourth quarter and Iola was in firm control of the game, but the

early in the final period, the Wildcats were able to catch a break.

Iola point guard Calvin Delich was

issued a double technical foul and was ejected from the game, which helped give

the Wildcats new life as they began their improbable comeback.

"That was huge," Pfannenstiel

said. "He was their point guard and we were able to get points out of it with

the clock stopped. Plus, it took out a ball handler and a key to their offense."

The Wildcats then turned up the

pressure defensively and were able to get several key stops and force turnovers

down the stretch. The Wildcats forced 18 turnovers for the game, many of those

coming in the fourth quarter and they scored 19 points off those Iola mistakes.

Louisburg was down 57-45 midway through the quarter, but went on an 11-0 run thanks to five straight points from Julian Margrave, a basket from Garrett Rolofson and back-to-back scores from Weston Guetterman to cut the lead to one.

It was a two-point game with under

10 seconds remaining, when Guetterman drove to the basket and converted the

lay-up with three seconds left to tie the game and force

overtime.



Senior Michael Waldron puts up a 3-pointer Wednesday against Iola.

"Weston is aggressive and when he can

get downhill and get the ball to the rim he is a force in there," Pfannenstiel

said. "He has been out with some sickness, and every timeout that we called he

was coughing in the huddle, so for him to gut it out like he did — we really

needed that. All our kids made plays to get it to overtime, but we just didn't quite have enough.

"We picked up some full-court

pressure and picked up some turnovers and our defense definitely sparked our

offense. We were just playing with a lot more energy. Moving forward, we have

to understand that we have to play hard for 32 minutes. Every team is good, and

every team has good players, and if you don't execute and play with energy then

you can get yourself in a pretty big hole. We had no margin for error in the

fourth, but just fell short."

Iola outscored the Wildcats 15-6

in the overtime to pull away as it converted at the free-throw line to seal the

win. Iola would go on to face Piper in the sub-state championship, but Piper

won 68-30 and was one of two Frontier League teams to make it to state. Ottawa

was the other team as it defeated Independence, 48-42.

Margrave helped bring the Wildcats

back as the Louisburg sophomore scored a team-high 23 points and nine rebounds.

Guetterman also finished in double figures with 17 points and added a team-high

six assists and four steals.

Rolofson, a senior, made an impact

in his final game as a Wildcat as he tallied 12 points and nine rebounds, while

junior Ben Guetterman added nine points. Fellow senior Michael Waldron also had

a team-high four steals to go along with six points.

"It's tough," Pfannenstiel said of

the loss. "I told the guys that I wasn't prepared to give that (end of the

season) speech and really it is hard to find the right thing to say after a

game like that. The one thing I can say is that they are good kids and they

showed great commitment to this program. They represented and school with a lot

of character and pride. That is what we will remember the most of these guys is

what they have done for our program and their commitment to the offseason

workouts and being good kids and role models.

"We thank our seniors for

everything they have done for us and they were a big part of our program. We

also have a lot of young kids on the court and hopefully we can use this game

as motivation to get better for next year."

LOU	10	6	14
32	6 - 68		
IOLA	15	15	20
12	15 - 77		

LOUISBURG (8-13): Julian Margrave

9-23 3-4 23; Weston Guetterman 6-17 4-5 17; Garrett Rolofson 4-8 3-4 12; Ben

Guetterman 3-10 2-2 9; Michael Waldron 2-9 0-0 6; Konnor Vohs 0-2 1-2 1.

Totals: 24-69 13-17 68. 3-point field goals: 7, (Waldron 2, Margrave 2, W.

Guetterman, Rolofson, B. Guetterman)

Louisburg comes up short to rival Paola in final regular season game



PAOLA — Despite getting off to a good start, Friday's game with Paola didn't have the ending the Louisburg boys

basketball team was looking for.

The Panthers scored 40 points in

the second half and took advantage of some Wildcat miscues as they handed

Louisburg a 64-52 loss at Paola High School in the final game of the regular season.

"It's

always tough to lose, because there's been so much time and effort invested in

preparing for it," Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. "Paola has some

explosive athletes and they made some big plays down the stretch. Defensively,

we were really good in the first half. We started the second half very poorly

which gave Paola some confidence and momentum."

Turnovers

helped give Paola the momentum it was looking for as the

Wildcats turned it

over 18 times, which led to 17 points for the Panthers. It erased a good start for Louisburg.

The

Wildcats (8-12) took a five-point lead at the end of the first quarter and held

on to it as they led the Panthers 29-24 at halftime.

The

second half wasn't as kind to Louisburg as the Wildcats were outscored 15-6 in

the third quarter and they weren't able to regain the lead. Louisburg did put

up 17 points in the final frame, and eventually cut Paola's lead to 53-49, but

it wasn't enough as the Panthers pulled away — thanks in part to Paola's

20-for-23 performance at the free-throw line.

"The turnovers

hurt us," Pfannenstiel said. "Turnovers are empty possessions. You aren't going

to win many games turning it over 18 times. We have to do a better job of

valuing each possession. Paola shot it a lot better in the second half,

which gave them some extra energy. We made a run there at the end, but

couldn't get over the hump. It was a good high school basketball

game. We just have to make a few more plays to be able to win on the

road."

Junior

Ben Guetterman led the Wildcats in scoring with a game-high 22

points,

including four 3-pointers, and sophomore Julian Margrave also scored in double

figures with 11. Senior Michael Waldron added eight, while junior Weston

Guetterman had seven points and seven assists.

Paola

had four players in double figures, including a team-high 17 points from Ryan

Wokutch and 14 points from Trey Moala.

Louisburg

will try and start fresh as the Wildcats earned the No. 10 seed in the Class 4A

East playoffs and will travel to No. 7 Iola for a 7 p.m. tipoff Wednesday. The winner

of that game will play the winner of No. 2 Piper and No. 15 Atchison for the

sub-state championship on Saturday.

"The postseason is always an amped up

time," Pfannenstiel said. "Your season is on the line. In the senior's case,

their high school career is on the line. We have a great opportunity in

front of us and it's moments like these that motivate us to work so hard all

year. Our kids will be ready."

LOU	13	16	6	17 –
52				
PA0	8	16	15	25 –
64				

LOUISBURG (8-12): Ben Guetterman

8-14 2-3 22; Julian Margrave 3-7 4-4 11; Michael Waldron 3-6 0-0 8; Weston

Guetterman 2-8 3-4 7; Garrett Rolofson 1-5 0-0 2; Charlie Peters 1-1 0-0 2.

Totals: 18-42 9-11 52. 3-point field goals: 7, (B. Guetterman 4, Waldron 2,

Margrave)

Lady Cats fall to Paola in regular season finale



Sophomore Delaney Wright goes up for a shot against Paola during a game earlier this season. The Lady Cats fell to the Panthers on Friday, 46-35.

PAOLA — After losing in the final

seconds last time it squared off with Paola, the Louisburg girls basketball

team was hoping to return the favor when the Lady Cats traveled to Paola.

Unfortunately, a slow start cost the Lady Cats and they weren't able to recover in a 46-35 loss Friday to the Panthers and they ended their regular season with an 8-12 record. Despite a rough first quarter, Louisburg went on to outscore Paola in the next two frames as it continued to try and chip away at the lead.

feel like the girls played very hard, and they fought until the end," coach

Leanna Willer said. "We were very proud of the team and how we battled. We

never hung our heads or gave up whatsoever."

Paola

jumped out to a big lead as it outscored Louisburg 15-5 in the opening quarter

and the Lady Cats tried to battle back. Louisburg leaned on junior Madilyn

Melton to help get them there.

Melton

scored a game-high 16 points to go along with six rebounds in the loss,

including an 8-for-11 performance from the free-throw line.

Junior

Megan Foote had a team-high five steals to go along with five rebounds and junior

Alyse Moore had a team-high eight boards. Another junior, Brooklyn Diederich,

had a team-best four assists.

The

Lady Cat defense also improved in the second half as it held Paola to 20 points

in the final two quarters. Trinity McDow led Paola in scoring with 19 points

and Brayden Hanf also scored in double figures with 12.

"Without

that 10 point spread in the first quarter, we are looking at a very different

ball game," Willer said. "From that point on, we played pretty much even with

them, and we actually won the second and third quarters. We

definitely saw a lot of positives in that game.

"First

of all, I think Madilyn played a great game for us — she got to the rim and the

free throw line, which is exactly what we needed from her. I think our defense

stepped up in the second half and took them out of their element. Delaney

Wright played a huge role in that as she guarded McDow and limited her touches

in the second half. I also think we did a much better job moving the ball $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) +$

around on offense and being patient on that end of the floor. It took us a bit

to settle into it, but once we did, we started getting the looks we wanted and

creating more opportunities for success."

Louisburg

is hoping some of those positives carry over into the postseason. The Lady

Cats, who are ranked No. 12 in the Class 4A East playoffs, will travel to No. 5

Baldwin tonight for the sub-state semifinals. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m.

The winner of that game will play

the winner of No. 4 Labette County and No. 13 Atchison on Friday evening for

the sub-state championship.

"We are very excited heading into sub-state, and it's always nice

to start the postseason with a clean slate," Willer said. 'Wins, losses, record

- none of that matters now. Each team comes in at 0-0 and

anything can happen.

We are geared up and ready to go for what will inevitably be a tough battle. It's

now or never."

LOU 5 12 9 9 - 35

PAO 15 11 8 12 - 46

LOUISBURG (8-12): Madilyn Melton

4-10 8-11 16; Brooklyn Diederich 2-6 0-0 5; Delaney Wright 2-7 0-1 4; Alyse

Moore 1-6 1-6 3; Megan Foote 0-3 3-6 3; Brianne Kuhlman 1-1 0-0 2; Haley Cain

1-6 0-2 2. Totals: 11-39 12-26 35. 3-point field goals: 1, (Diederich)

Lady Cats defeat Metro Academy in final home game



Louisburg junior Madilyn Melton goes to the basket for two points Tuesday during the Lady Cats' home game against Metro Academy.

It had been a couple weeks since

the Louisburg girls basketball team was able to find the win column, but the

Lady Cats picked a good time for that to happen again.

Louisburg hosted Metro Academy on

Tuesday in its home finale and the Lady Cats were able to snap a losing streak with

a 45-36 victory over the Mavericks. The Lady Cats picked up a big win heading

into its final regular season game with Paola.

"Tuesday's

win was much needed," coach Leanna Willer said. "We have been working really

hard to continue to get better every day, so it was nice to see that get

rewarded on the scoreboard Tuesday night. It wasn't always pretty, and we are

definitely working on cleaning things up a bit at practice this week, but it

felt good to be back on the positive side of the outcome."

The

Lady Cats (8-11) used its defense to come out on top as they held Metro Academy

to just 11 first half points and forced 18 total turnovers. Louisburg was able

to turn those mistakes into 17 points, which turned out to be vital in its

nine-point win.

Metro

Academy came alive offensively in the fourth quarter with 16 points, but the

Lady Cats built enough of a lead to win comfortably.

Junior Brooklyn Diederich led the Lady Cat defense with nine deflections and three steals, while junior Megan Foote had

five deflections and two steals. Sophomore Delaney Wright also caused a lot of pressure at the front of that pressure defense.

" T

thought our defense started out really strong, especially during the first

half," Willer said. "We kept them out of an offensive rhythm and made them

uncomfortable with our full court pressure. I think our defense got a

little tired toward the end, and we allowed them to come back and score

more points than we would have hoped, but we have been working hard on defense

and rebounding all week long to keep improving. Our defensive pressure converts

into offensive energy and points, so it's always great to start off that way."

Junior

Madilyn Melton continued her strong play with one of her best games of the

season to lead the way. Melton scored a team-high 18 points to go along with $\,$

four rebounds.



Louisburg junior Brooklyn Diederich drives to the basket on a Metro Academy defender Tuesday.

Fellow

junior Alyse Moore also scored in double figures with 10 points and senior

Haley Cain had a team-high six rebounds in the win. However, it all started on

the inside with Melton.

"Madilyn

has been playing very well these last few games," Willer said. "We continue to

look for ways to get her the ball, whether inside the paint or on the

perimeter. She has taken on the workload very well and she is working hard to

try new moves and positions.

"Madilyn

has also done a much better job of recognizing when she needs to take the ball

to the rack and when she should kick it back out to a teammate — this opens a

lot of things up for the rest of the team and creates more opportunities for

our offense to be successful."

The

Lady Cats' offense got kick-started in the second half. Louisburg built a

double-figure lead to start the third quarter on a 3-pointer from senior Sydni

Keagle and then built a 14-point advantage going into the fourth to all but seal the win.

Louisburg

will try and finish out its season with two straight wins Friday when it

travels to Paola for its regular season finale. The Panthers beat the Lady Cats

earlier in the year on a last-second shot and Louisburg is hoping for a revenge win of its own.

"We

are very much looking forward to have another shot at Paola," Willer said. "When

we first played this season, our heads were all over the place. We fought hard,

but lost a heartbreaker in the end. Going into tomorrow's game, we are feeling

much more confident in the work we've put in both on and off the court to be

the best team we can be. May the best team win."

LOU	13	5	16	11 -
45				
MA	8	3	9	16
- 36				

LOUISBURG (8-11): Madilyn Melton

7-11 3-3 18; Alyse Moore 3-9 4-8 10; Megan Foote 1-1 3-5 6; Delaney Wright 1-5

0-0 3; Haley Cain 1-3 0-0 3; Sydni Keagle 1-2 0-0 2; Brooklyn Diederich 1-9 0-0

2. Totals: 15-40 10-16 45. 3-point field goals: 5, (Wright, Cain, Melton, Keagle, Foote)

Wildcats lose home finale to Metro Academy



Sophomore Maverick Rockers drives to the basket for two points after a steal Tuesday against Metro Academy at Louisburg High School.

It wasn't the way the Louisburg boys basketball team wanted to end its home season.

A victory against Metro Academy on Tuesday would have given the Wildcats a chance at hosting a first-round playoff

game, but instead, they might have played their last home game of the season.

Metro Academy used a big fourth

quarter run to help pull away and hand Louisburg a 54-48 loss. The Wildcats are

now 8-11 on the season, and will need to beat Paola on Friday, along with some

other help to be able move up the seed line for the playoffs.

"We talked about what was on the

line going into this game," Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. "If we would

have won our last two games, then we could have hosted a first round game. Not

that it is completely out the window, but we are looking at a 9 or 10 seed right now."

Louisburg got out to a fast start

as it outscored Metro Academy 15-5 in the first quarter and the Wildcats

increased it to a 14-point advantage early in the second. It was then when the

Mavericks started to gain confidence.

Metro Academy finished the first

half on a 14-5 run to cut into the Louisburg lead and eventually took a small

lead early in the fourth quarter.

"I thought we were really good defensively

in the first quarter," Pfannenstiel said. "Some of those things we struggled

with against Bonner Springs last week, we watched those on film and we were

better in that first quarter. I thought we were very

disciplined, but that is a

talented Metro team. I think they return four guys off of last year's team that

made it tough on us last year. They have some shooters and good posts that are

explosive. A lot of them are seniors and are big, physical kids. We just didn't

get done and hats off to them as they made some plays."

Louisburg junior Konnor Vohs broke

a tie early in the fourth quarter on a 3-pointer to give the Wildcats the lead,

but Metro Academy went on a 10-0 run to take a seven-point lead with 2 minutes

and 30 seconds left in the game and the Wildcats weren't able to bounce back.

The Wildcats were without starting

point guard Weston Guetterman, who was out with an illness, but sophomore

Maverick Rockers started in his place and he, along with Vohs, helped pick up

some of the scoring slack. The two players combined to score 15 points to help

keep Louisburg in it.

"I thought both of them played

really, really well," Pfannenstiel said. "I was pleased with everything that

those guys did. They handled the ball well and took care of the ball. I think

they combined for like two turnovers and that is impressive versus some kids

that could really guard. They both were able to score some points for us and

ran the offense, so I was definitely pleased with that."

Three-point shooting wasn't a problem for the Wildcats as they

knocked down seven on the night and shot close to 50 percent from behind the arc. It was the inside that gave Louisburg some issues.



Junior Konnor Vohs drives on a Metro Academy defender Tuesday in Louisburg.

The Wildcats shot just 31 percent from 2-point range and they had problems finding easy baskets.

"We struggle to finish on the

inside and for some reason it is hard for us to finish when we get into the

paint," Pfannenstiel said. "If you look at our 2-point percentage, it is not

what you would expect. We have to get better there. Some of it is we are taking

tough, contested runners where if we make that extra pass off

the drive that we

could get a higher percentage shot. It is not always the guys driving the ball,

it is also the guys off the ball that have to make plays too to give us some

opportunities. We shot it well from the outside, but we have to finish on the

inside and find ways to execute offensively."

Junior Ben Guetterman led

Louisburg in scoring with nine points and had six rebounds, while sophomore Julian

Margrave had a team-high eight rebounds. Senior Garrett Rolofson also finished with six boards.

Louisburg will try and bounce back

to win its regular season finale when it travels to Paola. Tipoff is set for

7:30 p.m., as the Wildcats try and avenge a loss to the Panthers from earlier this season.

"It shouldn't take anything

special to get us motivated to play Paola," Pfannenstiel said. "We have a sour

taste in our mouths from the last time we played them and have an opportunity

to go to their place and get a win. We have played well over there the last

couple of years, so I think it will be a good environment and is always a great rivalry."

L0U 48	15	9	15	9 –
MA	5	14	18	17 –

LOUISBURG (8-11): Ben Guetterman

3-16 2-2 9; Konnor Vohs 3-4 0-0 8; Maverick Rockers 3-5 0-0 7; Garrett Rolofson

2-5 1-2 6; Michael Waldron 2-5 1-2 6; Charlie Peters 2-4 1-2 6; Julian Margrave

3-11 0-0 6. Totals: 18-50 5-8 48. 3-point field goals: 7, (Vohs 2, Rolofson,

Rockers, Guetterman, Waldron, Peters)

Turnovers haunt Wildcats in loss to Bonner Springs



Louisburg junior Weston Guetterman gets on the floor for a loose ball Friday during the Wildcats' game in Bonner Springs.

BONNER SPRINGS — After a pair of

wins got the Louisburg boys basketball team back on the right track, the

Wildcats stumbled a bit Friday at Bonner Springs.

Louisburg, despite a late second half rally, could not complete the season sweep over Bonner Springs as the Wildcats fell, 61-54, after defeating the Braves earlier this season. It was a loss where several things didn't go the Wildcats' way.

"We just have to find some

consistency," Louisburg coach Ty Pfannenstiel said. "Against Spring Hill we

were really good defensively, and I think against Eudora we were really good

offensively. This time, we were just okay on each end. I didn't think we were

great defensively, especially in the first half. Our plan was to keep them out

of the paint and kind of pack in our defense and make them settle for outside

jumpers. We struggled early to keep them out of the paint and they had some good looks.

"We have to find some consistency,

though, and our record shows that. We might be good for a couple games and then

we struggle a little. We struggled a little offensively and settled for too

many outside jumpers, especially in the first half."

The Wildcats, who are currently

8-10 on the season, struggled in the turnover department — which turned out to

be to the different in the game. With the game tied at 11 going into the second

quarter, Louisburg committed five turnovers that led to fast break points for Bonner Springs.

That allowed the Braves to build a

lead it wouldn't give back. In all, the Wildcats committed 18 turnovers on the

night, which led to 25 Bonner Springs points.

"Turnovers hurt us for sure and those led to some run-out layups for them," Pfannenstiel said.

"We came out in

a 1-3-1 defense to start the second half, and I think that worked and we did a

good job rebounding, but then we would turn the ball over. That puts us down

and forced us to get out of our zone, which I thought had a chance to slow them down a little bit.

"When you give up three

possessions in a row on easy baskets like that it is tough. You can't fault our

defense there, it was those turnovers that led to their offense. You aren't

going to win many games if you turn the ball over that many times."

Despite all that, the Wildcats

were able to make one final run at the Braves early in the fourth quarter.

Senior Michael Waldron and sophomore Julian Margrave hit back-to-back 3-pointers to cut the Bonner lead to three. Junior Ben Guetterman then got a steal and a score to trim the Braves' lead to 51-50.

Bonner Springs, however, would go on a 9-0 run to extend the lead back to 10 points and the Wildcats weren't able to recover.



Senior Michael Waldron drives to the basket Friday against Bonner Springs.

Margrave and senior Garrett

Rolofson each had a double-double to lead the Wildcats. Margrave finished with

a team-high 17 points and 12 rebounds, while Rolofson added 11 points and 10 boards.

Guetterman also finished in double figures with 15 points. Junior Weston Guetterman had a teamhigh seven assists to go along with six rebounds.

"We were able to make a run there

to get back in it and I was proud of the guys for that," Pfannenstiel said. "I

thought maybe we had turned the corner, but that is how basketball goes

sometimes. We will do what we can to get a little more consistent because that

is what it is going to take to make a run here."

Louisburg returns to action

tonight when it hosts Metro Academy in its final home game of the season.

Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

LOU	11	15	16	12 -
54				
BON	11	21	16	13 –
61				

LOUISBURG (8-10): Julian Margrave

6-14 3-4 17; Ben Guetterman 6-19 1-3 15; Garrett Rolofson 4-8 3-3 11; Michael

Waldron 2-7 0-0 6; Weston Guetterman 2-10 0-0 5. Totals: 20-58 7-10 54. 3-point

field goals: 7, (B. Guetterman 2, Waldron 2, Margrave 2, W. Guetterman 1)