Louisburg survives Ottawa to remain without a loss



Louisburg senior defender Will Frank heads the ball away from the goal late in the Wildcats' 2-1 win over Ottawa on Thursday at Ottawa High School.

For about 70 minutes, it was all
going to plan for the Louisburg boys soccer team during its league match
Thursday against Ottawa.

The Wildcats held a two-goal lead on the road and were about to cinch their eighth win of the season. Ottawa had different plans, however.

Ottawa played aggressive in the match's final 10 minutes and put the pressure on the Wildcat defense that allowed them to cut the Louisburg lead in half. Despite that, the Wildcats were able to hang on for a 2-1 victory and they still have not suffered a loss this season.

"The
boys played really well and did a nice job of controlling the play," Louisburg
coach Kyle Conley said. "I think we did a nice job of playing hard and moving
the ball the best we could on their field. They played a unique formation and
they made it hard to break down. I do feel the boys played hard, but lacked

focus the final eight minutes of the game.”

Many of the Cyclones’ shots on goal came toward the end of the half and scored with eight minutes left in the match.

The shots kept coming, but the Wildcat back line held strong as senior Will Frank headed the ball away near the goal on one attempt. Then, with two minutes remaining, goalie Garrett Rolofson made a diving save near the line to help secure the win.



Junior defender Luke Faulkner clears the ball out of the back while teammate Michael Seuferling looks on Thursday in Ottawa.

Ottawa had two corner kick opportunities in the final minute-and-half, but the Wildcat defense did enough to get the win.

“Yeah after Ottawa got their goal, they had all the confidence,” Conley said. “They played inspired soccer and their crowd came to life and motivated their players. We started to panic and lost our focus for the last eight minutes. It was surely a learning moment for our young team. We will learn from this and get better. I was excited that the boys held on and fought through some adversity.”

Louisburg (8-0-1) took control of the match early and dominated possession. The Wildcats had 13 shots on goal and were able to get their first one to go through right before halftime.

Freshman Cade Gassman scored his first of two goals in the 39th minute and gave Louisburg a little bit of confidence going into the break. Gassman was in the right place at the right time in the second half, as he rebounded a Braden Yows shot, and it found the back of the net for a 2-0 lead.

Treston Carlson, Ethan Ptacek, Michael Seuferling, Gavin York, Ethan Showalter and Yows all had shots on goal during the match, and it was one that could have gotten out of hand early.

“We did dominate the game, but we struggled to finish,” Conley said. “I was excited to see some of the creativity the boys showed throughout the game. I felt we left 3 or 4 off of the board. We had plenty of looks but just couldn’t find the back of the net.”

Louisburg hopes to pick up a couple of wins at home this week and it begins Tuesday when it hosts Tonganoxie. The Wildcats will also host Baldwin on Thursday. Both matches are slated to begin at 6 p.m.

“Tonganoxie is a well-coached team that is going to play really hard,” Conley said. “They will play pretty direct and we will have to adjust that style of play.”

Thursday will be the Wildcats’ cancer awareness match as both Baldwin and Louisburg will be dressed out in special pink kits for the occasion.

Louisburg rallies to tie Baldwin

Louisburg took its perfect season on the road last Tuesday when it traveled to Baldwin and left there without a loss – but it wasn’t a win either.

Baldwin scored twice – once in each half – but the Wildcats were able to answer within minutes each time as they rallied for a 2-2 tie at Baldwin High School.

“Playing

at Baldwin always provides some interesting intangibles," Louisburg coach Kyle
Conley said. "Varsity plays first, which messes with a routine. On top of that,
the field was an absolute swamp. With our style of play, it made it very
difficult to keep and possess the ball when you were playing on slop. The field
conditions didn't affect Baldwin's play as much because of how direct they
play.

"I
really did like the boys' ability to fight back and overcome the deficits we
faced. As I told the boys, I felt that we did not play our best and we
struggled to capitalize on our opportunities. I think the playing surface had a
lot to do with that."

After
Baldwin took a 1-0 advantage midway through the first half, the Wildcats
answered two minutes later as freshman Colin McManigal crossed the ball into
the box and Logan Faulkner beat the Bulldog goalie to the ball and put it in.



Junior Ethan Showalter battles a Baldwin player for a 50-50 ball last Tuesday.

The
second half was much like the first as Baldwin took the lead, but Louisburg
answered again when freshman Cade Gassman had a one-on-one with the goalie and
flicked it past him to tie it at two.

The match went two overtimes, and each team had opportunities, but neither could find the back of the net.

Goalie
Garrett Rolofson had six saves on the day for Louisburg, while McManigal,
Gassman, Faulkner, Treston Carlson, Ethan Showalter and Braden Yows all had

shots on goal for the Wildcats.

KSHSAA releases classifications for 2019-20 school year

The Kansas State High School Activities Association released its classifications for the 2019-20 school year, along with the football classifications for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 seasons.

There were a few changes in both areas, but more so on the football side.

Football classifications are determined based on enrollment figures in ninth, 10th and 11th grade. Louisburg is still in 4A with 432 students and is toward the lower half of the classification.

Entering Class 4A beginning in the 2020 school year will be St. James Academy, Lansing and Great Bend, who have all moved down from Class 5A. Wamego also made the jump back in from Class 3A.

Kansas State High School Activities Association

Football Classifications and Enrollments-Descending Order 2020 & 2021

Enrollment figures are based on ninth, tenth and eleventh grades only.
Enrollment figures are as of September 20, 2019.

6A

Member Schools - 32
Range: 1854 - 1092

Wichita-East	1854
Wichita-North	1691
Wichita-Southeast	1662
Derby	1638
Garden City	1560
Dodge City	1533
Olathe South	1503
Olathe East	1477
Olathe North	1469
Topeka-Washburn Rural	1449
Wichita-South	1438
Lawrence-Free State	1411
Manhattan	1402
Topeka	1364
Olathe Northwest	1356
Kansas City-Wyandotte	1355
SM East	1353
Gardner-Edgerton	1325
Haysville Campus	1297
SM West	1277
SM Northwest	1266
Olathe West	1256
OP-Blue Valley Northwest	1233
SM North	1226
Lawrence	1221
OP-Blue Valley	1182
OP-Blue Valley West	1182
Junction City	1136
Wichita-West	1129
Kansas City-JC Harmon	1110
SM South	1106
OP-Blue Valley North	1092

5A

Member Schools - 32
Range: 1083 - 655

Liberal	1083
Hutchinson	1049
Wichita-Heights	1045
Shawnee-Mill Valley	982
Leavenworth	977
Wichita-Northwest	970
Emporia	949
Kansas City-Turner	902
Wichita-Bishop Carroll	890
Topeka West	882
Topeka-Seaman	881
Tecumseh-Shawnee Heights	876
Maize	871
Kansas City-Washington	850
Maize South	842
OP-Blue Valley Southwest	811
Salina-South	800
Newton	788
De Soto	758
Salina-Central	758
Topeka-Highland Park	757
Andover	733
Goddard-Eisenhower	725
Valley Center	699
Kansas City-Sumner Acad.	698
OP-St. Thomas Aquinas	693
Wichita-Kapaun Mt. Carmel	693
Pittsburg	691
Hays	687
Kansas City-FL Schlagle	687
Spring Hill	668
Goddard	655

4A

Member Schools - 32
Range: 654 - 340

Lansing	654
Great Bend	651
Lenexa-St. James Academy	649
Bonner Springs	640
Arkansas City	620
Andover Central	608
Basehor-Linwood	587
McPherson	535
Kansas City-Piper	518
Ottawa	507
Buhler	497
SM-Bishop Miege	493
Augusta	491
Winfield	472
Tonganoxie	471
Independence	461
Chanute	452
Paola	447
Fort Scott	434
Louisburg	432
Towanda-Circle	429
Coffeyville-Field Kindley	409
El Dorado	400
Eudora	391
Rose Hill	381
Altamont-Labette County	377
Mulvane	375
Atchison	355
Abilene	352
Wamego	351
Wellington	345
Ulysses	340

3A

Member Schools - 48
Range: 324 - 168

Baldwin	324
Topeka-Hayden	314
Parsons	286
Andale	279
Pratt	275
Clearwater	266
Iola	256
Girard	252
Nickerson	252
Clay Center Community	247
Holton	242
Concordia	241
Kansas City-Bishop Ward	240
Garnett-Anderson County	234
Chapman	224
St. George-Rock Creek	224
Baxter Springs	223
Osawatomie	221
Columbus	220
Carbondale-Santa Fe Trail	217
Wichita-Trinity Academy	217
Hoyt-Royal Valley	216
Hugoton	216
LaCygne-Prairie View	214
Hiawatha	213
Frontenac	211
Meriden-Jefferson West	211
Holcomb	210
Burlington	203
Hesston	202
Colby	201
Wichita Collegiate	201
Lindsborg-Smoky Valley	200
Galena	199
Scott Community	198
Caney Valley	192
Perry-Lecompton	192
Larned	188
Cherryvale	186
Marysville	183
Cheney	182
Goodland	182
Riley County	182
Russell	181
Council Grove	180
Sabetha	173
Gypsum-Southeast of Saline	171
Halstead	168

* ***Note: Per classification Rule 5-2-2, enrollment ties are broken by using the previous classification cycle count.***

2A

Schools - 48
Range: 168 - 112

Cimarron	168
Lyons	168
Wellsville	167
Haven	166
Hoisington	162
Osage City	161
Seneca-Nemaha Central	161
Fredonia	159
Silver Lake	158
Easton-Pleasant Ridge	156
Riverton	155
Neodesha	153
Norton Community	153
Beloit	150
Anthony/Harper-Chaparral	148
Kingman	148
Eureka	147
Pomona-West Franklin	144
Douglass	142
Kismet-Southwestern Hts.	141
Lakin	141
St. Marys	141
Hays-TMP-Marian	140
Oskaloosa	140
Minneapolis	139
Ellsworth	137
Atchison-Maur Hill-Mt Acad.	135
Rossville	135
Effingham-Atchinson Co Comm.	130
Erie	130
Hillsboro	129
Humboldt	129
Mound City-Jayhawk Linn	128
Phillipsburg	128
Wathena-Riverside	127
Belle Plaine	124
Syracuse	121
Garden Plain	120
Ellis	119
Cherokee-Southeast	118
Belleville-Republic County	117
McLouth	117
Eskridge-Mission Valley	116
Hutchinson-Trinity Catholic	116
Leon-Bluestem	112
Marion	112
Pittsburg-St. Mary's Colgan	112
Sterling	112

1A

Schools - 28
Range: 111 - 62

Whitewater-Remington	111
Conway Springs	110
Horton	110
Sedgwick	108
Arma-Northeast	106
Brookville-Ell-Saline	106
Richmond-Central Heights	106
Wabaunsee	105
Wichita-The Independent	102
Lyndon	99
Sublette	99
Ellinwood	98
Oakley	98
Salina-Sacred Heart	98
Uniontown	98
Johnson-Stanton County	96
Winchester-Jefferson Co. North	94
Inman	93
Elkhart	90
Plainville	89
Pleasanton	86
Allen-Northern Heights	85
Blue Rapids-Valley Heights	82
Smith Center	82
Holton-Jackson Heights	78
Troy	70
Olpe	69
Centralia	62

8-Player Division I

Schools - 48
Range: 98 - 66

Herington	98
Bennington	97
Hoxie	97
Yates Center	96
Medicine Lodge	95
Hill City	94
Howard-West Elk	93
Pratt-Skyline	93
Leoti-Wichita County	90
Spearville	90
WaKeeney-Trego Community	89
Moundridge	88
Sedan	88
Cottonwood Falls-Chase Co.	84
Stockton	84
Attica/Argonia	82
Valley Falls	82
Burlingame	80
Canton-Galva	79
Goessel	79
Meade	79
Ness City	79
Washington County	79
Little River	78
Shawnee-Maranatha Christian Academy	77
Cedar Vale/ Dexter	76
Burden-Central	75
Langdon-Fairfield	75
Madison/Hamilton	75
Solomon	75
Udall	74
Atwood-Rawlins County	72
Highland-Doniphan West	72
La Crosse	72
Oswego	72
Kinsley	71
Clyde-Clifton Clyde	70
Oberlin-Decatur Community	70
Rosalia-Flinthills	70
Jetmore-Hodgeman County	69
Lincoln	69
Macksville	69
Oxford	69
Moran-Marmaton Valley	68
Greensburg-Kiowa County	67
St. John-Hudson	67
Montezuma-South Gray	66
Pretty Prairie	66

8-Player Division II

Schools - 52
Range: 66 - 29

Sylvan-Lucas Unified	66
Rural Vista *(White City / Hope)*	65
Peabody-Burns	64
Bucklin	61
Minneola	61
Victoria	61
Caldwell	60
Satanta	60
Kensington-Thunder Ridge	59
Onaga	59
Downs-Lakeside	58
Mankato-Rock Hills	58
Coldwater-South Central	57
Lebo	57
Quinter	57
Beloit-St. John's/Tipton	54
Osborne	54
South Haven	53
Wakefield	52
Hutchinson-Central Christian	51
Ingalls	51
Sharon Springs-Wallace Co.	51
St. Francis	51
St. Paul	51
Claflin-Central Plains	50
Hartford	50
Norwich	50
Scandia-Pike Valley	50
Colony-Crest	49
Frankfort	49
Melvern-MDCV	49
Buffalo-Altoona Midway	48
Dighton	48
Hanover	47
Leroy-Southern Coffey Co.	47
Chetopa	46
Logan/Palco	46
Lost Springs-Centre	46
Otis-Bison	46
Linn	43
Waverly	42
Southern Cloud *(Miltonvale / Glasco)*	40
Stafford	40
Wetmore	39
Grainfield-Wheatland/Grinnell	38
Randolph-Blue Valley	38
Kiowa-South Barber	37
Winona-Triplains/Brewster	36
Chase	33
Axtell	30
Tescott	30
Wilson	29

Printing Department

Goddard, Pittsburg and Spring Hill all saw their enrollment grow and will be moving up from 4A to 5A next year. Baldwin

saw their enrollment decline and will move down to Class 3A in football the next two years.

In the rest of the sports, not much changed with regards to Class 4A for this year.

Enrollment figures for all grades in Louisburg this year is 573, which puts the school in the upper half of Class 4A. The biggest school is Buhler with 661 and Bishop Miege is the second biggest at 656 and Ottawa is third at 653.



2019-2020 Classifications and Enrollments

Enrollment figures as of September 20, 2019 based on ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades.

Note: Schools are listed in descending order

↑School Moved Up in Class
↓School Moved Down in Class

Printable View Sort By School

6A		5A		4A	
Member Schools: 36		**Member Schools: 36**		**Member Schools: 36**	
Range: 2431-1312		**Range: 1305-710**		**Range: 661-312**	
Wichita-East HS	2431	↓Leavenworth HS	1305	Buhler HS	661
Wichita-North HS	2190	Wichita-Northwest HS	1260	Shawnee Mission-Bishop Miege HS	656
Wichita-Southeast HS	2164	Emporia HS	1245	Ottawa HS	653
Derby HS	2105	Maize HS	1194	Winfield HS	642
Dodge City HS	2010	Wichita-Bishop Carroll HS	1153	Kansas City-Piper HS	638
Olathe South HS	2005	Topeka-Seaman HS	1150	Augusta HS	632
Garden City HS	1985	Topeka West HS	1146	Paola HS	603
Olathe North HS	1976	Tecumseh-Shawnee Heights HS	1131	Tonganoxie HS	599
Topeka-Washburn Rural HS	1933	Overland Park-Blue Valley Southwest HS	1089	Fort Scott HS	592
Olathe East HS	1927	Kansas City-Washington HS	1084	Chanute HS	584
Olathe Northwest HS	1880	Kansas City-Turner HS	1076	Independence HS	581
Lawrence-Free State HS	1855	Maize South HS	1060	Louisburg HS	573
Wichita-South HS	1852	Salina-South HS	1046	Towanda-Circle HS	562
Manhattan HS	1823	Newton HS	1044	Coffeyville-Field Kindley HS	531
Shawnee Mission East HS	1758	Salina-Central HS	1001	El Dorado HS	528
Gardner-Edgerton HS	1729	De Soto HS	992	Mulvane HS	520
Topeka HS	1728	Andover HS	959	Eudora HS	493
Wichita-Haysville Campus HS	1712	Topeka-Highland Park HS	959	Altamont-Labette County HS	490
Shawnee Mission West HS	1638	Goddard-Eisenhower HS	952	Rose Hill HS	485
Kansas City-Wyandotte HS	1637	Overland Park-St. Thomas Aquinas HS	925	Atchison HS	472
Shawnee Mission Northwest HS	1624	Kansas City-FL Schlagle HS	909	Wellington HS	465
Overland Park-Blue Valley Northwest HS	1619	Valley Center HS	904	Abilene HS	460
Lawrence HS	1601	Lenexa-St. James Academy	902	Wamego HS	446
Overland Park-Blue Valley HS	1600	Great Bend HS	884	Ulysses HS	433
Overland Park-Blue Valley West HS	1582	Wichita-Kapaun Mt. Carmel HS	880	Baldwin HS	421
Shawnee Mission North HS	1557	Kansas City-Sumner Academy	871	Topeka-Hayden HS	408
Olathe West HS	1535	Pittsburg HS	867	Andale HS	375
Overland Park-Blue Valley North HS	1498	Hays HS	863	Clearwater HS	367
Shawnee Mission South HS	1469	Lansing HS	859	Parsons HS	363
Junction City HS	1440	Goddard HS	848	Pratt HS	355
Wichita-West HS	1421	Spring Hill HS	825	Iola HS	339
Kansas City-JC Harmon HS	1399	Andover Central HS	810	Nickerson HS	323
Hutchinson HS	1386	Bonner Springs HS	793	↑Holton HS	322
Liberal HS	1371	Basehor-Linwood HS	791	↑Girard HS	315
↑Wichita-Heights HS	1357	Arkansas City HS	765	Chapman HS	314
Shawnee-Mill Valley HS	1312	McPherson HS	710	↑Clay Center Community HS	312

3A

Member Schools: 64

Range: 305-172

↓Garnett-Anderson County HS	305
Concordia HS	303
↓Wichita-Trinity Academy	303
Kansas City-Bishop Ward HS	300
Columbus HS	296
↓Osawatomie HS	296
St. George-Rock Creek HS	294
Baxter Springs HS	286
Carbondale-Santa Fe Trail HS	286
Hoyt-Royal Valley HS	283
Hugoton HS	280
Hesston HS	279
Frontenac HS	276
Meriden-Jefferson West HS	275
Hiawatha HS	273
Galena HS	270
LaCygne-Prairie View HS	270
Holcomb HS	266
Marysville HS	266
Wichita Collegiate HS	266
Scott Community HS	265
Caney Valley HS	263
Lindsborg-Smoky Valley HS	263
Colby HS	262
Burlington HS	260
Perry-Lecompton HS	252
Goodland HS	246
Wellsville HS	243
Larned HS	242
Russell HS	239
Cheney HS	238
Sabetha HS	237
Riley County HS	231
Council Grove HS	229
Cherryvale HS	225
Gypsum-Southeast of Saline HS	223
Halstead HS	221
Haven HS	220
Riverton HS	214
Fredonia HS	213
Lyons HS	213
Silver Lake HS	213
Beloit HS	212
Seneca-Nemaha Central HS	210
Cimarron HS	207
Hoisington HS	205
Norton Community HS	204
Osage City HS	204
Easton-Pleasant Ridge HS	203
Kingman HS	202
Neodesha HS	200
Anthony/Harper-Chaparral HS	199
Pomona-West Franklin HS	192
Kismet-Southwestern Heights HS	190
Eureka HS	188
↑Lakin HS	185
Atchison-Maur Hill-Mount Academy	184
Minneapolis HS	184
Hays-Thomas More Prep-Marian HS	182
St. Marys HS	182
Douglass HS	178
↑Effingham-Atchison Co Community HS	174
↑Humboldt HS	174
Phillipsburg HS	172

2A

Member Schools: 64

Range: 171-109

Mound City-Jayhawk Linn HS	171
Oskaloosa HS	171
↓Belle Plaine HS	170
Rossville HS	169
Ellsworth HS	168
↓Erie HS	166
↓Wathena-Riverside HS	164
Conway Springs HS	160
Belleville-Republic County HS	158
Garden Plain HS	158
Hutchinson-Trinity Catholic HS	158
Cherokee-Southeast HS	157
Eskridge-Mission Valley HS	156
Arma-Northeast HS	155
Hillsboro HS	155
Olathe-Heritage Christian Academy	155
Ellis HS	154
Syracuse HS	153
McLouth HS	152
Whitewater-Remington HS	152
Horton HS	150
Sterling HS	147
Marion HS	146
Leon-Bluestem HS	144
Wichita-The Independent HS	142
Richmond-Central Heights HS	141
Sedgwick HS	140
Alma-Wabaunsee HS	139
Brookville-Ell-Saline HS	139
Pittsburg-St. Mary's Colgan HS	139
Prairie Village-Kansas City Christian HS	136
Medicine Lodge HS	134
Lawrence-Bishop Seabury Academy	132
Salina-Sacred Heart HS	131
Winchester-Jefferson County North HS	130
Bennington HS	128
Johnson-Stanton County HS	128
Lyndon HS	127
Oakley HS	127
Plainville HS	127
Sublette HS	127
Inman HS	126
Yates Center HS	126
Ellinwood HS	124
Pratt-Skyline HS	123
WaKeeney-Trego Community HS	122
Uniontown HS	120
Herington HS	119
Smith Center HS	119
Pleasanton HS	118
Elkhart HS	117
↑Hill City HS	117
Hoxie HS	116
Allen-Northern Heights HS	115
Howard-West Elk HS	115
↑Sedan HS	114
↑Cottonwood Falls-Chase County HS	113
Holton-Jackson Heights HS	113
Canton-Galva HS	112
Blue Rapids-Valley Heights HS	110
↑Moundridge HS	110
Shawnee-Maranatha Christian Academy	110
Leoti-Wichita County HS	109
↑Spearville HS	109

1A

Member Schools: 117

Range: 108-14

Stockton HS	108
Elbing-Berean Academy	105
Little River HS	105
↓Meade HS	103
↓Ness City HS	103
Washington County HS	103
Udall HS	102
↓Goessel HS	101
Valley Falls HS	101
↓Oswego HS	98
Burden-Central HS	97
Troy HS	97
Macksville HS	96
Atwood-Rawlins County HS	95
Rosalia-Flinthills HS	95
La Crosse HS	94
Solomon HS	93
Burlingame HS	92
Lincoln HS	92
↓Oberlin-Decatur Community HS	91
Oxford HS	91
St. John-Hudson HS	91
Clyde-Clifton Clyde HS	90
Jetmore-Hodgeman County HS	90
Peabody-Burns HS	90
Kinsley HS	89
Langdon-Fairfield HS	89
Highland-Doniphan West HS	87
Olpe HS	87
Centralia HS	86
Montezuma-South Gray HS	86
Moran-Marmaton Valley HS	86
Greensburg-Kiowa County HS	85
Wichita-Classical School Of Wichita	83
Onaga HS	82
Caldwell HS	80
Lebo HS	79
Minneola HS	79
Bucklin HS	78
Pretty Prairie HS	78
Sylvan-Lucas Unified HS	78
Norwich HS	77
Victoria HS	77
Coldwater-South Central HS	76
Mankato-Rock Hills HS	76
Satanta HS	76
Kensington-Thunder Ridge HS	75
Osborne HS	75
Madison HS	74
Dexter HS	72
Hanover HS	71
Burrton HS	70
Hutchinson-Central Christian HS	69
St. Francis HS	69
Ingalls HS	68
McPherson-Elyria Christian HS	68
Downs-Lakeside HS	67
Wakefield HS	67
Hartford HS	66
Quinter HS	66
Dighton HS	65
Frankfort HS	65
Melvern-Marais Des Cygnes Valley HS	65
St. Paul HS	65
Claflin-Central Plains HS	64
Colony-Crest HS	63
Randolph-Blue Valley HS	63
Scandia-Pike Valley HS	63
Lost Springs-Centre HS	62
South Haven HS	62
Rexford-Golden Plains HS	61
Chetopa HS	60
Sharon Springs-Wallace County HS	60
Buffalo-Altoona Midway HS	59
Leroy-Southern Coffey County HS	58
Otis-Bison HS	58
Grainfield-Wheatland/Grinnell HS	57
Stafford HS	57
Ashland HS	56
Linn HS	56
Tribune-Greeley County HS	55
Beloit-St. John's HS	54
Waverly HS	54
Wetmore HS	51
Attica HS	50
Deerfield HS	49
Argonia HS	48
Cunningham HS	48
Kiowa-South Barber HS	48
Rolla HS	46
Moscow HS	45
Axtell HS	42
Bird City-Cheylin HS	42
Chase HS	42
Hope HS	42
Cedar Vale HS	40
Rozel-Pawnee Heights HS	40
Tescott HS	40
Wichita-Central Christian Academy	40
Almena-Northern Valley HS	39
White City HS	39
Logan HS	38
Wilson HS	35
Fowler HS	32
Natoma HS	30
Ransom-Western Plains HS	29
Weskan HS	29
Brewster HS	28
Palco HS	28
Glasco HS	27
Longton-Elk Valley HS	26
Hamilton HS	25
Miltonvale HS	22

Three schools will make the move up to Class 4A this year. Clay Center, Girard and Holton all saw their enrollment increase and will come back to 4A, while Osawatomie, Anderson County and Wichita-Trinity Academy will move out of 4A to 3A this year.

Wildcats score two second half goals to down Spring Hill



Louisburg freshman Cade Gassman celebrates after scoring the go-ahead goal Thursday against Spring Hill in the Wildcats' 2-1 victory.

There have been a few moments during the Louisburg boys soccer team's winning streak where the result always hasn't been crystal clear.

Thursday brought ones of those moments.

The Wildcats hosted Spring Hill in a Frontier League match and they found themselves down a goal in the second half. Louisburg put together several chances on goal, but had no luck – that is

until midway in the second half.

Louisburg struck twice in a matter of 10 minutes as the Wildcats rallied to a 2-1 victory over the Broncos. The win improved their record to 7-0 on the season as the Wildcats sit atop the league standings.

It was also the third victory for Louisburg in a four-day span as the Wildcats defeated Bishop Ward and Lansing earlier in the week.

“It was a great week winning 3 games in four days against the type of teams that were on our schedule,” Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. “We played hard and overcame the extreme heat to have success. I think our fitness and depth proved very beneficial over these past four days. The boys found a way to get positive results and to play for each other. It was a great watching the boys play with so much heart and passion.”

Spring Hill struck first early in the first half. A miscue by the Wildcat defense allowed the Broncos to score in the opening minutes, but Louisburg tightened up its back line and the Broncos had limited chances the rest of the way.

“We only gave up three shots the whole night, but that was one that was way too easy,” Conley said. “The boys knew we had the better of play in the first half and we were getting

plenty of chances.
I feel that they just needed to get some confidence and then they would be able
to break down Spring Hill. We had a lot of chances and did a nice job of
moving the ball and attacking.”



Treston Carlson heads the ball away from the Spring Hill defense Thursday in Louisburg.

That confidence boost came with 27
minutes left in the match when sophomore Braden Yows scored to tie the match
and was one of eight shots on goal for Louisburg.

Ten minutes later, the Wildcats jumped in
front as Yows sent a pass to freshman Cade Gassman, who calmly hit a slow
roller that caught the Spring Hill goalie out of place and found the back of the

net.

“Braden
and Cade have played really well this year,” Conley said. “They keep creating,
moving and causing so many problems for our opponents. It’s really nice when
teams try to take one of our players away, because we have a different one step
up each night. This group is really playing well and playing for each other.
They feed off of the others success.”

Senior
goalie Garrett Rolofson finished the night with just two saves as the Wildcat
defense held strong and didn’t let Spring Hill have many opportunities.



The Louisburg boys soccer team celebrates with its fans

following the Wildcats' 2-1 victory Thursday.
The Wildcats will try and keep their winning streak going when they travel to Baldwin today for a road contest. Varsity is set to play at 4 p.m.

"Baldwin is a fantastic team and plays
really hard," Conley said. "They play the game the right way and do a nice job
of attacking and taking what the other team gives them. It will be a great
match up and should be a lot of fun to watch."

Wildcats stay perfect with comeback win over Bishop Ward



Louisburg goalie Garrett Rolofson slides in for a save Tuesday during the Wildcats' match at Bishop Ward.

The Louisburg boys soccer team has experienced a lot during this winning streak to start their season, and the Wildcats have had to overcome some adversity along the way.

That was true Tuesday when
Louisburg traveled to Bishop Ward and found itself down a goal at halftime and
its perfect season was in jeopardy. Like before, the Wildcats figured out a way

to clear those obstacles.

Louisburg got two second half goals from freshman Cade Gassman, and junior Logan Faulkner scored the go-ahead goal in the Wildcats' 3-1 victory over Bishop Ward. The Wildcats now have a six-game winning streak to start the year and picked up their second win in as many days.

"The boys played so hard the second half," Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. "We just struggled to have that fire and energy that we usually play with in the first half. I'm not sure if it was the environment, playing the night before or what.

"The Bishop Ward game was physical and we struggled to respond right way. It seemed like after the red card, the boys responded and played extremely hard. We played for each other and picked our intensity up."

Louisburg (6-0) faced even more adversity later in the game when Conley was given two yellow cards, which turned into a red card, and he was forced to leave the match.

His players certainly responded in his absence as they tied the match early in the second half as Gassman blasted a shot from 15 yards away that found the back of the net and gave the Wildcats the momentum they were looking for.

With 20 minutes left in the match, Faulkner put the Wildcats up for good with a goal in a scrum in front of the net. Gassman iced the match with a penalty kick with five

seconds left to give
Louisburg its sixth consecutive win.



Cade Gassman battles a Bishop Ward defender for a 50-50 ball Tuesday at Bishop Ward.

“Cade
has been doing really well and is starting to get some of that chemistry with
Braden (Yows) and Treston (Carlson),” Conley said. “They are working really
well together and the boys are playing really creative soccer. I couldn’t be
happier with their development thus far. Cade is consistently working to get
better each and every day. It is paying off for him right now.”

Senior

goalie Garrett Rolofson finished the night with six saves as the Wildcat defense tightened up as the game went along after giving up a goal in the early stages of the first half.

Louisburg will try to avoid its first loss of the season tonight when it hosts Spring Hill in a Frontier League dual. Varsity is set to begin at 6 p.m. at the Wildcat Stadium Complex.

“Man, Spring Hill is always so good,” Conley said. “Our games are always intense and have an incredible atmosphere. I think the boys are ready for it and it should be a really good one. Both teams are playing really, really well right now.”

LOUISBURG SHUTS OUT LANSING ON ROAD

Louisburg had a difficult task ahead of itself Monday when it had to travel to square off with Lansing – a Class 5A program.

The Wildcats didn’t have much of a problem as they controlled possession from the start and never looked back in a 2-0 result.

Junior Treston Carlson gave Louisburg a 1-0 lead before halftime and then sophomore Braden Yows sealed the win with a goal in the second half. Freshman Cade Gassman added

an assist, while senior goalie Garrett Rolofson notched another shutout.

“The Lansing game was extremely intense and very physical,” Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. “We had a ridiculous amount of shots, but just couldn’t score. We did a great job of keeping the ball and possessing. I was very excited how our boys fought and played. They are starting to figure out how I want us to play the game. This team is going to be a lot of fun if they keep learning and improving.”

Louisburg had plenty of chances to make it an even larger score with 13 shots on goal, including five from Yows. Logan Faulkner had three attempts, while Colin Cook, Gassman, Jaden Vohs and Gavin York also had looks at the net.

Wildcats remain unbeaten with win over Bonner Springs



Louisburg defender Michael Seuferling stretches out to knock the ball away from a Bonner Springs player Thursday in Louisburg.

It could have easily been a frustrating day for the Louisburg boys soccer team.

On Thursday, the Wildcats hosted Bonner Springs and had to wait almost 90 minutes before playing the match due to inclement weather. Then when it did get underway, the Braves deployed a defense that slowed down the Wildcat attack.

Despite all that, Louisburg came away with its fourth consecutive win and was able to squeeze in a 2-0 victory in between a pair of rain showers.

"I felt the boys handled the hour and a half weather delay about as good as they could," Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. "They came out ready to go and played with a lot of pressure from the start. It is fun watching how this team grows each and every game. This group has a tremendous work ethic."

The work ethic was on display early on as the Wildcats put pressure on the Bonner Springs back line with 17 shots on goal for the game, including seven each from junior Treston Carlson and sophomore Braden Yows, two from freshman Cade Gassman and another from freshman Gavin York.

Bonner Springs' defense did frustrate the Wildcats at times as they made several runs at the goal, with not a lot to show for it. The result still

ended in a pair of
Carlson goals – one in each half – that was more than enough to get the
victory.

“It
did add some frustration, but that happens when a team puts so many people
behind the ball like Bonner Springs does,” Conley said. “They were organized
defensively, and were tough to breakdown. I felt we did leave a lot of chances
off the board, but the boys kept attacking.

“Treston
did a great job and has been improving each and every game. He has been
determined this off season to get better and it is paying dividends this season
so far.”



Junior Ethan Showalter heads the ball away Thursday during the Wildcats' 2-0 home victory over the Braves.

Senior goalie Garrett Rolofson earned his third shutout of the season as he finished the night with four saves, while the backline of Toby Espina Roca, Will Frank, Michael Seuferling and Luke Faulkner, along with midfielders Ethan Showalter and Hunter Rogers, prevented Bonner Springs from getting many good looks on goal.

The Wildcats (4-0) still have yet
to lose this season and have done so without two of its senior starters – Ryan Haight
and Landon Johnson – who are out with injuries, but hope to be back in the next
couple of weeks. Still, Conley has liked what he has seen out of his young
team.

“We focused on getting back to doing things the way we did in the past,” Conley said. “The boys bought into that from day one in the summer. I am extremely excited for this team and how this team has been evolving. They play so hard and with such passion, it is truly a lot of fun to come to training each and every day. We have our team goals and this groups is determined to meet them.”

Louisburg will have a busy week as the Wildcats will play three matches in a four-day span. It all begins today when they travel to Lansing for a 6 p.m. start.

The Wildcats will travel to Bishop Ward on Tuesday and then will host Spring Hill on Thursday. Both matches also begin at 6 p.m.

“We will need to focus on each game, one at a time,” Conley said. “It is going to be a tough week, but we will be focused and prepared. It will be essential that our execution and communication is better.”

Frontier League sends proposal to KSHSAA to separate private schools

A big change to the Kansas High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) postseason could be coming sooner rather than later if a proposal, submitted by the Frontier League, passes the KSHSAA Board of Directors and its member schools.

Last month the Frontier League, led by Paola High School principal Jeff Hines and Louisburg superintendent Dr. Brian Biermann, petitioned KSHSAA to separate public and private schools into their own postseason competitions.

In order for it pass, the petition must be signed by 20 percent of the 355 member schools according to KSHSAA bi-laws. The Frontier League got the 71 needed petitions and have now submitted this to appear in front of the KSHSAA Board of Directors for vote in their Sept. 18 meeting.

The board of directors would then have to pass it by simple majority of those in attendance to bring the proposal to a vote from all the member schools.

“Kansas needs to catch up with the rest of the country and get this competitive imbalance under control in our state,” Hines said. “The longer we wait then more students

will be negatively impacted. We have a responsibility as educators to create the best opportunities possible for our students. No one can honestly say we have the best system possible right now. It can definitely be improved."

The proposal submitted by the Frontier League is the same one the state of Texas uses that keeps the schools in their same classification, but only separates the schools come postseason.

Other options were discussed before submitting the proposal, such as implementing a multiplier on all private schools like Missouri currently does. In fact, it is the most popular proposal among the schools that were surveyed by Hines last January.

They also talked about the "Oklahoma model" where schools are bumped up a classification based on success for competitive balance.

Seventy-four percent of the schools said they would support a population multiplier, 64 percent would support competitive balance factors and 51 percent would support separate divisions.

However, KSHSAA would not be able to make this change with a multiplier due to state statute K.S.A. 72-130 that states a high school association "must establish a system of classification of

member high schools according to student attendance.”

KSHSAA would not be able to pass a new bi-law that goes against state statute, and therefore, the Kansas State Legislature would have reword the statue to allow the association to make those changes.

The Frontier League believes the Texas model, or separate postseason divisions, does not deal with classifications. Also, this model had more support from 5A and 6A schools as neither classification would likely vote for a multiplier.

“We don’t view that as a classification decision as we are not affecting classification, but KSHSAA and their lawyers view that it is,” Biermann said. “5A and 6A schools that we talked to really wanted us to push for the Texas model because they don’t want to play them (private schools) either. The biggest thing for me is if 5 and 6A schools don’t want to play them, then why do we? As a superintendent, I am supposed to create opportunities for kids. We had four teams last year in both soccer teams, football and volleyball that all saw their season end to Bishop Miege. It is not right that we have kids and coaches that work their tails off and they don’t have the opportunity to win.

“Am I all about state championships? Absolutely not. But we also know the reality of it in the current system. Winning state championships is important for communities and is always a goal. I am not ever going to give up on this idea and neither will the Frontier League.”

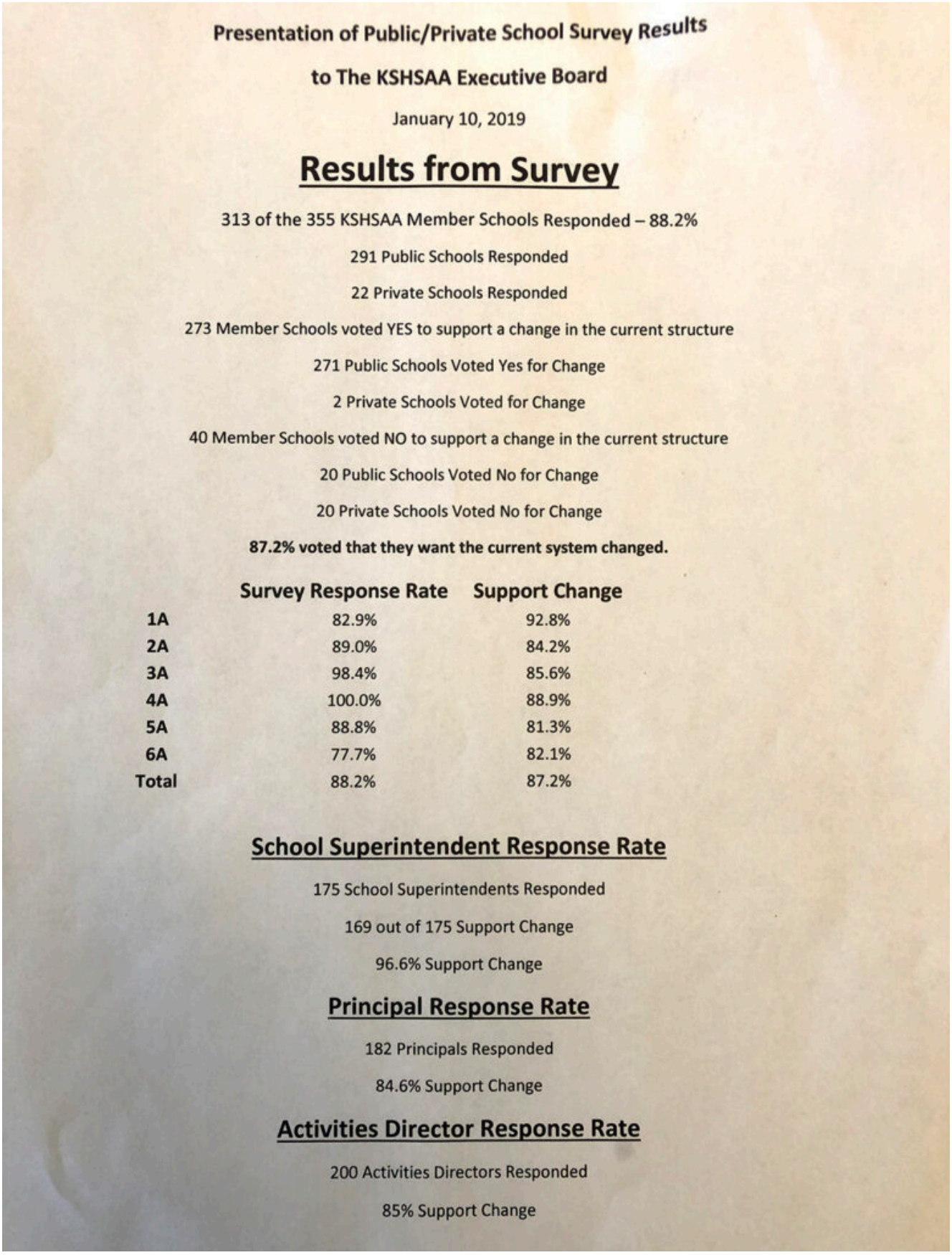
The public versus private school debate has been going on for the last several years and Hines

has been leading
the charge since 2015 when he put together a study that displayed the disparity
of state championships won by private schools.

In 2018-19, private schools won 32
percent of the state championships in Classes 5A through 1A. There are currently
no private schools in 6A. Twenty-one of those 24 state titles were won by
private schools in Class 4A and 5A.

That is a high number considering
that out of the 355 member schools, only 27 of them are private.

The Frontier League wanted to see change, so Hines surveyed the 355 member schools late last year and presented his findings to KSHSAA in January. More than 88 percent of the schools responded, that included 22 private institutions, and 87 percent said they want the current system changed.



Presentation of Public/Private School Survey Results

to The KSHSAA Executive Board

January 10, 2019

Results from Survey

313 of the 355 KSHSAA Member Schools Responded – 88.2%

291 Public Schools Responded

22 Private Schools Responded

273 Member Schools voted YES to support a change in the current structure

271 Public Schools Voted Yes for Change

2 Private Schools Voted for Change

40 Member Schools voted NO to support a change in the current structure

20 Public Schools Voted No for Change

20 Private Schools Voted No for Change

87.2% voted that they want the current system changed.

	Survey Response Rate	Support Change
1A	82.9%	92.8%
2A	89.0%	84.2%
3A	98.4%	85.6%
4A	100.0%	88.9%
5A	88.8%	81.3%
6A	77.7%	82.1%
Total	88.2%	87.2%

School Superintendent Response Rate

175 School Superintendents Responded

169 out of 175 Support Change

96.6% Support Change

Principal Response Rate

182 Principals Responded

84.6% Support Change

Activities Director Response Rate

200 Activities Directors Responded

85% Support Change

Although most schools said they would support the multiplier model more, Hines and the rest of the league schools, believe it is the best way to proceed at this time.

“Our survey indicated that separate divisions was the least popular option among member schools, however as a league we feel like it is the most appropriate option,” Hines said. “A multiplier will pass through and will be our next option if this does not go through. A multiplier will impact many private schools that are not quasi sports academies that are not very successful in athletics. The separate divisions avoids this situation.”

If the proposal does pass the board of directors, KSHSAA will then put it to a vote with all 355 member schools and it must pass by a simple majority and by four of the six classes.

From there, KSHSAA executive director Bill Faflick would take it to the Kansas Legislature before change could be implemented.

“We know it won’t happen overnight,” Biermann said. “Even if this passes, nothing will change this year and probably not the following year. It could be three years out with the way football schedules take shape. We are honestly ok with that if we knew that there was light at the end of the tunnel. If this would not pass, we would turn right around and do the multiplier one.”

Despite what happens at the

upcoming board of directors meeting, Hines believes changes to the system will
happen sooner rather than later.

“I am now confident something will get done,” Hines said. “I think it will ultimately take a multiplier to get something done. If the
separate divisions fails then we will propose a multiplier for the spring board
of directors meeting.”

A lot of obstacles are still in the way for change to happen, whether it has to deal with state statues or member votes, but none of the schools in the nine-member Frontier League are going to stop until they see a more even playing field.

“I am very proud of the Frontier League, and even though we compete against each other, we are very unified on this,” Biermann said. “It is about fairness and equality and I am tired of having my kids at Louisburg High School not having the same opportunity as some others. The throttle is down and it is going to stay down.”

Wildcats stay unbeaten with road win at Basehor-Linwood



Louisburg sophomore Hunter Rogers makes a pass to a Wildcat

teammate Tuesday at Basehor-Linwood High School.

BASEHOR – A pair of contrasting styles was on display Tuesday at Basehor-Linwood High School as a smaller and quicker Louisburg team squared off with a big and physical Basehor-Linwood squad.

Speed won out this time around.

Louisburg scored a pair of first half goals and never looked back in a 3-0 shutout of Basehor-Linwood and the Wildcats have yet to lose as they are now 3-0 on the season.

“We just needed play quicker so they couldn’t come get to us,” Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. “We struggled a little bit with that early, but we started to play the ball quicker, moving it quicker and then they had to chase us. If you try to play physical with a team that is twice our size, we are obviously going to lose that match. It was good for our boys to realize what our advantage was and to take advantage of that.

“Basehor is a big, strong and talented team and they have a relentless attack. They are really good and I think we held up strong back there.”

The Wildcat defense did its job as it posted its second shutout of the season, thanks in part to the Louisburg back line of senior Will Frank, junior Luke Faulkner, sophomore Michael Seuferling and freshman Toby Espina Roca. For Frank, it was the first match of the season after coming back from injury, and the returning starter provided stability in the back.

Senior goalie Garrett Rolofson
also turned away several Bobcat shots as he ended the night with five saves.

“The four of them played really
well and they did their job,” Conley said of his defense. “We rotated through
and they kept playing hard. Toby played well, Luke played well on the back side
and I think Michael might have been the man of the match. Will did a good job in
the middle, so those guys did a good job of holding their line and holding
their ground and not giving an inch.

“Will got his first start, so it
was nice to have him back. We probably played him a little too much, but that
is ok. He was being a leader back there for us.”



Junior Treston Carlson celebrates his goal with teammate Braden Yows on Tuesday in the Wildcats' 3-0 win in Basehor.

Fifteen minutes into the match, the Wildcats got on the board. Freshman Ethan Ptacek raced down the right side of the field, beat his defender and found the back of the net on a breakaway opportunity to give Louisburg the lead.

Junior Treston Carlson added on to it later in the half when he connected on a shot from 25 yards out that sailed over the Bobcat goalie's head to give the Wildcats a two-goal advantage.

Freshman Cade Gassman cemented the win in the second half with a goal of his own with 13 minutes remaining in the

match on an assist from Braden Yows. Gassman had four of the team’s 12 shots on goal and was on the attack most of the night.

“We have spots that we have to clean up really quick, but for the most part I thought we played really well,” Conley said. “I thought we possessed the ball well, broke them down a little bit and had a lot of chances on goal where we could have scored even more.”



Freshman Ethan Ptacek wins a header Tuesday at Basehor. Ptacek scored the team's first goal.

The Wildcats will try and stay undefeated today when it hosts Bonner Springs. The match has been moved up to 4 p.m. due to weather concerns.

Louisburg, which defeated Bonner Springs in overtime last season, will face a Braves squad that is looking for a little revenge from a year ago.

“Bonner graduated 16 seniors, but they are a much different team and have a different philosophy,” Conley said. “They do a good job of listening to their coach and they are going to play hard and play quick. We are going to have to do our job and execute, otherwise it could be a rough night.

“We have to come ready to go. The Frontier League is the best league in the state when it comes to 4A soccer, so it is going to be a battle every night and I am sure Bonner will be ready to go.”

Carlson’s goal gives Louisburg thrilling overtime win over Paola



Members of the Louisburg boys soccer team rush the field Thursday in Paola to surround teammate Treston Carlson, who

scored the game-winning goal in overtime to give the Wildcats a 3-2 victory.

PAOLA – Through the first 45 minutes of the match with rival Paola, nothing seemed to go right for the Louisburg soccer team.

Paola jumped out to a two-goal lead early in the second half and the Wildcats had a hard time getting much going offensively. Louisburg was staring at its first loss of the season.

“We just didn’t play well at all, especially in the first 20 minutes,” Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. “Paola had pressure, took it at us and they got a penalty kick early and all of a sudden we were shocked. Then they got up 2-0 on us early in the second half and Paola had all the momentum. We needed to make something happen.”

Then – all of a sudden – something changed. In a game where the Panthers had everything going it way, Louisburg got some momentum of its own to steal a win on the road.

The Wildcats rallied to notch a 3-2 result in overtime thanks to a header from junior Treston Carlson that sealed the comeback win for Louisburg. That finish capped a turn of events that led Louisburg to its second consecutive win to start the season.

“It was a great win because we are a young team still trying to figure out how to play,” Conley said. “It was awesome to

see them finish the game and I am so proud of my kids. They just grinded and battled. They could have easily put their head down when it was 2-0, but to be quite honest, 2-0 is the worst lead to have in soccer. Once we got a goal, the momentum just shifted and all of a sudden we were playing like gangbusters.”

It did, indeed.

Paola took a 1-0 lead in the first half on a penalty kick, and then in the opening minutes of the second, went up two on a goal from senior Ryan Wokutch.

With 27 minutes left in the match,
the tide started to turn for the Wildcats. Paola’s Gabriel Luna was issued a
red card and the Panthers were forced to play a man down the rest of the way.

It gave Louisburg the spark it was
looking for as the Wildcats put pressure on the Panther defense and were
eventually awarded a penalty kick with 22 minutes left in regulation. Freshman
Cade Gassman converted the opportunity to cut the Paola lead in half and the
Wildcats were off and running.



Freshman Cade Gassman goes up for a header Thursday against Paola.

Another freshman, Ethan Ptacek,
got in on the fun six minutes later when he tied the match on his first varsity
goal.

“The worst thing was, Ethan was wide open for a long time and we just couldn’t get it to him,” Conley said. “We were able to get it to him and he was pretty excited to score his first varsity goal for sure. The game really turned after that. Paola was pinging on empty and were trying to gut it out, but we just had the fresher legs and the momentum.”

Paola also had to deal with
cramping with several of their players throughout the second half and the

Panthers were forced to shuffle players in and out. It all led to a thrilling finish in overtime for the Wildcats.

“Hats off to Paola because they played down a man for a long time,” Conley said. “They had kids fighting through cramps all night and they played their butts off. I think the difference was we were just a little deeper than they were and it paid off.”

Four minutes into overtime, the Wildcats were able to finish it off when sophomore Braden Yows crossed the ball into the box, and it eventually found the head of Carlson, who put it away for the win.



Louisburg defender Toby Espina Roca clears the ball away from the goal Thursday against Paola.

The entire Louisburg bench stormed the Panther Stadium field in celebration of a win they hope turns into plenty more down the road.

“This is what rivalry games are all about,” Conley said. “Paola played really hard and fought through a lot of adversity, but I am so proud of our kids and how they kept fighting and battling through it all. When you win tough games like this it is a heck of a confidence builder and I am glad we just had enough gas left in the tank to get the win. It became more of a game of attrition than anything

else.”

Louisburg will try for its third straight win today when it travels to Basehor-Linwood. Varsity is set to begin at 6 p.m.

Wildcats blank Fort Scott to win season opener



Sophomore Braden Yows heads the ball down the field Tuesday during the the team’s season opener against Fort Scott. Yows finished with four goals and an assist in the Wildcats’ 10-0 win over Fort Scott.

Losing to Fort Scott to begin its season a year ago was something that has stuck in the back of the minds of the Louisburg boys soccer team.

The setback was the start of a difficult 2018 campaign for the Wildcats, and one they have tried to learn from.

Consider it a lesson learned.

The Wildcats opened their 2019

season Tuesday when they hosted Fort Scott at Wildcat Stadium and they made
sure not to let the same thing happen twice.

Louisburg scored six first half
goals on its way to a 10-0 victory over the Tigers and put together the start
it was looking for.

“It was nice to finally be done with preseason,” Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. “The boys were hungry and ready. We talked about how we needed to come ready to go to avoid the upset we had last year. They boys were both mentally and physically ready to ensure that didn’t happen again. I love the energy the boys played with and how hard we played from start to finish.”

Newcomer Braden Yows provided the
Wildcats with a boost right from the start. Yows, a sophomore, scored four
goals – all in the first half – and added an assist in his first game for
Louisburg.

Yows had a hat trick in the first 25
minutes of the match from the midfield spot and set the tone for the Louisburg.

“Braden is going to a really special
player,” Conley said. “He played really well and has been a leader for us on
and off the field. His vision is fantastic. I love how he is playing for his
teammates, and of course, how hard he works day in and day out. He had a
fantastic first game.”



Logan Faulkner (13) goes up for a header with teammate Treston Carlson and heads the ball in for a goal.

Yows wasn't the only Wildcat to have a strong first game. Freshman Cade Gassman got going in the second half with two goals and also had two assists in his Wildcat debut.

Junior Treston Carlson scored his first of two goals late in the first half and added another late in the second half.

Junior Logan Faulkner headed in a goal in the first half on a Yows throw-in from the side and sophomore Jaden Vohs invoked the mercy rule with the team's 10th goal late in the match.

Senior Colin Cook led the team, along with Gassman, with two assists on the night. Sophomores Hunter Rogers and Isaac

Guetterman also finished with an assist.



Senior David Perentis settles the ball Tuesday during the Wildcats' season opener against Fort Scott.

Louisburg dominated possession for much of the contest, but when the Tigers got looks, goalie Garrett Rolofson turned them away as the Louisburg senior had four saves in the shutout. The defensive back line of Toby Espina Roca, Luke Faulkner and Michael Seuferling were also vital in the shutout.

The win was, what the Wildcats hope, is the start of many more to come.

"There are a lot of new players and I think that is something that we need to keep in mind," Conley

said. “This team
is going to be a lot of fun to watch grow. It is important to keep in mind that
a lot of these kids are new to high school soccer or have very limited
experience. It was great watching them come ready to play and perform so well.”

Louisburg will try to make it two in a
row Thursday when it travels to Paola for its Frontier League opener. The match
is set to begin at 6 p.m.

Wildcats to feature mix of experience and youth as they hope for big season



Sophomore Braden Yows (left) and Ryan Haight battle for a 50-50 ball during the team’s scrimmage last Saturday at Wildcat Stadium.

Earning a spot in the regional
championship match last season was one of the few positives for the Louisburg
boys soccer team.

It was a rough year that saw the Wildcats end with a 6-11 record in a season where they were plagued by injuries and other factors out of their control. This time around, Louisburg is ready for a new beginning and is going to do so with a lot of fresh faces.

Louisburg will feature a varsity squad that is made up of all four classes and will have several newcomers. In all, 38 players are out for soccer this season – which is the most under head coach Kyle Conley.

“We had a fantastic summer of preparation and improvement,” Conley said. “We struggled last year in meeting our standard, but this group of boys wanted to get back to the previous years’ culture and standard. This group worked their tails off, brought a ton of positive energy and had a very successful summer. We had 48 kids originally signup for the team in May, but it got reduced down to 38 players.

“These young men have very high standards for themselves. They set the standard in the beginning of summer and have been pushing to live up to it all summer and preseason. This team is determined to get back to where we once were and their focus and dedication has shown this.”

The Wildcats return a seven-member senior class that will play vital roles and it starts with Ryan Haight. The Louisburg defensive midfielder earned first-team All-Frontier League honors last season and will be one of the

team leaders in
2019.

“Ryan had a fantastic summer,” Conley said. “He is extremely fit and just excelled this summer. He will have his best season yet. He is poised and experienced. Those two characteristics will allow him to have a really solid year. His work ethic is one of the best I have ever had the opportunity to coach.”



Senior Colin Cook makes a pass during the team’s scrimmage last week.

Will
Frank, Garrett Rolofson, Landon Johnson, Colin Cook and David Perentis, who all
saw varsity time a year ago, will play even bigger roles this season. Also included
among the seniors is Emanuel Fries, a foreign exchange student.

Frank,
who has started the last two seasons, returns to lead the

Wildcat defense after earning honorable mention all-league honors last season. Rolofson, who saw some time as the team's goalie last year, is the Wildcat starter in net.

Sophomore Michael Seuferling, along with Frank, Haight, Ethan Showalter (junior) and Toby Espina (freshman) will all man the defensive side of the field for Louisburg. Perentis, Logan and Luke Faulkner (juniors), and Hunter Rogers (sophomore) could also see playing time there as well.

"Rolofson had a fantastic summer and played really, really well," Conley said. "He has become more confident and his leadership has been fantastic.

"I think this team is very balanced," Conley said. "We added new pieces all over the field, but I feel these pieces have been improvements over what we previously had. We will have a variety of all classes represented within the varsity roster. It's going to be a team that is going to be a lot of fun to watch as they develop their team chemistry and learn as a team."



Louisburg head coach Kyle Conley believes his team is ready for a bounce-back year after the Wildcats finished with six wins a year ago.

The Wildcats will also have some experience at the midfield spot. Cook and junior Treston Carlson return with varsity experience, as do Logan and Luke Faulkner. Junior Ethan White, along with sophomores Isaac Guetterman and Jaden Vohs, could also see some varsity action.

Johnson,
who missed most of last season with an injury after an all-league performance
as a sophomore, will also be out to begin his senior season but Conley hopes he
will be in the mix midway through the year.

“He’s a leader, but has been out for the
past two years,” Conley said. “He has been a great teammate helping and
teaching from the sidelines. He is eager to return and help this team.”

A
lot of those new faces will be on the attacking side of the field as the
Wildcats will feature a lot of youth.



Senior David Perentis (left) and freshman Cade Gassman battle for a 50-50 ball last week during the team’s intrasquad scrimmage.

Sophomore
Braden Yows, who is a transfer from Missouri, will be one of the leaders at the
midfield spot and freshmen Cade Gassman and Colin McManigal will see a lot of
time at forward. Freshmen Ethan Ptacek and Gavin York will also garner a lot of
minutes in the midfield.

“We added 17 new players to this team,” Conley said. “Cade is poised to have an unbelievable year as a freshman. Braden is an extremely talented sophomore, who will help lead us. Toby (Espina) is a very skilled player who will help us at outside back this season. Colin has a motor that doesn’t stop and will

get solid minutes at forward for us. Gavin is a strong player who can play a lot of different positions and will play a very nice roll for us at the varsity level. Ethan is incredibility athletic and has a ridiculous speed.”

The Wildcats will take part in, what Conley believes, is a very competitive Frontier League. It is the kind of schedule that he hopes his team can build on, and get better, as the season goes along.

“The league is going to be very interesting,” Conley said. “Several
teams graduated a lot of seniors and some only graduated a few. I think this
year’s league is going to be very balanced top to bottom. Our league is going
to be a lot of fun to watch because each and every night, anything can and will
happen.”

Louisburg will begin its season outside of league play on Sept.
3 when it hosts Fort Scott at 6 p.m. The Wildcats open Frontier League play at
6 p.m. on Sept. 5 in Paola. Junior varsity matches will begin at 4:30 p.m. in
both games.