Top 10 Louisburg Sports Stories of 2019

It was a successful, and eventful, 2019 for Louisburg High School athletics and for those who are connected to the Wildcat program. This past year created a lot of school history for LHS and several programs brought back state hardware.

Below are the Top 10 stories from 2019, along with a brief explanation of each. Included in the explanation is the link to the actual story from the event.

When putting the list together, I took a lot of things into account – whether it was team vs. individual, popularity of the sport, historical achievements and the interest it drew on the web site. There were stories that I had to leave off that normally would easily make it. 2019 was that successful of a year for Wildcat athletics.

This year was a blast to cover and I was blessed to have the opportunity to go along for the ride with many of these. As much fun as it was, I can’t wait for 2020 to begin. Looking forward to it!



10. Tucker, Ratliff-Becher win powerlifting titles, Tucker breaks state record.

Two Louisburg High
School weightlifters made their way to the top of the podium in March during
the Class 4A State Powerlifting Meet at Basehor-Linwood High School.

Louisburg senior Kiefer Tucker and junior Reilly Ratliff-Becher both earned state championships in their respective weight class. Senior Jonathan DePriest finished third overall and several other Wildcats also earned individual medals.

Not only did Tucker win a state title in the 220-pound division, he also broke a 24-year state bench press record as he recorded a bench of 375 pounds to surpass the old mark of 365. He also won the squat competition at 505 pounds and had a total of 1,165 pounds to run away with the crown.

Tucker's total was the highest three-lift mark at the entire state meet in all weight classes.

"I had messed around with 375 and 385 before on bench, so I was confident that I could lift it if I had the chance," Tucker said. "I was more worried about my first lifts on bench at 345 and 365 because if I messed up on those attempts then I would not have had the change to even attempt 375. It was definitely a sigh of relief when I finally locked it out.

"It was a great feeling to beat the state record. To put Louisburg up on the record chart definitely brought a smile to my face."

Ratliff-Becher had a big day in the women's division as she won a state crown in the 180-pound weight class. She finished with a three-lift total of 575 pounds.



The Louisburg junior took first in bench press with 155 pounds,
first in clean at 150 pounds and second in squat with a 270-pound lift.

“Winning the state title
meant a lot to me,” Ratliff-Becher said. “I have put in a lot of time and

effort in weights class, so it’s nice to see it has paid off. But, also because
I feel as if I put out a message to girls that it’s cool to be strong
physically. I know that being sometimes the only girls in a class with a lot of
strong guys is intimidating. Weightlifting is all about your own personal
growth and seeing how far you can push yourself.

“I was honestly surprised I won because there are lots of very strong girls there and it’s good competition. It’s also fun to meet new people
that have the same interests and motivation as you.”



9. Golf qualifies for state, Dillon medals for third straight season

As the scores trickled

in to the clubhouse at Paola Country Club, the Louisburg golf team could hardly stand it.

The Wildcats were nervously waiting to hear if they had qualified for state, but they knew it was going to be close. Louisburg had to be in the top three of the team standings to earn a spot and the Wildcats had some tough competition amongst them.

As it turned out, the Wildcats had nothing to worry about.

Louisburg recorded a team score of 352 during the Class 4A regional tournament in May and finished third overall by nine strokes over fourth-place Ottawa. The Wildcat team of Calvin Dillon, Drake Varns, Garrett Rolofson, Ryan Haight, Noah Hill and Colin Cook all competed in the state tournament

Topeka-Hayden won the regional title going away with a 332 and Louisburg was just three strokes behind runner-up Tonganoxie, which had a 349.

“It feels great, especially with all the hard work we have put in the offseason and last few months,” Dillon said. “It was our goal coming in and we did it. I felt like we had a good chance. It was borderline with those four teams being as close as we are. I knew we had a chance, but it was nice to actually qualify. It was definitely a little nerve-racking waiting for the scores to come in.”

As impressive as that

feat was for the Wildcats, Dillon’s performance blew away the rest of the
competition.

The Louisburg junior
won his first individual regional title as he carded a 1-over 73 to win the
tournament by six strokes. Dillon’s 73 was his best score on the season and he
has now won all but one tournament on the year.

Dillon went on to record his third consecutive state medal and finished 11th overall in Dodge City after the tournament was postponed several times, and eventually moved due to weather.



8. Wildcat wrestling sends six to state, Moore earns first state medal

Back in early November of 2018, Austin Moore was in a sling with a broken collarbone and he wondered why all this was happening.

Moore suffered the injury during the regional football playoffs and he didn’t get to finish his final high school season. Not only that, his hopes of getting his first state wrestling medal was in serious jeopardy.

A little more than four months later, Moore was on the medal stand with some of the state’s best wrestlers in his weight class.

The Louisburg senior earned a fourth-place medal at 220 pounds during the Class 4A Kansas State Wrestling Championships in February at the Tony’s Pizza Events Center in Salina. It was his first high school state medal and it marked the end of a long journey for Moore.

“It was pretty special for me to get a state medal, especially because it has been a goal of mine ever since I started wrestling,” Moore said. “Overall, I felt like I wrestled pretty well, but I just wish I could’ve ended it on a win.”

The Wildcats qualified six wrestlers for state, had three regional champions and took third place in the team standings during the regional tournament in Paola – all while not being able to field a full team.

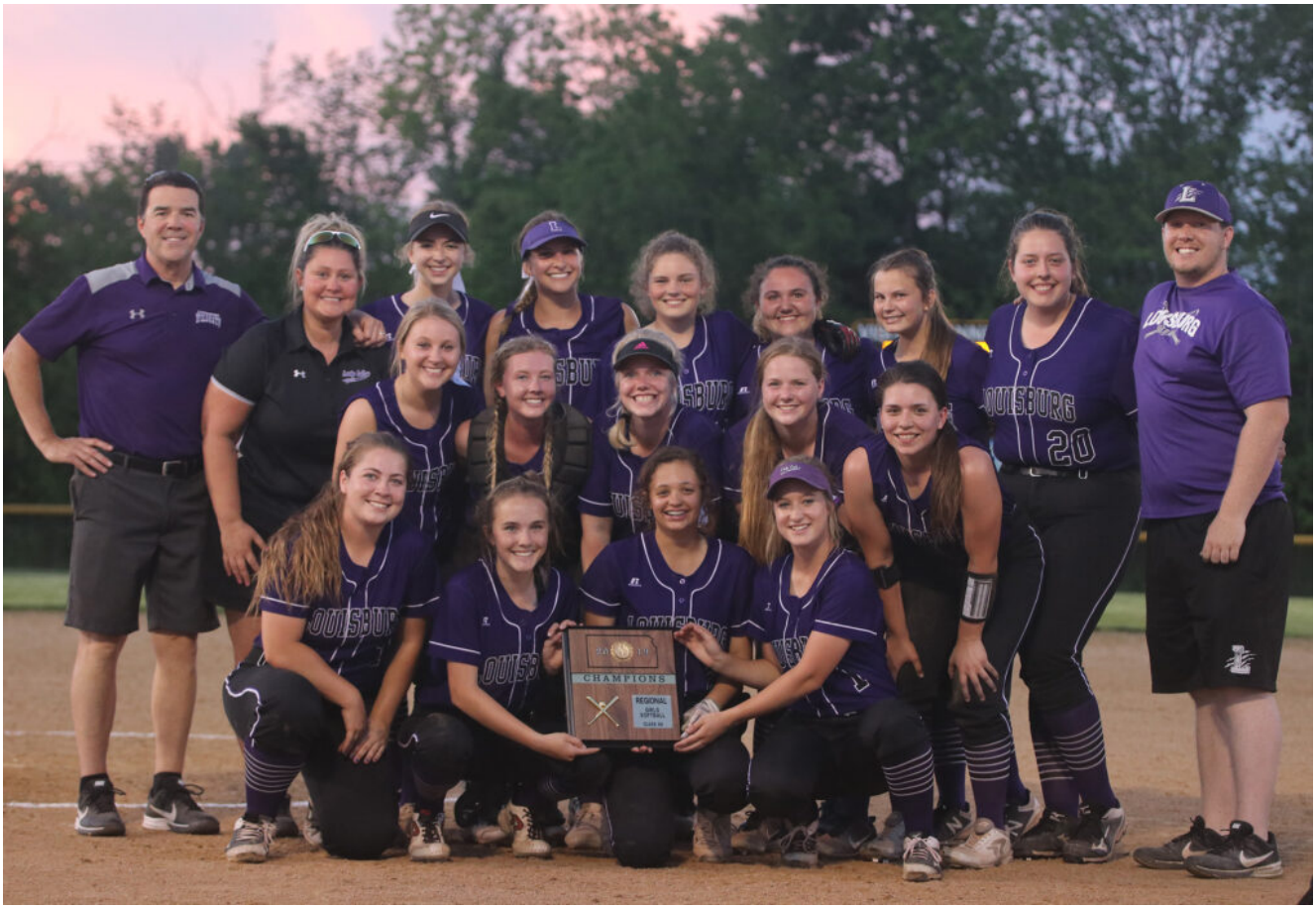
Louisburg’s talent was

certainly on full display during the two-day tournament. Brandon Doles, Blue Caplinger and Austin Moore won regional crowns, Cade Holtzen was a regional runner-up, while Gabe Bonham and Ryan Owens also qualified for state by placing third and fourth, respectively.

As a team, the Wildcats ended up with 138.5 points and was just 2.5 points out of second place. Ottawa won the regional with 149.5 points and Eudora was second at 141. It was the highest regional team finish for Louisburg since 1998.

“The way these guys wrestled this weekend shows that the program has been doing so many things right this season,” Louisburg coach Bobby Bovaird said. “We’ve had the obstacle of low numbers, which hurt us in our duals, but when it comes to tournament time, we have a bunch of guys who are placing high and that gives us a lot of team points. Taking six to state feels pretty encouraging, and finishing third at regionals is an awesome statement for this team.

“If a few things had gone the other way, we would have been in second as a team. On paper, we weren’t supposed to be in the race for a regional plaque. Almost all of our guys stepped up and scored huge team points for us.”



7. Louisburg softball captures regional title

OTTAWA – Madison
Svoboda could feel her heart starting to come out of her chest.

Karson Griggs was a
feeling a little nauseous.

Those are some of the
same feelings that were flooding the Louisburg softball's team dugout during the
final inning of the Class 4A regional championship game against Chanute on
Tuesday in Ottawa.

Louisburg held a one
run lead, but Chanute had the tying run on third, two outs, and a trip to the
state tournament was on the line. On the mound was sophomore

Brooklyn Diederich, and with two strikes, the Chanute batter fouled five straight pitches.

The tension was mounting.

Finally, on the 10th pitch of the at-bat, Diederich got what she was looking for – a swing and miss.

The strikeout sealed the Lady Cats' trip to state with a 6-5 victory over No. 7 seed Chanute and sent shockwaves throughout Class 4A softball.

"I want to cry, but at the same time I am just really happy," Griggs said. "It is exciting because I never thought something like this could happen, especially this year. It feels really nice and now maybe people will actually start taking us seriously."

Not many gave people gave the Lady Cats a chance as they entered the Class 4A regional tournament with just five wins and were forced to begin tournament action in the play-in game.

After a 17-2 win over Parsons last Monday in the play-in game, No. 15 Louisburg advanced to the regional semifinals and upset No. 2 seed Ottawa, 9-7, which helped set up the Lady Cats' first state tournament appearance since 2014.

"I think a lot of

other teams underestimated us," Diederich said. "The fact that we came out and
played our hardest ball showed what type of team we actually are. It is just
crazy."

At the state tournament in Salina a week later, the Lady Cats faced off against Andale and lost to the eventual state champion in the first round, 10-0.



6. Cross Country qualifies for state, Moore breaks school record and takes third at state

BALDWIN CITY – One by one,
members of the Louisburg girls cross country team crossed the finish line and
coach John Reece was unsure whether or not his team did enough

to qualify for
state.

The Lady Cats had made
school history by qualifying the last two seasons, but the third time was a
little bit in jeopardy – that was until the results were released.

As it turned out,
Reece didn’t need to be so worried.

Louisburg finished third overall with 96 points in October at the Class 4A regional meet at the Baldwin Golf Course, and beat out Bishop Miege by six points to earn a spot at the state meet this weekend in Wamego.

The team of Trinity
Moore, Carlee Gassman, Reese Johnson, Claire Brown, Ruth Minster, Kennady
Wilkerson and Bree Gassman competed for the Lady Cats at state.

“This group of girls runs
well, they race well and they train well together,” coach Reece said. “They are
a good group and this is just as exciting as the other two times. The
competition was a lot tougher than the previous two times. We had to run our
races and we did. From our third to fifth runners was about an eight point
spread.”

Trinity Moore has left a
lasting impression on the Louisburg cross country program over the last four
years, but she saved the best moment for her final act.

Moore broke her own school record with a time of 19 minutes and 39 seconds to finish third overall at the Kansas Class 4A State Cross Country Championships at the Wamego Country Club a week later.

The Louisburg senior recorded the program's best ever state finish as she eclipsed her fourth-place state medal from a season ago.

"It meant so much to me to finish with such a great race for my high school career," Moore said. "Going into the race, I didn't know how well I would finish. This race had the best competition that I have ran against all year and I think that is what really pushed me.

"When I saw my time crossing the finish line, I was ecstatic. I felt great the entire race and was able to control everything I did. Finishing third was icing on the cake. I was surprised but so incredibly happy to be able to place in such a great spot, but I also knew that this what I had worked for all year."

This made the fourth state medal for Moore in her high school career and she improved on her state finish every year. Last season, she took fourth overall and bested her state time from a year ago by more than 30 seconds.



5. Boys Soccer wins league, regional titles to earn No. 1 seed in playoffs.

For more than 70
minutes, the goals for Louisburg were hard to come by and it started to leave
an eerie feeling on Halloween night.

However, the Wildcats
got their treat when it was all over.

Louisburg scored two goals in the final seven minutes of the match to earn a 2-0 victory over Kansas City Christian in the Class 4-1A regional championship game Thursday. The Wildcats (16-2-1) earned their third regional title in the last four years and advanced to the state quarterfinals.

“This group is
special,” Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. “It is going to be tough when it is

all over. This group has changed our culture. They came back to what this program believes and they have bought in to what we are teaching them. They have worked so hard since June. For these seniors, this is their third title in four years and I think it is a lot of fun for them.

A school record 16 wins, a Frontier League championship and a regional title are all something worth celebrating, but following the state quarterfinal match with Bishop Miege, all Louisburg could think about was the finality of it all.

Despite all those accomplishments, the Wildcats fell one win short of their main goal – a spot in the state final four.

Louisburg saw its season come to a close with a 3-0 loss to Bishop Miege at the Wildcat Sports Complex. The Wildcats lost to the eventual state champion, as Miege went on to defeat Wichita-Trinity on Saturday, 3-1, for the Class 4-1A state championship – the Stags' fourth in a row.

As difficult as the loss was for Louisburg, there was no forgetting how big of a jump the Wildcats made from the season before as they went from a 6-win team to one that earned the East's No. 1 seed in the state playoffs.

"Going 6-11 last year and seeing this Miege team almost mercy-ruling us in the regional championship last year in the rain, was a program changer," Louisburg coach

Kyle Conley
said. “After that was over, we talked about how things needed to change and it
starts now. For our first practice in June, I told them that they are the ones
that has to change them. Since day one, they have played for each other, played
hard in practice and it was a total mindset change. When someone got hurt, it
was the next guy up. We missed two starters for half of the year and it was
always the next guy up taking advantage of his opportunity to fill in. The
freshmen stepped up huge for us.

“This team is special.
16 wins is a school record and only two losses is probably a school record.
This team is incredible, played so hard and did everything I asked them to do.
They were always there to pick each other up and that is what this soccer
family is all about. It will be tough to say goodbye to these kids.”



4. Volleyball knocks off Miege to win regional title, takes fourth at state

ATCHISON – The
sub-state semifinal game between Louisburg and Bishop Miege had all the feels
of a state tournament match.

Partially because a
year ago, it was.

Louisburg met Miege in
the state championship match only to see the Stags send the Lady Cats to a
runner-up finish in two sets. Then three weeks ago the two teams met again, and
like before, Miege dispatched of Louisburg in two sets.

However, Bishop Miege
saw a different Louisburg team during the sub-state tournament at Atchison High

School – one they didn’t expect.

The Lady Cats came out on fire and never let up in a 25-18 and 25-22 win over Miege to end the Stags’ season. It marks the first time in at least 12 years, if not longer, that Miege will not be at the state tournament.

Since the state tournament began in 1971, Bishop Miege has made 39 state appearances during that time in either Class 5A or 4A and is the most in Kansas history.

“Our energy was going to be the difference in that match, so we knew we had to bring it,” Louisburg senior Erin Lemke said. “We knew we had the same skill set as Miege, but our energy was what was going to pull us through there in the end. To get there, we just had to believe in ourselves and work hard this past week to give us the confidence that we needed.”

However, even after pulling off a big revenge win that expended a lot of energy, the Lady Cats still had a sub-state championship match to play against No. 2 seed Atchison.
The No. 7 seed Lady Cats took care of business as they won in straight sets, 25-12 and 25-15, at Atchison High School.

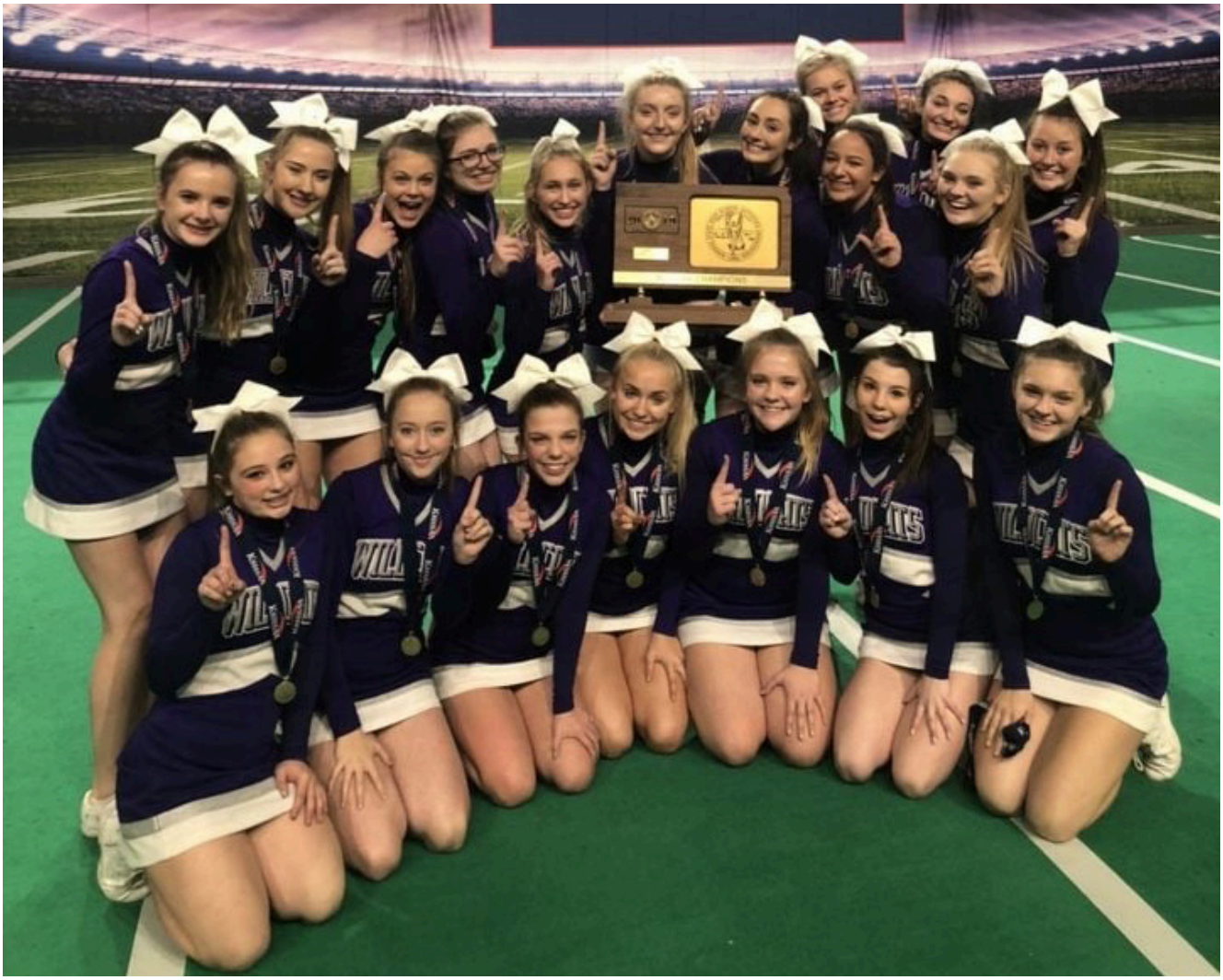
Louisburg lost its final two matches of the season, but those setbacks didn’t take away from what the Lady Cats accomplished during the Kansas Class 4A State Championships.

For the third straight season, the Lady Cats were among the last four teams playing

and brought home a
little hardware for their efforts. Louisburg took fourth overall after losing
its third place match to Towanda-Circle, 2-1, in October at Hutchinson Sports
Arena.

“Every season our goal
is to put ourselves in the best position to qualify for state and then to
hopefully advance to bracket play on Saturday,” Louisburg coach Jessica
Compliment said. “Leading up to state, we talked about how nothing is
guaranteed and in order to make it to bracket play, we have to show up and play
our best from the first whistle to the last whistle. If we play our game, then
hopefully the winning will take care of itself and we’d advance.

“The eight teams at
state this year were all very talented. I was happy that we qualified for the
semifinals because that put us one step closer to the championship. Even though
we didn’t reach the championship match and finished fourth, I was still very
proud of how the team played throughout the tournament.”



3. Louisburg cheer wins first state championship

The Wildcat
cheerleaders competed at the Class 4A KSHSAA Game Day Spirit Showcase
Competition on Nov. 23 at the Stormont Vail Events Center in Topeka and came
back home with a big trophy in tow.

Louisburg edged out runner-up Augusta with a point total of 82.25 to 81 in the finals to secure what is just the third athletic team state title in school history.

“I was so nervous at
the awards,” Louisburg senior Lauren Vincent said. “We were all holding hands
and had our heads down. We thought that we would get second

place at best, most likely third. We were content because we put everything out on the mat and did the best we could. But when they called out second place and it was Augusta, we screamed, cried, and hugged each other because we knew that we had just won.

“When our name was called for first, we jumped up and hugged each other. Then I ran out onto the mat and grabbed the trophy and we held it up and jumped around victoriously. It was the best feeling in the entire world. Knowing that all of our hard work had finally paid off was indescribable feeling of joy.”

The Louisburg cheerleaders that competed are Lexi Pena, Lauren Vincent, Ashlyn McManigal, Brooklyn Mitchell, Gabby Tappan, Andrea Gaza, Eleanor Willming, Jayden Trester, Lacie Kallevig, Sammy McDaniel, Mable Graham, Anna Morrison, Bella Feikert, Audrey Anderson, Sydney Dudzik, Kaitlyn Vest, Jolie Hendrickson, Abby Bradley and Zoe Cutshaw. Louisburg’s head coach is Jayna Guerra.

Not only were the Wildcats the third team to win a state title in school history, they were also the first female squad to win a team crown as well. All the history just added to what was a special day for the program.

“It means so much to me and all my teammates,” Tappan said. “As someone who’s been a part of a variety

of sports my entire life, I know how hard each of our teams work to do their
very best in whatever sport they’re a part of. We are so thankful that we got
to make history for Louisburg and it is something that I can guarantee that
each and every one of us will remember it for the rest of our lives.”



**2. Girls soccer
takes second at state, Conley named coach of year and Scholtz, Buffington awarded
players of year.**

When it was all said and done, the Louisburg girls soccer team held its trophy high in front of the Wildcat faithful and the tears were easy to spot.

After nearly 200
minutes of soccer in a nine-hour time period, including one

match that ended in penalty kicks, the Wildcats were spent. They gave everything they had.

For the second consecutive season, Louisburg earned the Class 4-3-2-1A state runner-up trophy after a wild victory over Topeka-Hayden in the semifinals and then were shutout by Bishop Miege in the championship game, 4-0. It was the third consecutive state final four appearance for Louisburg.

Frustration and sadness was easy to see following the Wildcats' loss to the defending state champion, but the team realizes what they have accomplished in just four years of existence is to be celebrated.

"Being in this situation two years in a row is something that doesn't happen very often," Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. "There are a bunch of teams that haven't been to a state final four and we have been to three in three years. It is pretty cool and it is special."

It was a wild 24 hours for the Wildcats. Louisburg was supposed to play Hayden on Friday in the semifinals, but severe weather forced the postponement to early Saturday morning.

The Wildcats battled Hayden through four overtimes and eventually led to penalty kicks. After an intense first five penalty kicks that left the match still tied, senior goalie

Carson Buffington recorded a big save and then senior Hallie Hutsell converted the sixth penalty kick to break the tie and give Louisburg a 2-1 win over Hayden.

“We usually play 80 minutes, but this time we had to play 110 minutes and we were gassed,” Conley said. “We were holding on and had some chances at the end to win it, but then we went to overtime and then to penalty kicks. It was all about to see if we could survive. Emotionally it was just a high for us and an unbelievable response and a great finish. Carson making a big save, Hallie putting it in for the win – it was just a great game.”

In the championship match, the Stags were just too much for the Wildcats and junior Sophia Stram provided a big spark. Stram scored all four goals for Miege in the title game, all of which came in the first half, and the Wildcats didn’t have an answer.

“They are just so freaking good,” Conley said. “I think the girls were mentally ready, but I don’t think their legs were quite ready, but we lost to one of best teams in the state of Kansas. They have great players, they are well-coached, but our girls played their butts off.

Coming off its second consecutive state runner-up appearance, Louisburg had some positive repercussions from its historic season.

However, none bigger came when the all-state teams were released by the Kansas Soccer Coaches Association. Not only did six Wildcats earn all-state selections, but they were honored with some of the highest awards out there.

Junior Mackenzie Scholtz was named as the Co-Offensive Player of the Year in Class 4-1A with Bishop Miege's Sophia Stram after she led the Wildcats in scoring.

Louisburg was also recognized on the other side of the ball as senior Carson Buffington was named the Class 4-1A Goalkeeper of the Year.

"Seeing Mackenzie and Carson recognized for their positional player of the years was fantastic," Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. "They both had incredible years."

The Wildcats weren't done, as for the second consecutive season, Conley was named as the Class 4-1A Coach of the Year as he guided Louisburg to a 17-4 record. He also led the Wildcats to three consecutive final four appearances.



1.4×400 boys wins state championship, Wright wins four state medals and team breaks six school records at regional meet.

Three days after
arriving in Wichita for the Kansas State Track and Field Championships, Justin
Collins, Blue Caplinger, Ben Wiedenmann and Chris Williams finally got the chance
to get on the Cessna Stadium track.

The four Wildcat
runners had the top time in Class 4A going into the 4×400-meter relay, but
weather threw a little wrench into their plans. The meet, which was supposed to
end on a Saturday, was postponed to Sunday morning and all

races were judged by
times with no preliminaries.

It wasn’t the ideal
situation, but they made it work – and it worked well.

Collins, Caplinger, Wiedenmann and Williams won the state championship in a time of 3 minutes and 25.39 seconds as they edged Chapman at the finish line, which ran a 3:25.61. It was the first state track championship for Louisburg since 2015 when Connor McMullen won the discus.

That was just one
event in what was an historic week for Louisburg track.

Louisburg freshman Delaney Wright earned four state medals, while junior teammate Carlee Gassman finished with three as the Lady Cats went on to finish 10th in the team standings. The Lady Cats earned several other medals at the state meet coming off an impressive performance at regionals.

During the Class 4A
regional meet at Paola High School, Wright qualified for state in four events,
broke two school records and earned a regional title in her first postseason
track meet.



Wright won a regional title in the long jump and finished second in the 200 and 400-meter dashes. She also helped Carlee Gassman, Rain Pugh and Sydni Keagle to a second place finish in the 4×400-meter relay.

“I am so grateful for everything,” Wright said. “I had been having trouble with my hip this week and I just wanted to come out and make state in at least one event. I didn’t realize I would make it in four. It is an unbelieveable feeling.”

Wright’s day was just one of the many positives for the Lady Cats as they broke four school records, had four regional

champions and qualified for state in 10 events.

As a team, the Lady Cats nearly earned the regional runner-up trophy as they racked up 86.5 points and finished a half a point behind second place Baldwin and Bishop Miege, who tied for second. Paola won the regional title with 107 points.

The Wildcat boys also broke two school records and would end up qualifying for nine spots at the state meet.

Moore's love for running takes her to Pitt State



Trinity Moore, a four-time state medalist for Louisburg High School, will run for the Pittsburg State cross country and track and field teams next season.

Coming into high school, Trinity Moore decided to run cross country to help stay in shape for her favorite sport – soccer.

Little did she know at the time
that her decision would alter the course of her young life for the better.

"It is something that has changed everything
for me," Moore said.

As it turned out, all Moore did

was become the most decorated runner in Louisburg cross country history. The
Louisburg senior holds the school record and recorded four state medals, including
a third-place finish this past season.

With all that success came
opportunity, as Moore secured her chance to run in college as she signed her
letter of intent to run cross country and track at Pittsburg State University
last week during a signing ceremony at Louisburg High School.

“It means a lot to me,” Moore
said. “It just showed how hard I worked to be able to get to the next level and
I am very excited. I can’t wait for next year, and I know that doing different
races with different teammates will be a fun experience for me.

“Knowing a lot of people that went to Pitt really helped me make my decision. I contacted the coach, and then when I saw their education program and all the success they had in running, I think I just fell in love with it. It really is my dream school and I’ve wanted to go there for years now. But when I fell in love with running, I think I knew that is when I wanted to go there.”

Moore will run under the guidance of Pitt State coach Russ Jewett, who has coached the Gorilla program for 34 years. Jewett helped the Gorillas to nine MIAA cross country titles and 11 trips to the NCAA Division II National Championships.

In 2016, Jewett guided the Pitt State
women’s track program to the Division II Outdoor National Championship – the first
in program history. He has also been named MIAA Coach of the

Year 38 times during
his time at Pitt State.

“He is amazing and he is an institution
there,” Moore said of her new coach. “He went to school there and ran at Pitt,
so I am really excited to see what he can do to transform me into an even
better runner. He is an awesome coach.”



Louisburg senior Trinity Moore signed her letter of intent last week to run cross country and track at Pittsburg State. Seated next to Trinity are her parents Diana and Randy Moore. Standing (from left) is her brother Hunter and Louisburg head cross country coach John Reece.

Although she hasn’t been able to
run track and field at the high school level due to the fact she plays soccer

in the spring, Moore is also excited in getting back into that aspect of the
sport.

“I am still planning on running
track there and coach just said that it will just be kind of a fresh start for
me since I haven’t run track since middle school,” Moore said. “I will be able to
try a lot of different things and see what fits for me and go from there.”

It has been an amazing run –
literally – for Moore during her four years with the Wildcat cross country team.
Along with her four state medals, she helped the Lady Cats to three consecutive
state appearances as a team.

Moore broke her own school record
at the Class 4A state meet last month as her time of 19 minutes and 39 seconds
was good enough to take third overall.

“All the accomplishments that I
have mean a lot to me,” Moore said. “It is something that I never thought would
happen. Records are meant to be broken and I hope that we have a runner someday
that can be even better than me. I’m glad that I was able to start something
and leave the program with so many accomplishments.”

Moore earns fourth state medal, breaks own school record



Louisburg senior Trinity Moore accepts her third place state medal Saturday following the Class 4A girls race at Wamego Country Club.

WAMEGO – Trinity Moore has left a lasting impression on the Louisburg cross country program over the last four years, but she saved the best moment for her final act.

Moore broke her own school record with
a time of 19 minutes and 39 seconds to finish third overall at the Kansas Class
4A State Cross Country Championships on Saturday at the Wamego Country Club.

The Louisburg senior recorded the program's best ever state finish as she eclipsed her fourth-place state medal from a season ago.

"It meant so much to me to finish
with such a great race for my high school career," Moore said. "Going into the
race, I didn't know how well I would finish. This race had the best competition
that I have ran against all year and I think that is what really pushed me.

“When I saw my time crossing the finish line, I was ecstatic. I felt great the entire race and was able to control everything I did. Finishing third was icing on the cake. I was surprised but so incredibly happy to be able to place in such a great spot, but I also knew that this what I had worked for all year.”

This made the fourth state medal for Moore in her high school career and she improved on her state finish every year. Last season, she took fourth overall and bested her state time from a year ago by more than 30 seconds.

“Trinity has been a pleasure to work with,” Louisburg coach John Reece said. “She is a driven person who expects the best and will settle for nothing less. I feel that she saved her best race for last. She answered surges and when she made her move, she separated herself from the group and pressed to the finish line. Her third place finish was incredible. She did accomplish a lot during her four years and the best is still ahead of her in college.”



Trinity Moore prepares for one of the several turns on the Wamego Country Club course Saturday during the Class 4A state meet.

Moore led the Lady Cats to a fifth-place team finish at the state meet with 165 points and were just four points behind Fort Scott for fourth-place. Buhler won the state championship with 60 points and Baldwin was the runner-up with 74.

Chapman's Taylor Briggs won the individual state crown with a time of 19 minutes and Piper's Grace Hanson was second at 19:31.

"The girls had a good race," coach Reece said. "Fifth place as a

team was
beyond my expectations for the meet. They all seemed to handle the
race well and a few even ran their best times ever.”

Sophomore Reese Johnson finished second on the Louisburg team in 21:57 and was 40th overall in the 102-runner field. Freshman Claire Brown took 50th in 22:22 and senior Carlee Gassman battled an injured ankle and was 61st in 23:01.



Sophomore Reese Johnson races toward the finish line during the state meet Saturday in Wamego.

Another
sophomore, Ruth Minster, was 74th in 23:32, while freshman Bree Gassman (25:05) and junior Kennady Wilkerson (25:09) finished 98th

and 99th, respectively.

As for Moore, she able to able to get out fast from the start and work with the front group most of the way, which allowed her to get comfortable and run her race.

“The race at state was very fast and competitive,” Moore said. “I knew I had a great start since I was closer to the front than in year’s past, and I was able to keep it and work hard to pass those in front of me. With running this course so many times, I knew what to expect, so there were no new challenges except for powering through what I have done before, with the hills and turns this course presents.

“It was the best race I have ever ran and it was the best I have ever felt in a race since my body is always comfortable running there and I was able to push through all it has to offer.”

As celebratory as the finish was, it was also the final time Moore and Gassman will wear the Lady Cat uniform. However, both runners were a part of three state qualifying teams and Moore has plenty of medals to show for her time as a Wildcat.

“I definitely felt the realization that my high school cross country career was over when I crossed the finish line at state, but I don’t think I have really let it sink in,” Moore said. “It still seems like I have more time even though it has ended. I think at our banquet is when it will really hit me since I will be with my teammates, family and coaches. They are the people who have helped make this all possible for me and have been my support system over the years.”

“Looking back over the past four years, I would never have imagined that I could have accomplished more. When I started cross country, it was a way to stay in shape for soccer, but it turned into one of the things I love most. I pushed myself to the limits and I know there are things I could have done differently over the course of my career, but finishing where I did was the best I could have ever imagined for myself.”

As for the program itself, Reece saw improvements from several underclassmen as he envisions both of his teams taking another step forward.

“The season was super positive and the runners did an amazing job,” Reece said. “The boys team started strong as a group and finished stronger. They have a couple great seasons ahead of them. The girls team shuffled a little, but in the end came together as a solid nine, which makes it hard to

set for regional
and state, but it is a good problem to have.

“The
seniors will always be missed as they are the leaders of the team, but we
have some strong young runners that will step in and step up to the challenge.
Next year could be better, who knows. With the middle school starting cross
country this year, it will also help the program to continue to gain
strength in the future.”

Lady Cats will head to state for third consecutive year



Louisburg senior Trinity Moore finished sixth overall to lead the Lady Cats to a third place team finish and a spot at the state meet in Wamego.

BALDWIN CITY – One by one, members
of the Louisburg girls cross country team crossed the finish line and coach
John Reece was unsure whether or not his team did enough to qualify for state.

The Lady Cats had made school history by qualifying the last two seasons, but the third time was a little bit in jeopardy – that was until the results were released.

As it turned out, Reece didn't need to be so worried.

Louisburg finished third overall with 96 points Saturday at the Class 4A regional meet at Baldwin Golf Course, and beat out Bishop Miege by six points to earn a spot at the state meet this weekend in Wamego.

The team of Trinity Moore, Carlee Gassman, Reese Johnson, Claire Brown, Ruth Minster, Kennady Wilkerson and Bree Gassman will compete for the Lady Cats at state.

"This group of girls runs well, they race well and they train well together," coach Reece said. "They are a good group and this is just as exciting as the other two times. The competition was a lot tougher than the previous two times. We had to run our races and we did. From our third to fifth runners was about an eight point spread. It was just incredible."

Along with the team qualifying for state, Moore made some noise of her own as she finished sixth overall in to earn a regional medal in 20 minutes and 8 seconds. Piper freshman Grace Hanson won the individual crown at 19:15 and Eudora's Riley Hiebert was second with a time of 19:24.

In the team standings, Eudora won the regional title with 47 points and Baldwin was second with

55.

“It means a lot to go to state
three years in a row with my team,” Louisburg senior Trinity Moore said. “It
shows that our hard work and goals for the season have paid off. It has showed
me that we are capable of anything we set our minds to. Even with new runners
on the team each year, it is so great to work together with these girls and
lead such a great team.

“I feel like I ran very well. It
was the best I had felt while racing this season in terms of weather and how I
felt because of my training and competition throughout the season. This year’s
race was more competitive compared to year’s past, but I think that is what
made it great.”



(From left) Reese Johnson, Kennady Wilkerson, Claire Brown, Trinity Moore, Bree Gassman, Nova Ptacek, Ruth Minster, Carlee Gassman and coach John Reece were all smiles after their third place team finish.

Johnson, a sophomore for the Lady

Cats, finished 13th overall in 21 minutes to take second on the team. Gassman also battled through an injured ankle to take

21st in
21:29.

Brown, a freshman, also had a strong performance as she was

the team's fourth runner and finished 25th in 22:06 and Minster, a sophomore, was fifth on the team in 23:39 and took

30th overall.

Wilkerson (24:10) and Bree Gassman

(24:37) finished 43rd and 46th, respectively.

"I think they ran really well,"
coach Reece said. "I think if they go back and look at their times, they are
close to PR's, if not better, and I think the boys were too. Trinity ran the
race she needed to run and I think Reese stepped up for us to get second.
Carlee gutted through having a bad ankle and Claire improved on her time and
what an addition to the team she has been. Ruth also stepped up as our fifth
runner, and she was our anchor and she got us there."



Sophomore Ruth Minster sprints to the finish line Saturday during the Class 4A regional at Baldwin Golf Course.

On the boys side, senior Anthony
Davis missed out on a state bid by a few places as he finished 17^{th}
in 18:20 and the Wildcats were fifth as a team with 118 points.

Tonganoxie won the team title with
44 points and Bishop Miege was second with 73. Piper senior Owen Roellchen won
the individual title in 16:57.

Sophomore Ryan Rogers was second

on the Wildcat team with a time of 18:29 and was 20th overall and

fellow sophomore Caden Bradshaw was 22nd in 18:32. Junior Carson

Houchen was 25th in 18:44.



(From left) Ryan Rogers, Caden Bradshaw, Anthony Davis, Carson Houchen, Cade Holtzen, Sawyer Richardson and Evan Murphy line up for the start of the boys race Saturday in Baldwin City.

Senior Evan Murphy (19:23),
sophomore Sawyer Richardson (19:29) and junior Cade Holtzen

(19:41) finished 35th,

36th and 40th, respectively.

The Louisburg girls will take to the course one final time at 12:30 p.m. this Saturday as the Lady Cats travel to Wamego for the state meet as they hope to better their fifth-place finish a season ago.

Moore, on the other hand, will try for her fourth state medal after finishing fourth in 2018. Johnson will vie for her second medal in as many years after taking sixth last season.

“To medal for the fourth time at state would be one of the best feelings in my heart,” Moore said. “It would be icing on the cake for my time as a cross country runner. It would show me that I can set a goal for myself and accomplish it, even through the toughest challenges. I never would have thought at the beginning of my freshman year that this could be a possibility, and to have gained so much in a sport.

“Not only is it my fourth time at state, but it is my last high school cross country race. I am definitely going to feel the emotions of it being my last time running there, but I know it will be a great day.”

Three Wildcats earn all-league honors at Frontier meet



Sophomore Reese Johnson was one of three Louisburg runners to earn all-Frontier League honors last Thursday in Tonganoxie.

TONGANOXIE – In what is probably the most difficult league in Class 4A – the Frontier League – the Louisburg cross country teams found themselves in their toughest meet of the season.

The Wildcats competed in their first postseason meet Thursday in Tonganoxie at the Frontier League Invitational. In a race that featured state-ranked teams and returning state medalists, Louisburg found some success on both sides.

Louisburg senior Trinity Moore led the girls side with a top five finish and earned first-team all-league with her performance. Senior Anthony Davis and sophomore Reese Johnson were named honorable mention after they finished in the top 20.

Both teams went on to finish sixth in the team standings, but Louisburg coach John Reece was happy with the way

his teams competed against some of the state’s best.

“The teams ran well at league,” coach Reece said. “The Frontier League is one of the best and there will be teams from our league holding plaques at state on both sides, maybe two.”

Moore put together one of the best races of her career, time-wise, as she ran a personal record of 19 minutes and 41 seconds and beat her old time by five seconds to finish fifth overall.

“I was very proud of my finish at league, even though my placing wasn’t what I wanted,” Moore said. “With the amount of talented runners I was going up against, I knew I was going to have to run my best if I wanted to earn first-team league honors. I had the competition to push myself and I was ecstatic when I learned that I had PR’d. If it wasn’t for the girls who pushed me during the race, or the fast course, I don’t think I could have run that fast and had such a good race.”



Trinity Moore finished fifth overall to lead the Louisburg girls.

Johnson

was 20th overall in 21:32 to finish with honorable mention all-league honors. The top 21 runners in each race earn league honors, with the
top seven named to the first team.

As
a team, the Lady Cats had to overcome some adversity as one of the team's top
runners, senior Carlee Gassman, injured her ankle during the race and was
unable to finish. With that, they dropped in the team standings and took sixth
with 146 points.

Eudora won the league title with 37 points and Baldwin was second with 70. Piper freshman Grace Hanson was the league champion with a time of 18:50.

“It is always tough to lose a top runner during the race but that did not stop the girls from upping their game,” coach Reece said. “It was a fast race, not course, and many of the girls ran their best times for the season. I was hoping for a top three team for the girls but that was altered a little by Carlee going down, but she will be ready for regionals.

“Trinity and Reese earned well-deserved honors for their effort. Because it was a fast race, Trinity responded and did better with her time, but I think there is more to come.”

Freshman Claire Brown was third on the team with a 36th place finish in 22:21, while junior Kennady Wilkerson took 44th in 23:22. Sophomore Ruth Minster (24:01), and freshmen Bree Gassman (24:08) and Nova Ptacek (25:06), finished 55th, 59th and 69th, respectively.

Davis also picked up a good time to run his best race of the season. The Louisburg senior led the Louisburg boys in 15th place overall with a time of 17:53.



Senior Anthony Davis finished 15th overall at league to lead the Louisburg boys

As a team, the Wildcats were sixth with 130 points. Tonganoxie won the league title with 51 points and Spring Hill was second with 63. Piper senior Owen Roellchen was the league champion in 16:36.

“Anthony ran a great race and was rewarded with league honors,” coach Reece said. “He is gunning for a school top 7 time and I think he will get there. The boys continue to impress me with their team average time. It continues to drop and they are working hard to try and be the No. 3 at regionals.”

Sophomore

Ryan Rogers was second on the team in 25th with a time of 18:40 and
junior Carson Houchen was right behind him in 18:46 and took 27th.
Sophomore Caden Bradshaw (18:58) and junior Cade Holtzen (19:18) were 31st
and 33rd, respectively.

Senior
Evan Murphy (19:39) and sophomore Sawyer Richardson (19:43) took 37th
and 39th place.

Both
Wildcats teams will try to find a way to get into the top three team standings
Saturday when they compete in the Class 4A regional meet at Baldwin Golf
Course. The team three teams in each race will qualify for state, as will the
top five individuals that aren't members of those top three teams.

The
girls race will begin at 10 a.m. and the boys race will follow at approximately
10:45.

"Both teams are ready to run at Baldwin," coach Reese said. "We run fast there so look out, here we run. It will be one of the toughest regionals in 4A when it comes to the separation between the 3-4-5 place teams. Whoever is mentally ready will be going to state. I like our chances for both."

The Louisburg girls will try to qualify for the state meet for

the third consecutive season and Moore is ready for the challenge.

“I am super excited and very much looking forward to Saturday at regionals,” she said. “Most of the teams in our league will be at regionals along with some others, so that helped us prepare for what we will see this weekend. I was able to run against the best competition, which I haven’t seen all season, and it showed me how hard I will need to work if I want to make to state.

“I definitely think we are prepared knowing the competition we will face, as well as running on a familiar course. We run very well on Baldwin’s
golf course, but we will need to show up ready to race.”

Lady Cats win team title on their home course



Louisburg senior Carlee Gassman leads a pack of runners up a hill toward the finish line last Thursday during the Louisburg Invitational at Lewis-Young Park. The Lady Cats took first place and Louisburg medaled six overall.

Running around the course at
Lewis-Young Park for the final time, realization began to set in for the six

Louisburg seniors.

Time on the cross country season is quickly running out. Trinity Moore, Carlee Gassman, Emily Williams, Natalie George, Anthony Davis and Evan Murphy not only ran their final regular season race of their Wildcat career, but also the last on their home course.

As emotional as it was for some, they seemed to make the most of it – especially Moore and Gassman. The two Louisburg seniors led the Lady Cats to a first place team finish at the Louisburg Invitational on Thursday, and between the boys and girls, Louisburg earned six medals overall.

“It was so exciting to see the team take first,” Gassman said. “I’m really proud of all the girls who ran their hearts out. Each and every one of us contributes to the team’s success. It was a great way to end my last home meet.”

The Lady Cats pulled together to win the team title as they finished in a tie with Fort Scott with 68 points. The tie-breaker, which is the top sixth runner on each team, went the way of Louisburg as freshman Bree Gassman edged out the Fort Scott runner.

“It meant a lot to have our team take first place,” Moore said. “We were tied and our sixth runner helped to break the tie for us to win. It showed me, and the team, that

we can take on challenges that come our way, even in difficult race conditions. Our hard work paid off and it is starting to show more and more every week."

Louisburg had to dodge the rain to make sure its home invitational was able to get in and the Wildcats wouldn't go two weeks with competing in a meet, as their last meet in Pittsburg was rained out.

That meant having to run on a soft, muddy course at Lewis-Young, but Louisburg was still able to produce good results.

Moore led the Lady Cats in third place overall with a time of 20 minutes and 55 seconds. Piper freshman Grace Hanson won the girls side in 20 minutes and Spring Hill sophomore Alyssa Anderson was second.

"I felt like I ran okay during the race," Moore said. "I had some tightness in my leg, but I powered through as much as I could. It wasn't my best race, and I know I could have done better, but I'm happy with my performance with all the challenges and conditions. With never running in conditions like this before, it took some getting used to as every step was different with the terrain and wetness of the course. It wasn't too difficult, but it had its challenges."

As for Carlee Gassman, she finished seventh overall in 22:14 to earn a medal in her final home meet.

Sophomore Reese Johnson also garnered a medal for the Lady Cats as she took 11th

in 22:49.

“I felt like I gave it my all and left everything out on the course,” Carlee said. “I wouldn’t have ran so well if it wasn’t for Reese. She gives me a lot of motivation.”

Sophomore Ruth Minster had her best varsity race of the season as she was fourth on the team in 24:22 and was 22nd overall. Freshman Nova Ptacek also had a strong showing in 25th with a time of 24:50.

Bree Gassman (24:56) and junior Kennady Wilkerson (28th) were 27th and 28th, respectively.



Senior Anthony Davis (left) medaled in his final regular season meet as he finished 10th overall.

On the boys side, Louisburg garnered three medals, including one from Davis in his final home meet. Davis took 10th overall in 19:01 and helped the Wildcat boys to a third-place team finish with 70 points.

Spring Hill won the boys team title with 32 points and Piper was second with 58. Piper senior Owen Roellchen won the boys race in 17:30.

Louisburg sophomore Caden Bradshaw finished right behind Davis in 11th to medal with a time of 19:06. Fellow sophomore Ryan Rogers also garnered a medal in 15th in 19:14.

Junior Carson Houchen finished

just outside of medal contention in 17th with a time of 19:28 and

junior Cade Holtzen was 20th in 20:04. Senior Evan Murphy (20:31)

and sophomore Sawyer Richardson (21:12) took 26th and 29th, respectively.

The competition will begin to heat
up for the Wildcats as they begin their postseason schedule this Thursday when
they travel to Tonganoxie for the Frontier League Invitational at the
Leavenworth County Fairgrounds.

The Frontier League features
state-ranked teams in Baldwin and Eudora, along with several strong individual
runners from other programs.

“I am very excited for league,”
Moore said. “We have a very difficult league with very talented and amazing runners.
We have not run this course before, so it will be very exciting and interesting
as it will provide many of its own challenges. I know that I can do great
myself, and that our team can perform very well if we give our best effort. It
should be a great race and I can’t wait to run.”

Moore wins Ramsey Invitational; Wildcat boys, girls take second



The Louisburg boys and girls cross country teams finished second Thursday at the Ramsey Invitational at Prairie View High School. Members of the team are (front row, from left) Emily Williams, Reese Johnson, Kennady Wilkerson, Carlee Gassman, Trinity Moore, Bree Gassman, Nova Ptacek; (back row) Caden Bradshaw, Carson Houchen, Sawyer Richardson, Evan Murphy, Anthony Davis, Ryan Rogers and Cade Holtzen.

LA CYGNE – The medals continue to pile up for the Louisburg cross country teams as they added to their collection Thursday at Prairie View High School.

The Wildcat boys and girls squads both finished second overall during the Ramsey Invitational as they continue to improve their times for the stretch run later this month. Louisburg also had seven individual medalists, including senior Trinity Moore, who finished first in the girls race.

“I was pleased to see the teams medal again,” Louisburg coach John Reece said. “The last two weeks have been a

grind with three meets in 14 days, plus workouts. We haven't run fast yet, but
we do compete very well."

Moore was the class of the girls
division as she ran a time of 20 minutes and 37 seconds and finished 17 seconds
ahead of Jayhawk Linn's Kate Dawson, who was runner-up.

Louisburg also had a pair of
runners who finished in the top 10. Sophomore Reese Johnson was sixth in 21:33
and senior Carlee Gassman was seventh in 21:52.

"Finishing
first is always a confidence builder," coach Reece said of Moore. "She knows
that we are in the middle of the season and still training hard and her times
might not show it yet. Every race is different and she stepped up and ran well."

Junior
Kennady Wilkerson was fourth on the team with a 24:55 and was 23rd
overall. Freshmen Bree Gassman (25:02) and Nova Ptacek (25:38) took 25th
and 27th, respectively, while senior Emily Williams was 31st
in 25:59.



Trinity Moore distances herself from the rest of the pack Thursday at Prairie View.

As a team, the Lady Cats recorded 57 points to finish second. Central Heights won the meet with 46 points and Anderson County was third with 65.

Senior Anthony Davis continues to lead the Wildcat boys team as he was one of four runners to earn individual medals in their race. Davis was fourth with a time of 18:37 and was 30 seconds behind the leader.

Sophomore Ryan Rogers finished sixth overall in 18:53 and fellow sophomore Caden Bradshaw was 10th in 19 minutes. Junior Carson Houchen also medaled as he took 13th in 19:23.

Junior

Cade Holtzen was 16th in 19:39, while senior Evan Murphy (20:08) and

sophomore Sawyer Richardson (20:10), were 20th and 21st, respectively.

Louisburg finished the day with 49 points to take second overall. Central Heights won with 43 points and Anderson County was third with 52.



Caden Bradshaw was one of four medalists for the Louisburg boys team Thursday at Prairie View.

“The
boys again worked well together and in the last kilometer they really went for
it,” coach Reece said. “Teammate or not, it is about running for yourself in
that last part of the race and they did.”

The

Wildcats will face another challenge this Thursday when they travel to the
Pittsburg Invitational at Four Oaks Golf Course.

Louisburg
also found out where it would be running in the postseason. The Wildcats are in
the Baldwin regional with Atchison, Eudora, Ottawa, Tonganoxie, Bishop Miege,
Holton and Piper.

“I’m pleased with where we are at as of now,” Reece said. “We are
going to be in a very tough regional and we have a lot to do in the next few
weeks to prepare for it.”

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 medal seven; boys and girls finish third at Wellsville



Louisburg senior Anthony Davis leads a pack of runners down a straightaway Thursday during the Wellsville Invitational. Davis finished sixth overall.

WELLSVILLE – It was a successful day all around for the Louisburg cross country team as the Wildcats brought home a lot of hardware from the Wellsville Invitational.

Both the boys and girls teams finished third overall in the 11-team meet Thursday and combined to have seven individual medalists. It was the type of performance Louisburg cross country coach John Reece likes to see as his teams try to find their groove.

“It was a good day at Wellsville,” Reece said. “Both girls and boys teams ran well. It is a tough week as we ran Wamego the Saturday before and then raced on Thursday again. This sometimes leads to fewer time improvements and we look to compete more as a team and work together than to really go for a personal best. Both teams did just that. They worked together and their effort was rewarded.”

Senior Anthony Davis led the Wildcat boys with one of his better performances of the season as he took sixth overall with a time of 18 minutes and 24 seconds. Junior Carson Houchen followed suit as he took 15th in 19:32 to also earn an individual medal.

Sophomore Ryan Rogers (19:46) and junior Cade Holtzen (19:47) also left Wellsville with medals as they finished 23rd and 24th, respectively.

Sawyer Richardson, a sophomore, ran a 20:28 to take 39th overall. Senior Evan Murphy was 40th in 20:30.

As a team, the Wildcats recorded 98 points to earn the third place team medal. Central Heights won the Wellsville title with 29 points and Burlington was second with 81.

“Anthony is on a mission this year,” Reece said of his senior leader. “He has been training great and is being rewarded through time improvement. He is setting

the tone for the boys team and they are following his lead. Four medalists in
the meet shows how hard and well they are working together, both in practices
and in meets. They pack-up together and mow down the field as the move through
the race.”



Senior Carlee Gassman passes Prairie View’s Brooke Allen as they approach the finish line Thursday in Wellsville.

Senior
Trinity Moore also ran a strong race in what was a difficult

field. Moore led the Lady Cats with a sixth place finish in 21:30 and Bishop Seabury freshman Oona Nelson was first in 20 minutes.

Fellow senior Carlee Gassman ran one of her better races of the season as she took 12th in 22:06 and sophomore Reese Johnson was 14th in 22:15 to round out the Louisburg medalists.

“Carlee is running well,” coach Reece said. “She has improved upon her personal record from last year and is training great. She is setting herself, and the team, up for big time success at the end of the season.”

Freshman Bree Gassman was fourth on the Louisburg team with a 24:51 to take 36th and junior Kennady Wilkerson took 40th in 25:29. Freshman Nova Ptacek (27:09) and sophomore Ruth Minster (27:16) rounded out the Louisburg team in 52nd and 53rd, respectively.

As a team, the Lady Cats recorded 78 points to take third overall. Central Heights took the top spot with 60 points and Fort Scott was second with 67.

Louisburg will hit the course again this Thursday when they compete in the Prairie View Invitational. Races are set to begin at 3:30 p.m.

Moore takes third at Wamego Invitational; Lady Cats finish fourth



The Louisburg girls cross country team was all smiles after its fourth-place finish Saturday in Wamego. Members of the team are (from left) Bree Gassman, Carlee Gassman, Trinity Moore, Reese Johnson, Kennady Wilkerson and Ruth Minster.

WAMEGO – The goal for members of the Louisburg cross country team is make the trip to Wamego for the state meet in early November.

Louisburg got a little taste of what state is going to be like Saturday when the Wildcats competed in the Wamego Invitational at the Wamego Country Club.

Senior Trinity Moore felt right at home as the 3-time state medalist mastered her way through the course and finished third overall out of 103 runners. The Lady Cats were also toward the top of the team standings as they finished fourth overall with 189 points.

Buhler won the girls title with 25 points, Baldwin was second with 81 and Eudora was third with

111 points.

“The girls ran a great race,” Louisburg coach John Reece said. “Fourth place as a team was good and it shows us that we need to close the gap between No. 3 and the rest of the team. It is always good to run at Wamego, which we missed out on last year. It is a good barometer for how state might shake out.”

Moore made her way through the field for that third place finish as she ran a time of 21 minutes and 2 seconds and was one of three Lady Cats to earn medals. Chapman junior Taylor Briggs, who is the two-time defending state champion, won in 19:12 and Buhler senior Daycee DeWindt was second at 20:57.

“Trinity ran a solid race,” Reece said. “She was feeling it as we had two good workouts this last week and it showed a little in her face at the end. She is cranking out the miles and workouts and will be ready for regionals and state.”

Sophomore Reese Johnson and senior Carlee Gassman ran strong races as well as both left Wamego with medals. Johnson took 18th overall in 22:07 and Gassman was 21st in 22:32.

Freshman

Bree Gassman was fourth on the Louisburg team as she was 78th in 26:11, while junior Kennady Wilkerson (26:17) and sophomore Ruth Minster (26:30) finished in 80th and 82nd, respectively.

The girls weren't the only ones to garner medals.

Senior Anthony Davis earned his second consecutive medal as he took 29th overall in 18:42 out of 127 runners in the 18-team meet.

"Anthony ran well and he sees, by his finish, that he has some work ahead of him and he will be ready come regionals to qualify for state and hopefully have six other runners with him," coach Reece said."

As a team, the Wildcats finished 11th overall with 282 points. Wamego won the title with 89 points, Buhler was second with 96 and Towanda-Circle was third with 114.

Sophomore Ryan Rogers was second on the Wildcat team and ran a 19:25 to take 48th overall. Junior Carson Houchen finished 56th in 19:32 and junior Cade Holtzen was 69th in 19:49.

Sophomore

Sawyer Richardson came in 93rd in 20:53 and senior Evan Murphy ran a

21:37 to take 104th.

Louisburg
will be back in action Thursday when it travels to the Wellsville Invitational.
The meet is set to begin at 4 p.m.