

Fast start keys Louisburg's third consecutive win



Senior linebacker Charlie Koontz brings down a Eudora player during Louisburg's 17-7 homecoming win over Eudora on Friday at Wildcat Stadium. Koontz led the Wildcats with 13 tackles on the night.

The Louisburg football team could get used to this.

Good times continued for the Wildcats on Friday as they got out to a quick start and picked up their third consecutive win with a 17-7 victory over Eudora on homecoming.

That 0-2 start they had to start the year – is now way in the rear view mirror and Louisburg is 3-2 on the season. Life couldn't be much better for the Wildcats right now.

"Going 0-2 sucks, but those losses were against two quality teams," Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. "But for these kids to come back and win three in a row and get back on the winning side is a testament to them and the hard work they put into it."

A common theme during the Wildcats'

winning streak is their ability to get off to a fast start. In each game, they have scored a touchdown on their opening possession and it continued Friday.

Louisburg went 80 yards in 12 plays and finished it off with a 1-yard touchdown run from junior Ben Wiedenmann to go up 7-0 on the Cardinals. The early lead in each of their wins has proved vital for Louisburg.

“Luckily we got off to a good start before they could settle in,” Ebenstein said. “Once Eudora settled in, they kind of started stunting and twisting. They uglified it up a little bit and we didn’t pick it up well after that.

“I think it honestly comes back to our coaches creating a game plan and teaching it well. We are just able to take it from the get go before teams have a chance to see exactly what we are doing. That has been big, but honestly we just executed really well. We kind of knew what they would be to start with and we were able to take advantage to it.”

Following the touchdown, momentum continued to build for Louisburg as senior kicker Drake Varns executed a perfect onside kick opportunity and he recovered his own kick just past the 10 yards the ball was required to travel.

The Wildcats took full advantage as quarterback Madden Rutherford found Weston Guetterman on passes of 34 and 13 yards, which led to a 3-yard touchdown run by Andy Hupp.

Louisburg had a 14-0

lead before Eudora had a chance to get its hands on the ball.

“Coach (Drew) Harding saw on film

where we had potential to do what we call the ‘middle dribble’
and it worked

out perfect,” Ebenstein said of the onside kick. “It was a
great call by him. They

blocked it perfect and Varns placed it perfectly. I think he
kicked it 11 yards

to cover it and it was as good as you could have drawn it up.”

Louisburg’s offense slowed down a

little after that, but the Wildcats were able to add on to
their lead at

halftime. With just seconds left in the second quarter,
Wiedenmann broke free

for a 38-yard run down the sideline, which allowed the
Wildcats to try for the
field goal.

Varns, once again came through for

Louisburg as he converted a 41-yard field goal to put the
Wildcats up 17-0 as time

expired in the first half.



Kicker Drake Varns leaps into the arms of Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein after making a 41-yard field goal right before halftime.

“Eudora dropped everyone back so I just went ahead and ran ‘stretch’ to see what would happen and Ben hit the edge

hard," Ebenstein said. "I told Drake that if we got close we were going to kick it and he got his opportunity. He might have doinked it in, but it worked and was a good kick."

Wiedenmann led Louisburg in rushing with 123 yards on 17 carries and the Wildcats were also able get their passing game going at times. Rutherford completed 12 of 18 passes for 116 yards, many of which went to Guetterman.

The junior wide receiver caught eight of those attempts for 107 yards and made key catches down the stretch to keep drives alive.

"Weston made play after play when we went to his side," Ebenstein said. "He had a great game and Madden did a good job getting it to him. We were also able to play solid defense, and whether we win by 1, 10 or 30, we will take it."



Junior Eli Johnson makes a tackle for the Wildcat defense during the team's 17-7 win Friday.

The Wildcat defense gave up a few yards to the Cardinals, but they were able to keep them out of the endzone until the fourth quarter when Eudora was able to prevent the shutout. Louisburg held Eudora to 272 yards of offense and junior Konnor Vohs also intercepted a pass in the second half.

Senior linebacker Charlie Koontz, who was in his first game back from injury, led the Wildcats with a team-high 13 tackles and Hupp added seven. Seniors Michael Waldron and Garrett Harding each had six tackles in the win.

Louisburg will try and keep its

winning streak going this Friday when it travels to Atchison for a non-league contest. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

LOU	14	3	0	0	-
17					
EUD	0	0	0	7	
- 7					

SCORING SUMMARY

First quarter

L: Ben Wiedenmann 1 run (Drake Varns kick)

L: Andy Hupp 3 run (Varns kick)

Second quarter

L: Varns 41 FG

Fourth quarter

E: Zeke Reazin 1 run (Caden Willits kick)

STATISTICS

RUSHING – Ben Wiedenmann 17-123, Andy Hupp 10-25, Justin Collins 2-18, Kolby Kattau 2-10, Madden Rutherford 5-1

PASSING – Madden Rutherford 12-18-116

RECEIVING – Weston Guetterman 8-107, Andy Hupp 1-6, Ben Wiedenmann 1-3, Charlie Koontz 2-0

TACKLES – Charlie Koontz 13, Andy Hupp 7, Michael Waldron 6, Garrett Harding 6, Justin Collins

5, Brandon Doles

4, Konnor Vohs 3, Eli Johnson 3, Weston Guetterman 2, Ben Wiedenmann 2, A.J.

Reed 2, Brayden White 2, Andrew Krause 1, Tom Koontz 1

Louisburg turns things around with win over Piper



Louisburg senior lineman Brayden White brings down the Piper quarterback in the back field Friday during the Wildcats' 23-6 win over the Pirates at Wildcat Stadium.

Two weeks into the season, things were looking bleak for the Louisburg football team.

The Wildcats lost their first two games, including a 36-point defeat in their home opener, and they were a squad that was decimated by injuries. It couldn't have been a worse start.

Fast forward to the present and things are a lot brighter for the Wildcats.

Louisburg picked up its second consecutive win with a 23-6 victory Friday over previous undefeated Piper at

Wildcat Stadium. The Wildcats are a different team, and despite still dealing with some injuries, they are in a much better place.

“It was a huge win,” Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. “That first game we had a lot to learn and we did it by attrition. That second game, I hate to say it, but we got our butt whooped. Last week, I challenged them to answer with who we really are and they did that. Against Piper, I told the boys they could make a statement with an undefeated team coming onto our home field and they answered.

“They have learned a lot in these last few games and they are growing together as a team and I am really proud of them.”

Defense was the calling card for Louisburg on Friday as the Wildcats held the Pirates to a season-low six points and created a lot of havoc, which didn't let Piper get into a flow offensively.

The Wildcats (2-2) sacked the quarterback twice, forced two turnovers and held Piper out of the endzone for much of the night. Louisburg gave up just 118 yards of total offense.

“That is all coach (Jeff) Lohse, (Alex) Gentges, (Kade) Larson, (Drew) Harding, (Joel) McGhee, (Pete) Skakal and (Ty) Pfannenstiel,” Ebenstein said. “Those coaches are the defensive guys and they took care of business along with the players. It was a great

effort all-around.”

Sophomore linebacker Brandon Doles, who is filling for injured starter Charlie Koontz, had his best game as a Wildcat. Doles led the team with nine tackles, recorded a sack, forced and recovered a fumble on special teams and deflected a pass later in the game that turned into an interception.

Doles also tackled the Pirate punter on a bad snap attempt early in the game that gave the Wildcats a short field with which to work.



Brandon Doles (8) and Justin Collins (23) bring down a hurdling Piper player Friday in Louisburg.

“For a sophomore stepping in for a senior, he is learning quick and he played a great game for us,” Ebenstein said. “He is a heck of a player and I think he is going to get better and better in all phases.”

Senior lineman Brayden White also had a big day up front with four tackles, including a sack and a tackle for a loss. Senior lineman Garrett Harding, junior linebacker Ben Wiedenmann and junior defensive back Justin Collins also added four tackles.

Offensively, the Wildcats played conservatively as they took little chunks of yardage at a time and it worked on their opening possession. Louisburg drove 80 yards in 11 plays and found the endzone when Wiedenmann scored on a 6-yard run to put the Wildcats up 6-0.

Wiedenmann had another big game on the ground for Louisburg as he finished with 19 carries for 112 yards and the touchdown.

Both offenses stalled for much of the first half, but the Wildcats made it 9-0 when senior Drake Varns nailed a 30-yard field goal. Piper answered with a touchdown drive, and after a missed extra point, trailed Louisburg by three at halftime.

“That was kind of the plan coming in,” Ebenstein said. “We were going to play football in a phone booth and see if they can match us. Defensively they did match us and they

were solid and played tough football. It was nice to see us put a couple drives together and get in the endzone though.”

The Wildcat offense appeared it was going to stall again late in the third quarter when they faced a fourth-and-16 near the redzone. Instead, quarterback Madden Rutherford found Kolby Kattau down the sideline for a 21-yard touchdown pass to make it 16-6.

“We drew that up and we knew it was going to be cover 1 on the back out and it came down to just making a play,” Ebenstein said. “Madden put it where it needed to be and Kolby made a nice catch.”



Kolby Kattau was all smiles after catching a second half from Madden Rutherford on Friday.

Louisburg's defense forced Piper to turn the ball over on downs a couple different times near midfield and the Wildcats took advantage of one of those as Rutherford hit Weston Guetterman on a 2-yard touchdown pass to go up 17 with 3 minutes and 49 seconds left in the game.

Guetterman then sealed the win with an interception on Piper's ensuing possession to give the Wildcats their first home victory of the year.

Louisburg will try and make it three in a row this Friday when it hosts Eudora for homecoming. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. and the crowning for king and queen will be at 6:30 p.m.

"Eudora is a growing team and they are continuing to get better," Ebenstein said. "We can't look past them. They have some linemen that are pretty good, they have a big tight end and they have a great coach. Eudora will be ready to go for sure so we have to come ready to play."

LOU	6	3	7	7
- 23				
PIP	0	6	0	
0 - 6				

SCORING SUMMARY

First quarter

L: Ben Wiedenmann 6 run (2 point failed)

Second quarter

L: Drake Varns 30 FG

P: LeJames White 5 run (kick failed)

Third quarter

L: Kolby Kattau 21 pass from
Madden Rutherford (Varns kick)

Fourth quarter

L: Weston Guetterman 2 pass from
Rutherford (Varns kick)

STATISTICS

RUSHING – Ben Wiedenmann 19-112;
Madden Rutherford 16-44; Andy Hupp 10-21; Justin Collins 4-13

PASSING – Madden Rutherford
6-14-55

RECEIVING – Weston Guetterman
3-25; Kolby Kattau 1-21; Michael Waldron 1-5; Ben Wiedenmann
1-4.

TACKLES – Brandon Doles 9, Ben
Wiedenmann 4, Garrett Harding 4, Brayden White 4, Justin
Collins 4, Michael
Waldron 3, Eli Johnson 3, Drake Varns 2, Andy Hupp 2, Ben
Guetterman 1, Kolby
Kattau 1, Tom Koontz 1, A.J. Reed 1.

Wiedenmann's big plays help Wildcats to first win



Louisburg running back Ben Wiedenmann looks for an opening during the Wildcats' 38-12 win over Baldwin on Friday.

BALDWIN CITY – Louisburg was nowhere near healthy when it entered Friday's road contest at Baldwin.

The Wildcats were missing nine combined starters on both sides of the ball due to injury, they had to shuffle guys in different positions and change things up offensively. It wasn't exactly the perfect recipe for success.

Whatever the Wildcats did, worked like a charm.

Louisburg ran all over Baldwin as it amassed almost 400 yards of rushing on its way to a 38-12 victory over the Bulldogs at Listen Stadium on the campus of Baker University. In the process, the Wildcats picked up their first win of the season, which helped erase the bad taste they had the previous two outings.

"It was a little different for sure," Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. "The look was different, what we could do was different and what we thought we would be good at is different than normal. That is just coaching. Every week is different

and we want to give
the kids the best opportunity each week to have success and
put them in position
where they can succeed. You could tell they wanted this one
and they came out
and played really hard. It was a good win.”

Ben Wiedenmann provided the lift the Wildcats were looking for
as he recorded three touchdowns of 30-yards or more in the
first half and finished the game with 231 yards on the ground
on 26 carries.

He got it thanks to the blocking
up front as Brayden White, Ian McGuire, Garrett Harding, along
with two new
starters in Andrew Krause and Sam Kratochvil, shined on the
offensive line.

Tight end Michael Waldron, along with blocking backs Brandon
Doles and Kolby
Kattau, also broke Wiedenmann free on several plays.

“Anyone that knows me, knows that
I want to run the ball,” Ebenstein said. “Situations in our
last two games kind
of took that away from us early and forced us to throw a
little bit more and
this one was different. In the first quarter, we established
what we wanted and
Ben ran hard and we blocked well. Then with our two running
backs out, I
thought Brandon and Kolby came in and blocked really well.”

Wiedenmann wasn't the only Wildcat
to eclipse the century mark in rushing as quarterback Andy
Hupp also added 106
yards on the ground, threw for a touchdown and ran in three 2-
point
conversions. Hupp replaced starting quarterback Madden

Rutherford, who was one of the Wildcat starters out with injury.



Quarterback Andy Hupp drags a Baldwin defender for a few extra yards Friday. Hupp threw for a touchdown and rushed for more than 100 yards.

“Andy is a monster,” Ebenstein said. “He runs hard, he blocks hard, he tackles well and he was just all over the place for us. I was really pleased with him as well.”

The Wildcats (1-2) got things going on their first possession as Wiedenmann broke free for a 35-yard touchdown run, and after a Hupp 2-point conversion, went up 8-0.

On Louisburg’s next drive, it was

Wiedenmann again as he found the endzone on a 36-yard scamper and went up 16-0 after another Hupp 2-point run.

Baldwin went on to score to begin the second quarter, but the Wildcats returned the favor as Wiedenmann scored on a 31-yard run. Louisburg drove down the field before halftime and Hupp found Waldron on a 1-yard touchdown in the back of the endzone and the Wildcats went up 32-6 at the break.

Justin Collins provided the only score in the second half for the Wildcats on a 41-yard run to seal the win.



Senior Michael Waldron brings down a Baldwin runner Friday in

Baldwin City.

Other than one big play, the Wildcat defense was sound all evening as Baldwin recorded just 89 total yards of offense, including minus 22 yards rushing.

“Defensively I was really pleased with what we were able to do considering some guys were in different spots,” Ebenstein said. “We gave up the one big pass play, but other than that I thought we did some good things out there.”

Hupp led the Wildcats with eight tackles on the night, while Harding finished with seven and Eli Johnson added six. Konnor Vohs also recorded an interception.

Louisburg returns home Friday as it will try to get its second consecutive win against Piper. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. During halftime of the contest, Louisburg will also recognize its newest hall of fame inductees – Dennis Stiles, Krystal Bowes (Grojean), Jason Burk and John Lohse.

LOU	16	16	0	6	–
38					
BAL	0	6	6	0	
– 12					

SCORING SUMMARY

FIRST QUARTER

L: Ben Wiedenmann 35 run (Andy Hupp run)

L: Wiedenmann 36 run (Hupp run)

SECOND QUARTER

B: Gavin Lang 26 pass from Connor Quick (run failed)

L: Wiedenmann 31 run (Hupp run)

L: Michael Waldron 1 pass from Hupp (Wiedenmann run)

THIRD QUARTER

B: Trysten Heck 80 fumble return (run failed)

FOURTH QUARTER

L: Justin Collins 41 run (kick failed)

STATISTICS

RUSHING – Ben Wiedenmann 26-231;
Andy Hupp 23-106; Justin Collins 1-41

PASSING – Hupp 2-6-minus 2

RECEIVING – Michael Waldron 1-1

TACKLES – Andy Hupp 8, Garrett Harding 7, Eli Johnson 6, Brandon Doles 5, Michael Waldron 5, Brayden White 5, A.J. Reed 5, Kolby Kattau 3, Tom Koontz 3, Terrance Foster 2, Konnor Vohs 1, Ben Guetterman 1, Justin Collins 1, Andrew Krause 1.

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		5A		4A		3A	
Member Schools - 32		Member Schools - 32		Member Schools - 32		Member Schools - 48	
Range: 1854 - 1092		Range: 1083 - 655		Range: 654 - 340		Range: 324 - 168	
Wichita-East	1854	Liberal	1083	Lansing	654	Baldwin	324
Wichita-North	1691	Hutchinson	1049	Great Bend	651	Topeka-Hayden	314
Wichita-Southeast	1662	Wichita-Heights	1045	Lenexa-St. James Academy	649	Parsons	286
Derby	1638	Shawnee-Mill Valley	982	Bonner Springs	640	Andale	279
Garden City	1560	Leavenworth	977	Arkansas City	620	Pratt	275
Dodge City	1533	Wichita-Northwest	970	Andover Central	608	Clearwater	266
Olathe South	1503	Emporia	949	Basehor-Linwood	587	Iola	256
Olathe East	1477	Kansas City-Turner	902	McPherson	535	Girard	252
Olathe North	1469	Wichita-Bishop Carroll	890	Kansas City-Piper	518	Nickerson	252
Topeka-Washburn Rural	1449	Topeka West	882	Ottawa	507	Clay Center Community	247
Wichita-South	1438	Topeka-Seaman	881	Buhler	497	Holton	242
Lawrence-Free State	1411	Tecumseh-Shawnee Heights	876	SM-Bishop Miege	493	Concordia	241
Manhattan	1402	Maize	871	Augusta	491	Kansas City-Bishop Ward	240
Topeka	1364	Kansas City-Washington	850	Winfield	472	Garnett-Anderson County	234
Olathe Northwest	1356	Maize South	842	Tonganoxie	471	Chapman	224
Kansas City-Wyandotte	1355	OP-Blue Valley Southwest	811	Independence	461	St. George-Rock Creek	224
SM East	1353	Salina-South	800	Chanute	452	Baxter Springs	223
Gardner-Edgerton	1325	Newton	788	Paola	447	Osawatomie	221
Haysville Campus	1297	De Soto	758	Fort Scott	434	Columbus	220
SM West	1277	Salina-Central	758	Louisburg	432	Carbondale-Santa Fe Trail	217
SM Northwest	1266	Topeka-Highland Park	757	Towanda-Circle	429	Wichita-Trinity Academy	217
Olathe West	1256	Andover	733	Coffeyville-Field Kindley	409	Hoyt-Royal Valley	216
OP-Blue Valley Northwest	1233	Goddard-Eisenhower	725	El Dorado	400	Hugoton	216
SM North	1226	Valley Center	699	Eudora	391	LaCygne-Prairie View	214
Lawrence	1221	Kansas City-Sumner Acad.	698	Rose Hill	381	Hiawatha	213
OP-Blue Valley	1182	OP-St. Thomas Aquinas	693	Altamont-Labette County	377	Frontenac	211
OP-Blue Valley West	1182	Wichita-Kapaun Mt. Carmel	693	Mulvane	375	Meriden-Jefferson West	211
Junction City	1136	Pittsburg	691	Atchison	355	Holcomb	210
Wichita-West	1129	Hays	687	Abilene	352	Burlington	203
Kansas City-JC Harmon	1110	Kansas City-FL Schlagle	687	Wamego	351	Hesston	202
SM South	1106	Spring Hill	668	Wellington	345	Colby	201
OP-Blue Valley North	1092	Goddard	655	Ulysses	340	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
Welleville	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-Eli-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-Maranaatha 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 (<i>White City/Hope</i>)	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
Clafin-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 (<i>Miltonvale/Glasco</i>)	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-Labelle 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 Schlegle 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 Warrego 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-Leocompton 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**

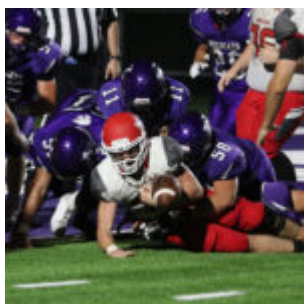
Mound City-Jayhawk Linn HS	171
Oskaloosa HS	171
†Belle Plaine HS	170
Rossville HS	169
Elsworth HS	168
†Erie HS	166
†Wathena-Riverside HS	164
Conway Springs HS	160
Belleville-Republic County HS	158
Garden Plain HS	158
Hutchinson-Trinity Catholic HS	158
Cherokee-Southeast HS	157
Eskridge-Mission Valley 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
Sedgewick HS	140
Alma-Wabaunsee HS	139
Brookville-El-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
Bernington 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
Elinwood 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
Rosalie-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
Minnesota 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
Burton 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
Melvorn-Marais Des Cygnes Valley HS	65
St. Paul HS	65
Clafin-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
Wellmore 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.

Tonganoxie ruins Wildcats' home opener



Louisburg's (from left) Eli Johnson, Konnor Vohs and Garrett Harding team up to stop a Tonganoxie player at the goal line and force a fumble Friday at Wildcat Stadium.

It wasn't the way the Louisburg football wanted to kick off its home schedule Friday against Tonganoxie.

Tonganoxie took advantage of some Wildcat mistakes and racked up nearly 500 yards of total offense as it handed Louisburg a 42-6 loss at Wildcat Stadium.

The Chieftains were the more physical team as they won the battle up front and put together several hard hits on the Wildcat players.

“Tonganoxie is very good,” Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. “My hats off to them. They played a complete, physical four-quarter game. They are best public school that I have seen in a long time. They are legit.”

Louisburg (0-2) had to face obstacles throughout the game, including losing players to injury, and it challenged their depth. Running backs Charlie Koontz and Jay Scollin had to leave the game with injuries, as did quarterback Madden Rutherford.

The Chieftains’ defense held Louisburg to just 175 total yards of offense and forced two turnovers. Even with all that, the Wildcats trailed just 21-6 at halftime.

“They really didn’t let us do a whole lot,” Ebenstein said of Tonganoxie. “Then on top of it we lose two starting running backs and our quarterback to injury, and at that point, we were just going to take what we could get. I am really proud of our kids. They fought hard and they never tucked their tails. They didn’t quit and they fought their butts off and I am proud of them for that.”

Tonganoxie (2-0) opened the game with a 79-yard drive that ended in a 2-yard touchdown, and after the Wildcats were forced to punt on their opening possession, the Chieftains drove down the field once again. Except this time, the Wildcat defense forced Tonganoxie to turn the ball over on downs in the red zone.



Jay Scollin (33) and Justin Collins break up a Tonganoxie pass in the endzone Friday.

As it turned out, it was only a minor victory for Louisburg as Tonganoxie put together another possession that ended on a 5-yard score from Elijah Tyner and went up 14-0 late in the first quarter.

Louisburg had an answer as the Wildcats put together a drive of their own that ended with an 8-yard touchdown pass to Ben Wiedenmann from Rutherford. Wiedenmann also had a big game on the ground for Louisburg as he carried the ball 13 times for 103 yards.

The Chieftains stopped any kind of momentum the Wildcats put together as they scored on their next possession to go up 21-6. Tonganoxie looked to increase its lead even more before halftime, but the Wildcat defense had other answers.

The Wildcats forced two turnovers as Weston Guetterman recovered a fumble near the goal line. Then shortly before halftime, Michael Waldron intercepted a pass to keep the deficit at 15 points.



Louisburg's Brandon Doles (8) and A.J. Reed team up for a tackle Friday against Tonganoxie.

Andy Hupp was all over the field for the Wildcat defense as the junior linebacker recorded a team-high 16 tackles, including six solo stops. Hupp then came in the game at quarterback in the second half for Rutherford.

"Andy has taken minimal reps at quarterback, but he is just a football player and he will do anything we ask of him," Ebenstein said. "Andy is just a stud and he played well

for us.”

Justin Collins and Brandon Doles were next on the team with seven tackles each, while Guetterman, Garrett Harding and Wiedenmann each added six.

Louisburg will try for its first win of the season Friday when they travel to Baldwin. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the campus of Baker University.

“We have a winning culture here, so anytime you lose it is tough on the guys,” Ebenstein said. “At the end of the day, these guys are doing what we ask of them. They are lining up every play and getting to where they need to be. We talk to them about life skills and we tell them that sometimes in life you don’t get lucky breaks all the time and it is all about how you respond. Our kids responded and kept fighting. We are going to go to practice and get better and get ready for Baldwin.”

LOU	0	6	0	0
– 6				
TON	14	7	7	14
– 42				

SCORING SUMMARY

FIRST QUARTER

T: Sam Kleidosty 2 run (Javier Trujillo kick)

T: Elijah Tyner 5 run (Trujillo kick)

SECOND QUARTER

L: Ben Wiedenmann 8 pass from Madden Rutherford (extra point failed)

T: Cooper Cunningham 16 pass from Blake Poje (Trujillo kick)

THIRD QUARTER

T: Tyner 9 run (Trujillo kick)

FOURTH QUARTER

T: Cunningham 2 run (Trujillo kick)

T: Devyn Splichal run (Mendoza kick)

STATISTICS

RUSHING: Ben Wiedenmann 13-103;
Madden Rutherford 9-8

PASSING: Madden Rutherford
7-19-73-1

RECEIVING: Ben Wiedenmann 4-23; Weston Guetterman 2-23; Charlie Koontz 1-21; Michael Waldron 1-6

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 statute 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.”

Late comeback falls short in Wildcats' loss to Spring Hill



Louisburg junior Ben Wiedenmann breaks through the line for a

long run during the Wildcats' season opener Friday in Spring Hill.

SPRING HILL – Four yards.

That is how far away the Louisburg football team was from completing what was already an impeccable comeback in its season opener Friday against Spring Hill.

Down three points with 50 seconds left, the Wildcats had a first and goal from the 4-yard line and were ready to steal the road win. Fate had other ideas, however.

Two penalties and two incompletions later, the Wildcats were forced to try a game-tying field goal. The kick fell short and Spring Hill survived a 27-24 contest that could have easily gone different way after Louisburg scored 18 unanswered points to tie it.

“Losing sucks, that is for sure,” Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. “We had every chance to win it. The game really wasn’t lost at the end, the game was lost in the first half and I was glad to see us battle back like we did. I was very pleased with how they fought.

“We had chances to make plays. Sometimes you make them and sometimes you don’t. There was a big learning curve for us, and unfortunately some of the plays we learned on were scores for them.”

Spring Hill jumped out quickly as the Broncos scored the game’s first 10 points before the Wildcats battled back early in the second quarter.

Louisburg drove 80 yards and ended

with a 1-yard touchdown run from quarterback Madden Rutherford, and after a missed extra point, the Wildcats trailed by just four.

Unfortunately for the Wildcats, Spring Hill's offense was difficult to get off the field as the Broncos engineered two more scoring drives. Bronco running back Zade Barker scored on pair of 4-yard runs to go up 24-6 with under two minutes left in the first half.

"We had a lot of kids making first starts out there on defense and we really weren't assignment sound," Ebenstein said. "That is something we might have taken for granted the last couple of years because we had kids who knew where to be and what to do. We will learn, coach them up and be better next game."

The Wildcats did take some momentum going into halftime as Rutherford led the Wildcats down the field and completed the drive with a 23-yard touchdown pass to Charlie Koontz with 24 seconds remaining.

After halftime, the Wildcats dominated time of possession.

Louisburg ate up the first nine minutes of the third quarter, which ended in a 36-yard field goal from Drake Varns. The Wildcat defense then forced a three-and-out, and got the ball right back. In all, Spring Hill ran just 15 plays from scrimmage the entire second half.

"Keeping our defense fresh and

their quarterback off the field was big for us,” Ebenstein said.



Junior Weston Guetterman hauls in one of his eight catches on Friday. Guetterman had a career-best 184 yards receiving.

Late in the third quarter, and with Louisburg facing a third-and-long situation, Rutherford connected with junior Weston Guetterman on a 35-yard pass play to the Spring Hill 21-yard line. Then on the opening play of the fourth quarter, junior Justin Collins found a hole and scored on a 21-yard touchdown run to tie the game.

Spring Hill kicker Bear Gardner put the Broncos in front again with a 27-yard field goal with

5 minutes and 49
seconds left in the contest.

The Wildcats had their backs
against wall, yet again, late in the fourth quarter as they
faced a 4th
down and 22. Rutherford again came through as he found running
back Ben
Wiedenmann on a 32-yard pass over the middle for a first down.

All that set up the first-and-goal
from the 4-yard line, which would be as close as the Wildcats
would get. An
illegal procedure penalty, two incompletions and a delay of
game stymied the
Louisburg drive.

“We had every intention of coming
back and winning that game,” Ebenstein said. “We had the ball
on our fingertips
twice in the endzone to win it, and then we had a good snap,
good hold on the
field goal but the kick just didn’t go through. We will learn
from this and get
better.”



Junior linebacker Andy Hupp brings down a Spring Hill player for a loss Friday.

Louisburg also had several players who were cramping up throughout the game, which forced players to play in different spots at times and limited the Wildcats on what they could do late in the game.

One of those was Rutherford, who despite the cramping issues, completed 12 of 27 passes for 251 yards and a touchdown. His favorite target was Guetterman, who had his best day in a Wildcat uniform with eight catches for 184 yards. Guetterman made several key catches late in the contest to keep drives alive.

24

SH

10

14

0

3

- 27

First quarter

SH: Gage Klutts 26 pass from
Corbyn Meyers (Bear Gardner kick)

SH: Gardner 26 FG

Second quarter

L: Madden Rutherford 1 run (kick
failed)

SH: Zade Barker 4 run (Gardner
kick)

SH: Barker 4 run (Gardner kick)

L: Charlie Koontz 23 pass from Rutherford
(Rutherford run)

Third quarter

L: Drake Varns 36 FG

Fourth quarter

L: Justin Collins 21 run (Varns
kick)

SH: Gardner 27 FG

STATISTICS

RUSHING – Ben Wiedenmann 15-81;

Madden Rutherford 11-37; Charlie Koontz 8-37; Justin Collins
3-31; Kolby Kattau
6-15; Jay Scollin 1-3

PASSING – Madden Rutherford
12-27-251

RECEIVING – Weston Guetterman
8-184; Ben Wiedenmann 1-32; Charlie Koontz 1-23; Jay Scollin
1-7; Michael
Waldron 1-5

TACKLES – Andy Hupp 8; Kolby
Kattau 7; Ben Wiedenmann 6; Michael Waldron 6; Brayden White
5; Justin Collins
4; Charlie Koontz 4; Andrew Krause 3; Weston Guetterman 2; Jay
Scollin 2;
Konnor Vohs 1; Drake Varns 1; A.J. Reed 1

Wildcat football ready to defend Frontier League title



Louisburg quarterback Madden Rutherford hands the ball off to junior Ben Wiedenmann during a workout over the summer. The Wildcats open their season Friday at Spring Hill.

It was one of those special years for Louisburg football that doesn't come along very often.

The Wildcats won their first 10 games in 2018, captured a Frontier League title and finished with a regional

championship, before defending state champion Bishop Miege came calling and ended the Wildcats' season.

Last year may be hard to replicate, especially after losing 18 seniors, but the Wildcats have the pieces to make a lot of noise in the Frontier League once again.

Louisburg has close to 70 players out this season, which is the most since head coach Robert Ebenstein has been involved with the program, and the Wildcats have 10 seniors this year that will be looked to fill the leadership left behind from last year's group.

"So far practices have been going very well," Ebenstein said. "We have some holes to fill from last year's roster, but the guys have been working very hard and are ready to fill those spots.

"We return 13 letterman with 8 individuals who started a game on offense and 6 individuals who started a game on defense. We will be younger with some new faces, but we have many kids who are ready to take that step up and compete at the varsity level."

One constant is third-year quarterback Madden Rutherford, who will once again lead the Wildcat offense. The Louisburg senior threw for more than 1,100 yards last season and had 14 touchdowns.

Rutherford is also a threat to take off and run as he recorded 354 yards on the ground and had four touchdowns a year ago as a second-team All-Frontier League player. He

also earned an all-league first team as a punter.

“Returning a quarterback is always a blessing, but when you can bring back a kid who is starting for his third season, it is a huge advantage,” Ebenstein said. “He is the smartest football player I have ever coached and knows our offensive system inside and out. He knows his job, he knows every route the receivers run and he knows all the blocking assignments the backs have. Honestly, he knows most all of the offensive line responsibilities as well.”



Louisburg head coach Robert Ebenstein is in his third season leading the Wildcats.

That offensive line will have a little different look from a year ago. Returning are all-league players Brayden White and Garrett Harding, and the Wildcats seniors will anchor that front along with fellow senior tight end Michael Waldron.

White, who was a first-team All-Frontier League selection a year ago, will lead the way at tackle and Harding will be a fixture at guard. Seniors Ian McGuire, Sam Kratochvil, along with juniors Andy Hupp, Eli Johnson and sophomore Dominic Owens are new faces who could help the Wildcats up front this season.

Louisburg lost three off that line from last season, including Kiefer Tucker, who was an All-Frontier League first team player on both sides of ball. Still, Ebenstein likes what he has coming back to help pave the way up front.

“Our offensive line will have some new faces, but should be a dominant force,” Ebenstein said. “We have smart football kids all over the field and we will have the most athletic offensive line we have had in a long time. We might not be as big as we have in the past, but our speed up front will be a strength.

“Being able to zone our opponents, and double off and be able to pick up those quick linebackers, will be a strength of ours. Also having Waldron return at tight end is a plus as well as his blocking, and knowledge of the system, is outstanding.”



Senior Michael Waldron hauls in a catch during the team's camp over the summer.

The Wildcats also have a stable of running backs to be able to get through those holes. Gone is All-League first-teamer Austin Moore, who is now with the Kansas State football program, but Ebenstein will have plenty have plenty to choose from to help fill the void.

Senior Charlie Koontz and junior Ben Wiedenmann both saw varsity time last season, and will lead the way in 2019. Juniors Justin Collins, Jay Scollin and sophomore Kolby Kattau will also see time in the backfield.

"This year our running backs will look a lot different," Ebenstein said. "We lost some quality kids, but some tough kids are ready to take those spots. All of those guys will be in the backfield this year and all do certain things very well. You should be hearing many names called out over the speakers this season. This is, by far, is the fastest backfield we have had in Louisburg since I have been here."

Defense was a staple for the Wildcats a year ago, and that

helped them to an undefeated league title. Although they have spots to fill, the Wildcats still figure to be strong in that area as well.

Hupp, Koontz, Kattau and sophomore Brandon Doles will all see a lot of time at the linebacker spot, while Hupp and Koontz are both returning starters at the position. White and Harding will anchor the middle of the defensive line as returning starters.

Wiedenmann will bring some speed off the edge from the defensive end spot, while Johnson, senior Andrew Krause and Owens will see time at defensive end.

In the secondary, Waldron, along with juniors Weston Guetterman, Collins, Konnor Vohs and Ben Guetterman will all see action in the defensive backfield.

Assistant coach Jeff Lohse is also returning as the team's defensive coordinator as he guided the Wildcats to one of Class 4A's top defenses a year ago.

"With Lohse calling the defense, I am always confident in our defense to be in the right spots and make plays," Ebenstein said. "Schematically, it will look similar to the Louisburg defenses over the years, but we will have some new faces for sure.

"Our defensive line should be a strength of ours with Harding and White anchoring the middle and I think Ben Wiedenmann could possibly be one of the fastest defensive ends in the state."

The Wildcats also return both of their kickers on special teams as senior Drake Varns will resume his placekicking

duties, while Rutherford is the team's punter.

The Frontier League will provide a lot of competition for the Wildcats again this season, including rival Paola, which is one of the favorites to win the league crown.

Still, Louisburg hopes to figure into that conversation at the end of the year and make a run in the state playoffs. It all starts Friday when the Wildcats travel to Spring Hill for their season opener.

"Our expectations are always the same," Ebenstein said. "We want to get better every practice, be prepared for every game, and represent this team in the best light we can.

"The Frontier League is tough week in and week out. There are no easy games in this league, but right now I am really only concerned with Spring Hill and leaving that game, 1-0."

Numbers up for all LHS fall programs as athletes battle through heat



Last fall, each of the four Louisburg High School athletic programs had something to brag about.

Whether it was football's 10-1 season that ended with a regional championship, volleyball's state runner-up finish, cross country's two state medalists and state qualifying girls team or the boys' soccer regional championship appearance – the Wildcats had plenty to cheer about and several athletes took notice.

Numbers are up for all four programs following the first day of practice Monday and the coaches and athletes are excited to get the season started after last year's successes.

The Wildcat football team saw a big jump in numbers as they have 70 students out this season and football coach Robert Ebenstein and has liked what he seen through the first couple days of workouts.

“Our numbers are up and based on the numbers at the middle school and youth programs and I expect them to keep growing,” Ebenstein said. “I am very excited for practice to get going. When you finish the season off with a loss in the playoffs it sticks with you and the opportunity to go play another game creates that energy and that eager feeling to get going. So far I am very pleased with our kids' focus and effort. We need to continue to get better every day.”

Louisburg volleyball has also seen a spike in its numbers as

athletes have attended tryouts. Those tryouts will go through Wednesday and head coach Jessica Compliment believes those high numbers will be beneficial down the road.

“The players are excited, but I think some are nervous as well with tryouts and cuts these first few days,” Compliment said. “Forty is the most we’ve had tryout for quite some time. Generally we have around 35. The higher numbers leads to more competition for uniforms and playing time.”

Cross country head coach John Reece is pulling double duty this season as he, and assistant coach Paul Restivo, will also be leading the new Louisburg Middle School program. The Wildcats have a combined 59 runners out between the two programs, including 37 on the high school side.

Louisburg returns a majority of its girls team that qualified for state a year ago, including its two state medalists in senior Trinity Moore and sophomore Reese Johnson.

Despite a little hiccup with the heat during the first two days of workouts, coach Reece likes what he sees from both teams.

“It was great to get started, and yes the heat caused us to change our workout a little bit, but we still got in our miles,” Reece said. “We had a good turnout during summer running, so as a whole

they are ready to get to the good stuff and go compete.

“There is definitely a huge difference with LMS joining the crew. Two coaches managing 59 kids is a lot, and we might need more help for supervision as we get more personalized with workouts for different levels of runners, but this is a good thing for Louisburg’s cross country program. It is going to be a fun year.”

Soccer also saw a big increase in interest as the Wildcats have 44 athletes trying out this season and they will continue the tryout process through Thursday. It is a good problem to have for head coach Kyle Conley and he has liked what he has seen so far as the Wildcats look to take another step forward this year.

“The kids worked hard, but showed we have a lot of work to do,” Conley said. “We had a really, really good summer, but we got a little rusty with the month off. This year we are getting back to focus on our culture and getting back to playing for each other. The boys have been focused and determined to improve this season.”

However, the first two day of practices weren’t without their challenges as intense heat and humidity caused some of the programs to change their schedules, including soccer, which moved its practice to the evening on Tuesday and spent some time indoors Monday.

“The heat was an interesting factor to go along with the late start due to the

KSHSAA schedule,” Conley said. “We started in the AUX gym for the first hour and 15 minutes then transitioned outside for an hour. It was frustrating but the boys handled it very well.”

With the heat advisories, teams had to take precautions with their athletes and everything seemed to go smoothly with the hot weather.

“There is nothing you can do about the heat, and it is not centralized to Louisburg, so everybody has to deal with it,” Ebenstein said. “So you just do what you have to do when it comes to moving practice to the evening or whatever. I do not mind these hot early practices as it sets the tone that athletes need to take care of their bodies, and the acclimatization process gets going from the beginning. I would much rather have it this way instead of it being cool and the first hot week comes on a game week.”

With the first day of practice starting later than normal, the start of competition will also be pushed back. Team scrimmages will be the Friday before Labor Day and actual competition won't start until Sept. 3.

Soccer will host Fort Scott in its season opener on Sept. 3 and volleyball will travel to Paola for dual on the same day.

Cross country opens its season on Sept. 5 at the Anderson County Invitational and football will travel to Spring Hill on Sept. 6.

Stiles, Lohse, Burk and Bowes to be inducted into LHS Hall of Fame



Dennis Stiles (top left), John Lohse (top right), Jason Burk (bottom left) and Krystal (Bowes) Grojean will be inducted into the Louisburg High School Athletic Hall of Fame this fall.

It has been 11 years since Louisburg High School had inducted a class into its athletic hall of fame, but the wait for a new class is finally over.

The USD 416 Endowment Association, which oversees the LHS Athletic Hall of Fame, has announced a new 4-member class. Dennis Stiles (Class of 1969), John Lohse (1995), Jason Burk (1999) and Krystal (Bowes) Grojean (2001) were the top four vote getters in this year's hall of fame voting and will be honored in an induction ceremony sometime this fall.

"Louisburg has a history of great athletes," said Damon Dennis, a USD 416 Endowment Association board member. "We had a good cross-section of both young and older voters this year that really took their job seriously. The four athletes chosen represent several generations of former Wildcats and each one were dominant in their particular era and sports. The Endowment Association is excited to get the Hall of Fame going again and plan on some big things in the future."

More than two dozen voters, that includes current members of the hall of fame, long-time Louisburg residents, teachers and coaches, voted on the class in June. Each voter was asked to submit their top four choices for the hall and votes were then tabulated.

To be eligible for the hall of fame, the inductee must wait at least 10 years following graduation to be nominated.

The last class that was inducted was in 2008 and Dennis, and the rest of the Endowment Association, is committed to making this a yearly occurrence moving forward.

Here are the accomplishments of each of the newest hall of fame inductees. Look for more information on an induction ceremony in the coming weeks.



Dennis Stiles

Dennis Stiles – Class of 1969 – Football, Basketball, Track

Stiles

lettered 4 years in football and track and 3 years in basketball. His senior year he was named all-league and all-state in football and was co-captain on the Wildcat team

that finished the
year 4-4.

As sophomore, he played on the varsity basketball team which was 12-0 in league play, finished the year 19-3 and were district champions. He earned honorable mention all-state honors his sophomore and junior seasons and was second-team all-state his senior year. Stiles was at one time the school's career scoring leader.

Stiles competed at the state track meet as a junior and senior where he placed fourth in the discus his senior year. He previously held school records in the discus and triple jump. He also received a football scholarship to Kansas State University.



John Lohse

John Lohse – Class of 1995 – Football, Basketball and Baseball

Lohse lettered all four years in baseball and was selected to

represent

Kansas in the all-star baseball classic his senior year. He was an all-league

pitcher and centerfielder for the Wildcats his sophomore through senior years.

He had a .510 average his junior and senior seasons with 10 home runs his

junior year and 12 more his senior season.

In football, Lohse was a 3-year letterwinner. He was an all-league wide

receiver his junior and senior seasons. In his senior year, he had 850 yards

receiving and 11 touchdowns and was later selected to represent Kansas in the

Metro Classic All-Star Game.

Lohse was also a 3-year letterwinner in basketball and was an all-league selection his junior and senior seasons. He

averaged a double-double

his junior and senior years.

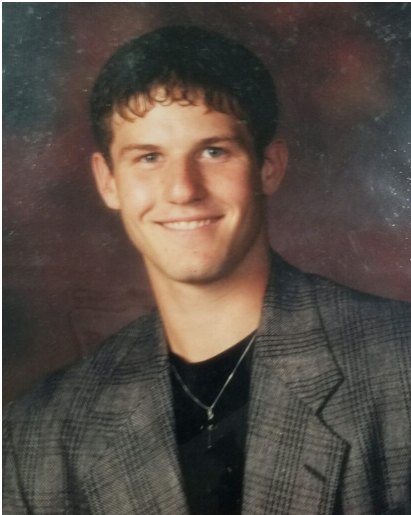
Post-graduation, Lohse attended Pittsburg State on a baseball scholarship and played on the Gorilla team for four years. He was selected to

the all-MIAA team his sophomore and junior seasons before injuring his shoulder

his senior year. He had a .315 average his junior and senior seasons. In his

first collegiate at-bat his freshman year, Lohse hit a game-winning grand slam

to give Pitt State its first win over Missouri Southern in five years.



Jason Burk

Jason Burk – Class of 1999 – Track and Football

Burk was a 4-year letterwinner for the Louisburg track and field team and qualified for state in all four years in four events. He accumulated 12 state medals, 16 regional track medals and 14 Frontier League medals. Burk was selected to the Kansas City All-Metro track team in 1998 and 1999.

During his senior season, Burk was a state champion in both the triple and long jump. He won the triple jump with a leap 48 feet and the long jump with a mark of 22-5. He also finished fifth in the 100-meter dash and sixth in the high jump. As a junior, Burk won a state championship in the triple jump with mark of 46 feet and won three more state medals. He took second long jump, fourth in the 100 dash and sixth in the 200 dash. As a sophomore, Burk won state medals in the triple jump (second), long jump (fourth)

and 4×100 relay

(third). He was a member of the 4×100 team that took second at state as a freshman in 1996.

At one time, Burk held seven school records. He currently holds school records in the triple jump, high jump and long jump. Burk holds the school record for most points in a season with 326.

Burk also played football, where he was a part of bi-district, district and regional championship teams.



Krystal (Bowes) Grojean

Krystal (Bowes) Grojean – Class of 2001 – Volleyball, Basketball, Track

Bowes was a 4-year letterwinner in track before she was offered a scholarship on the Wichita State track and field team.

In her senior season at Louisburg, Bowes earned three state medals, including a second-place finish in the javelin with a throw of 145-10. She was also third in the discus with a toss of 126-9 and fifth in the shot put at 37-5. As a sophomore and junior, she finished sixth in the discus at state. In all, Bowes racked up five state medals in her high school career before moving on to Wichita State. She is the current Louisburg record holder in the javelin (146-10) and discus (137-11).

At Wichita State, she earned academic All-American honors and was a team captain all four years. Bowes was a two-time NCAA national qualifier and finished fifth in the javelin and was second in the Missouri Valley Conference in 2006. In 2004, Bowes took first in the MVC in the javelin and fourth in the discus. In 2003, she won the Missouri Valley Conference discus title, was second in the javelin and fourth in the hammer throw. Bowes was also a member two Shocker teams that won conference titles.

In volleyball and basketball at LHS, Bowes was a 3-year letterwinner in each sport and earned first-team all-Frontier League honors each season.

Current members of the LHS Hall of Fame

Class of 2005:

Tom
Stevens – 1934 – Track and Field (High Jump)

1947/48

Undefeated Football Teams

Richard

Meiers – 1949 – Basketball/Football

Don

Meek – 1965-1998 – Coach/Administrator

Larry

Harding – 1976-1994 – Volleyball/Golf Coach

Amy

Dodson Goode – 1986 – Volleyball/Basketball

Class of 2006:

Jim

Wells – 1936 – Track and Field (Pole Vault)/Football

Doug

Eaton – 1971 – Wrestling

Sue

Truman Apple – 1974 – Track and Field/Volleyball/Basketball

Mike

Meek – 1985- Football/Wrestling/Track and Field

Jamie

Waite – 1991 – Track and Field (Pole Vault)/Football/Basketball

Class of 2007

Alan

Taylor – 1949 – Football

Tim

Dozier – 1987 – Wrestling/Football

Beth

Dodson Dixon – 1989 – Volleyball/Basketball

Jeff

Lohse – 1991 – Baseball/Football/Basketball

Class of 2008

Greg

Kahmann – 1987 – Baseball/Football/Basketball

Mark

Buckingham – 1994 – Basketball