Dillon excited for opportunity at tradition-rich Central Missouri



On Friday, Louisburg senior Calvin Dillon signed his letter of intent to play golf at the University of Central Missouri. Dillon is a 3-time state medalist and a 2-time Frontier League champion.

As Calvin Dillon walked into room

113 at Louisburg High School, he received a loud applause from several of his

friends as it he sat down at the table.

Dillon doesn't usually hear that

loud of a roar on the golf course — because well — that sort of thing is

frowned upon among his fellow golfers. The ovation was well deserved, however.

After playing just three full seasons of high school golf, the Louisburg senior has already become the most decorated golfer in school history and that led him to the jam-packed room in 113.

On Friday, Dillon made it official

as he signed his letter of intent to play golf at the University of Central

Missouri, a Division II program in Warrensburg, Mo.

"I am ready," Dillon said. "It is

really exciting and I am thankful I was able to make it official and I can

focus on getting to work for next year. I wanted to sign early so I could play

in the spring without any pressure and just go out there and play golf. I think

that will definitely be an advantage for me going into the spring and summer.

It definitely takes a lot of pressure off."

Dillon joins a Central Missouri

program that has a lot of tradition in the MIAA. Under head coach Tim Poe, the

Mules have earned 14 MIAA Championships and have made 27 straight NCAA

postseason appearances.

Poe has been named the MIAA Coach

of the Year 14 times as was recently inducted into the Golf Coaches Association

of America Hall of Fame. He coached the 2015 NCAA Division II individual

national champion and helped the Mules to a second place finish in 2010.

"The coach at Central Missouri is

really great," Dillon said. "Coach Poe has been there for 30-some years and he

is veteran. He has had multiple guys turn pro and he is very experienced. I really

connected with him on my visit and I think Central Missouri has a very good

program. They are more than likely going to be in the postseason every year and

that was another big factor for me. I want to compete for a national title."

Although he eventually found his

future home, the decision wasn't always an easy for one Dillon as he took his

time and visited several programs before deciding on a final two.



Louisburg's Calvin Dillon made it official last Friday during a signing day ceremony at LHS as he signed with Central Missouri. Seated next to Calvin are his parents Jim and Karen Dillon. Standing (from left) Louisburg assistant golf coach Barry O'Brien, Calvin's sister Katie and Louisburg head coach Brian Burns.

"It was definitely tough," Dillon

said. "We visited five or six schools and then I narrowed it down to three and

then to my top two. Those couple weeks were a little stressful, but it was a

good stress to have and weighing the pros and cons. It was between Central

Missouri and Drake University, and when it came down to it, Central Missouri

was just the place for me."

Dillon has had a memorable career as a Wildcat through his first three seasons. He has earned a Class 4A state medal each of the last three years and has won 17 of the 28 tournaments he has played in.

He won the regional title this

past May and is a two-time Frontier League champion. This past summer, Dillon

won the Kansas City Junior Match Play Championship and had a top-10 finish at the

Midwest Junior Championship.

"The competition is great," he

said. "Kansas has some good golf and I think it helps me get better by playing

in the state tournaments and ones over the summer as well. I think the KGA does

a great job and put on some really good tournaments and there is a lot of good

competition out there. It is a lot of fun."

However, it all started with his

father Jim, who introduced Calvin to the game of golf at an early age and the

countless hours improving his game has certainly paid off.

"Dad put a club in my hand early and we would just hit it around the yard," Calvin said. "We never really made a distinct decision that I was going to play college golf. I think it was just kind of assumed that I would or that I wanted to. It is a good feeling to officially sign and I'm ready to play at the next level."

So when Friday finally arrived, Dillon walked into 113 and saw a lot of familiar faces join him on his special day as he took the next step on his golf journey.

"It was nice to have all my friends here for this," he said.
"It was really awesome to see and I am thankful for every one of them. It was great to have them here supporting me."

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.

Halstead

2A		1A		8-Player Division I		8-Player Division II	
Schools - 48 Range: 168 - 112		Schools - 28 Range: 111 - 62		Schools - 48 Range: 98 - 66		Schools - 52 Range: 66 - 29	
Cimarron	168	Whitewater-Remington	111	Herington	98	Sylvan-Lucas Unified	66
Lyons	168	Conway Springs	110	Bennington	97	Rural Vista (White City / Hope	e) 65
Wellsville	167	Horton	110	Hoxie	97	Peabody-Burns	64
Haven	166	Sedgwick	108	Yates Center	96	Bucklin	61
Hoisington	162	Arma-Northeast	106	Medicine Lodge	95	Minneola	61
Osage City	161	Brookville-Ell-Saline	106	Hill City	94	Victoria	61
Seneca-Nemaha Central	161	Richmond-Central Heights	106	Howard-West Elk	93	Caldwell	60
Fredonia	159	Wabaunsee	105	Pratt-Skyline	93	Satanta	60
Silver Lake	158	Wichita-The Independent	102	Leoti-Wichita County	90	Kensington-Thunder Ridge	59
Easton-Pleasant Ridge	156	Lyndon	99	Spearville	90	Onaga	59
Riverton	155	Sublette	99	WaKeeney-Trego Community		Downs-Lakeside	58
Neodesha	153	Ellinwood	98	Moundridge	88	Mankato-Rock Hills	58
	153	Oakley	98	Sedan	88	Coldwater-South Central	57
Norton Community		Salina-Sacred Heart	98	Cottonwood Falls-Chase Co.	84	Lebo	57
Beloit	150		98	Stockton	84	Quinter	57
Anthony/Harper-Chaparral		Uniontown	175000	Attica/Argonia	82	Beloit-St. John's/Tipton	54
Kingman	148	Johnson-Stanton County	96	** TO TO SEE THE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE S	82	Osborne	54
Eureka	147	Winchester-		Valley Falls	80	South Haven	53
Pomona-West Franklin	144	Jefferson Co. North	94	Burlingame	200000		52
Douglass	142	Inman	93	Canton-Galva	79	Wakefield	_
Kismet-Southwestern Hts.	141	Elkhart	90	Goessel	79	Hutchinson-Central Christia	
Lakin	141	Plainville	89	Meade	79	Ingalls	51
St. Marys	141	Pleasanton	86	Ness City	79	Sharon Springs-Wallace Co.	51
Hays-TMP-Marian	140	Allen-Northern Heights	85	Washington County	79	St. Francis	51
Oskaloosa	140	Blue Rapids-Valley Heights	82	Little River	78	St. Paul	51
Minneapolis	139	Smith Center	82	Shawnee-Maranatha		Claffin-Central Plains	50
Ellsworth	137	Holton-Jackson Heights	78	Christian Academy	77	Hartford	50
Atchison-Maur Hill-Mt Acad	. 135	Troy	70	Cedar Vale/ Dexter	76	Norwich	50
Rossville	135	Olpe	69	Burden-Central	75	Scandia-Pike Valley	50
Effingham-		Centralia	62	Langdon-Fairfield	75	Colony-Crest	49
Atchinson Co Comm.	130			Madison/Hamilton	75	Frankfort	49
Erie	130			Solomon	75	Melvern-MDCV	49
Hillsboro	129			Udall	74	Buffalo-Altoona Midway	48
Humboldt	129			Atwood-Rawlins County	72	Dighton	48
Mound City-Jayhawk Linn				Highland-Doniphan West	72	Hanover	47
Phillipsburg	128			La Crosse	72	Leroy-Southern Coffey Co.	47
Wathena-Riverside	127			Oswego	72	Chetopa	46
Belle Plaine	124			Kinsley	71	Logan/Palco	46
Syracuse	121			Clyde-Clifton Clyde	70	Lost Springs-Centre	46
Garden Plain	120			Oberlin-Decatur Community		Otis-Bison	46
				Rosalia-Flinthills	70	Linn	43
Ellis	119			Jetmore-Hodgeman County	69	Waverly	42
Cherokee-Southeast	118			Lincoln	69	Southern Cloud	**
Belleville-Republic County				Macksville	69	(Miltonvale / Glasco)	40
McLouth	117			Oxford	69	Stafford	40
Eskridge-Mission Valley	116			Moran-Marmaton Valley	68	Wetmore	39
Hutchinson-Trinity Catholic						1 / C + 7 / C C C C C C C C C C	33
Leon-Bluestem	112			Greensburg-Kiowa County	67 67	Grainfield-	38
Marion	112			St. John-Hudson		Wheatland/Grinnell	
Pittsburg-St. Mary's Colgan				Montezuma-South Gray	66	Randolph-Blue Valley	38
Sterling	112			Pretty Prairie	66	Kiowa-South Barber	37
						Winona-Triplains/Brewster	36
						Chase	33
						Axtell	30
						Tescott	30
						Wilson	29

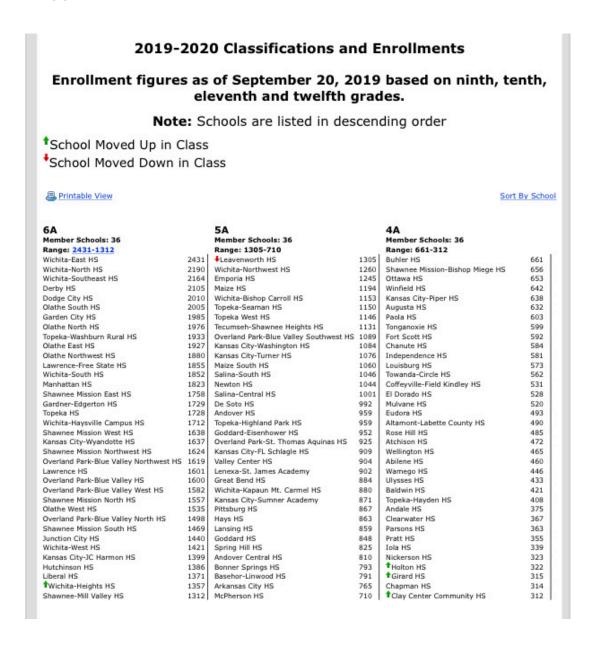


Goddard, Pittsburg and Spring Hill all saw their enrollment grow and will be moving up from 4A to 5A next year. Baldwin

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.



3A Member Schools: 64		2A Member Schools: 64		1A Member Schools: 117	
Range: 305-172	1995	Range: 171-109	167	Range: 108-14	
Garnett-Anderson County HS Concordia HS	305	Mound City-Jayhawk Linn H5 Oskaloosa H5	171	Stockton HS Elbing-Berean Academy	108
Wichita-Trinity Academy	303	Belle Plaine HS	170	Little River HS	105
Kansas City-Bishop Ward HS	300	Rossville HS	169	Meade HS	103
Osawatomie HS	296 296	Elisworth HS	168	Ness City HS Washington County HS	103
St. George-Rock Creek HS	294	◆Wathena-Riverside HS	164	Udall HS	102
Saxter Springs HS	286	Conway Springs HS	160	♣Goessel HS	101
Carbondale-Santa Fe Trail HS toyt-Royal Valley HS	286 283	Belleville-Republic County HS Garden Plain HS	158	Valley Falls HS Oswego HS	101
lugoton HS	280	Hutchinson-Trinity Catholic HS	158	Burden-Central HS	97
lesston HS	279	Cherokee-Southeast HS	157	Troy HS	97
rontenac HS feriden-Jefferson West HS	276	Eskridge-Mission Valley HS Arma-Northeast HS	156	Macksville HS Atwood-Rawlins County HS	96 95
liawatha HS	273	Hillsboro HS	155	Rosalia-Flinthills HS	95
ialena HS	270	Olathe-Heritage Christian Academy	155	La Crosse HS	94
aCygne-Prairie View HS lolcomb HS	270 266	Ellis HS Syracuse HS	154	Solomon HS Burlingame HS	93
farysville HS	266	McLouth HS	152	Lincoln HS	92
Vichita Collegiate HS	266	Whitewater-Remington HS	152	Oberlin-Decatur Community HS	91
cott Community HS	265 263	Horton HS Sterling HS	150	Oxford HS St. John-Hudson HS	91
aney Valley HS indsborg-Smoky Valley HS	263	Marion HS	146	Clyde-Clifton Clyde HS	90
olby HS	262	Leon-Bluestern HS	144	Jetmore-Hodgeman County HS	90
urlington HS	260	Wichita-The Independent HS	142	Peabody-Burns HS	90
erry-Lecompton HS oodland HS	252 246	Richmond-Central Heights HS Sedowick HS	141	Kinsley HS Langdon-Fairfield HS	89
fellsville HS	243	Alma-Wabaunsee HS	139	Highland-Doniphan West HS	87
arned HS	242	Brookville-Ell-Saline HS	139	Olpe HS	87
ussell HS heney HS	239	Pittsburg-St. Mary's Colgan HS Prairie Village-Kansas City Christian HS	139	Centralia HS Montezuma-South Gray HS	86
abetha HS	238	Praine Village-Kansas Oty Christian HS Medicine Lodge HS	136	Montezuma-South Gray HS Moran-Marmaton Valley HS	86
lley County HS	231	Lawrence-Bishop Seabury Academy	132	Greensburg-Klowa County HS	85
ouncil Grove HS	229	Salina-Sacred Heart HS	131	Wichita-Classical School Of Wichita	83
herryvale HS ypsum-Southeast of Saline HS	225	Winchester-Jefferson County North HS Bennington HS	130	Onaga HS Caldwell HS	82 80
elstead HS	221	Johnson-Stanton County HS	128	Lebo HS	79
aven HS	220	Lyndon HS	127	Minneola HS	79
iverton HS redonia HS	214	Oakley HS Plainville HS	127	Bucklin HS Pretty Prairie HS	78 78
yons HS	213	Sublette HS	127	Sylvan-Lucas Unified HS	78
ilver Lake HS	213	Inman HS	126	Norwich HS	77
eloit HS eneca-Nemaha Central HS	212	Yates Center HS Ellimecod HS	126	Victoria HS Coldwater-South Central HS	77 76
eneca-Nemaha Central PG imarron HS	207	Pratt-Skyline HS	123	Mankato-Rock Hills HS	76
oisington HS	205	Wakeeney-Trego Community HS	122	Satanta HS	76
orton Community HS	204	Uniontown HS	120	Kensington-Thunder Ridge HS	75
sage City HS aston-Pleasant Ridge HS	204	Herington HS Smith Center HS	119	Osborne HS Madison HS	75 74
ingman HS	202	Pleasanton HS	118	Dexter HS	72
esdesha HS	200	Elkhart HS	117	Hanover HS	71
nthony/Harper-Chaparral HS omona-West Franklin HS	199 192	*Hill City HS Hoxie HS	117	Burrton HS Hutchinson-Central Christian HS	70 69
ismet-Southwestern Heights HS	190	Allen-Northern Heights HS	115	St. Francis HS	69
ureka HS	188	Howard-West Elk HS	115	Ingels HS	68
Lakin HS tchison-Maur Hill-Mount Academy	185	Sedan HS Cottonwood Falls-Chase County HS	114	McPherson-Elyria Christian HS Downs-Lakeside HS	68
Inneapolis HS	184	Holton-Jackson Heights HS	113	Wakefield HS	67
ays-Thomas More Prep-Marian HS	182	Canton-Galva HS	112	Hartford HS	66
t. Marys HS	182	Blue Rapids-Valley Heights HS Moundridge HS	110	Quinter HS	66
ouglass HS Effingham-Atchison Co Community HS	178	Shawnee-Maranatha Christian Academy	110	Dighton HS Frankfort HS	65
Humboldt HS	174	Leoti-Wichita County HS	109	Melvern-Marais Des Cygnes Valley HS	65
hillipsburg HS	172	*Spearville HS	109	St. Paul HS	65
				Claffin-Central Plains HS Colony-Crest HS	63
				Randolph-Blue Valley HS	63
				Scandia-Pike Valley HS	63
				Lost Springs-Centre HS South Haven HS	62
				Rexford-Golden Plains HS	61
				Chetopa HS	60
				Sharon Springs-Wallace County HS Buffalo-Altoona Midway HS	60 59
				Leroy-Southern Coffey County HS	58
				Otis-Bison HS	58
				Grainfield-Wheatland/Grinnell HS	57
				Stafford HS Ashland HS	57 56
				Linn HS	56
				Tribune-Greeley County HS	55
				Beloit-St. John's HS Waverly HS	54
				Waverly HS Wetmore HS	51
				Attice HS	50
				Deerfield HS	49
				Argonia HS Cunningham HS	48 48
				Kiowa-South Barber HS	48
				Rolla HS	46
				Moscow HS Axtell HS	45
				Bird City-Cheylin HS	42
				Chase HS	42
				Hope HS	42
				Cedar Vale HS Rozel-Pawnee Heights HS	40
				Tescott HS	40
				Wichita-Central Christian Academy	40
				Almena-Northern Valley HS	39
				White City HS Logan HS	39
				Wilson HS	35
				Fowler HS	32
				Natoma HS Ransom-Western Plains HS	30
				Weskan HS	29
				Brewster HS	28
				Palco HS	28
				Glasco HS Longton-Elk Valley HS	27
				government with the	-
				Hamilton HS	25

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.

Dillon earns third consecutive state medal



Louisburg's Calvin Dillon won his third straight state medal last week during the Class 4A state golf tournament in Dodge City. Dillon finished 11th overall with an 80.

DODGE CITY — It was a state golf tournament to remember for Calvin Dillon and some of those memories weren't always the best ones.

Dillon and the Louisburg golf team traveled to Mariah Hills Golf Course last week in Dodge City to take part in the Class 4A meet that was delayed for more than a week due to inclement weather. If that wasn't bad enough, it wasn't even the same course the Wildcats were originally scheduled to play on.

The Class 4A tournament was scheduled to be held in Winfield, but due to the torrential rains, the course had to be moved to a different site. So all the preparation for the Winfield

course went out the window and the Wildcats quickly had to learn about their new landing spot.

"It was very chaotic waiting for

KSHSAA to announce where and when we were going to play," Dillon said. "It was

frustrating because we were supposed to 'leave' for the tournament a couple

times and didn't actually leave for about a week."

As hectic as the experience was,

there were still plenty of good memories to be had. For Dillon, that meant

garnering his third consecutive state medal.

The Louisburg junior carded an 80

on the Mariah Hills course last Wednesday to finish 11^{th} overall in

the individual standings.

"It feels good to earn another state medal," Dillon said. "It was a little disappointing because the round didn't go well, but I had to stick in there and grind to finish in the top 15."

Dillon was in the top 10 for most of the tournament, but had a double bogey on his last hole to move him out of the top 10 and into 11^{th} . He had one birdie on the day, but Dillon also had six bogeys and two doubles as he tried to maneuver through Mariah Hills on what was a blustery day in Western Kansas.

"Mariah Hills is a links style

course and it played a little long because it was so windy there," Dillon said.

"With the course being as open as it was, the wind was a big factor."

The rest of the Louisburg team also had its struggles with the

course, but the three other Wildcat golfers were able to experience state for the first time.

Junior Drake Varns finished 34th overall as he carded an 88 to finish second on the Louisburg

team. Juniors Ryan

Haight (103) and Colin Cook (125) were 73^{rd} and 82^{nd} , respectively. Senior Noah Hill and junior Garrett Rolofson were not able to

participate in the tournament due to previous engagements.

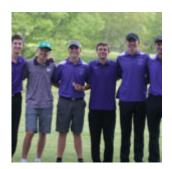
"It was great having the guys there," Dillon said. "We all got some great experience and hopefully we will be back next year."

The high school season may be over, but for Dillon, his golf season is just heating up. He is scheduled to play in tournaments throughout the summer as he prepares for his senior year and for his collegiate future.

"I have a rigorous summer schedule planned out," Dillon said. "The state tournament gives me a lot of motivation to practice harder and get better for summer tournaments as well as next high school season."

Wildcat golf qualifies for

state; Dillon wins regional title



The Louisburg golf team finished third Monday during the Class 4A regional tournament in Paola and qualified for the state tournament. Members of the team are (from left) Colin Cook, Drake Varns, Calvin Dillon, Ryan Haight, Garrett Rolofson and Noah Hill.

PAOLA — 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 Monday 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 will all compete

the state tournament in Winfield.

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 got off to a good start at

Paola Country Club as he birdied his first hole and had three on the day. He

also birdied his final hole on No. 18 with a nice chip and putt to seal the top spot.

"It was nice to get that under my belt,

especially since I haven't really finished all the well at regionals the last

couple of years," Dillon said. "It is definitely good to get in the winner's

circle here.

"I thought I played well. I got

off to a good start early and birdied No. 1 and I think that really helped me

momentum-wise. I just gave myself looks all day and it worked well. It was also

nice to end it with a birdie and I was able to make a nice putt there at the end."



Louisburg junior Calvin Dillon won his first regional championship with a 1-over 73 on Monday in Paola.

Varns also played well for the Wildcats

as he carded an 87 and finished $10^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$ overall to earn a medal. The Louisburg

junior had to play a playoff hole to decide 9^{th} and 10^{th} place.

Although he lost the playoff,

Varns played well in his final nine holes after a rough patch

early on where he

had back-to-back triple bogeys. He went on to card a 40 on the back nine to get

himself back into contention for a medal.

"It is nice and I am really happy

to get a medal," Varns said. "It is basically a home course for me as I play

here quite a bit. I didn't play very well the first nine holes, but I came

back, followed through and shot a good back nine.

"After the back-to-back triples,

it took me awhile to get back into it. I was just in my own head. I came out and

shot par the next hole and that just got me back in the right mindset."



Louisburg junior Drake Varns carded an 87 during the regional tournament Monday in Paola and medaled 10th overall.

Haight was third on the Wildcat

team with a 95 and finished 22^{nd} overall, while Rolofson carded a 97

and took 23. Hill finished with a 111 and Cook had a 116 to round out the

Louisburg scores.

The Wildcats are now preparing to

compete in their first state tournament, but it isn't known when the last time

Louisburg qualified a team for state. The last known team to qualify for state

was in 1977 when the Wildcats won the sand greens title.

On Monday, the Wildcats will tee

off around 10 a.m. in Winfield for the Class 4A state tournament at Quail Ridge

Golf Course. Cook will tee off first at 10 a.m. on hole No. 10 and the rest of

the Wildcats will follow ending with Dillon's scheduled tee time being 10:50 a.m.

"It feels great," Varns said of

qualifying. "We have been working since last summer to get here and it is nice

to come through and do well at regionals. It has been awhile since that has happened.

"State is going to be so fun. I don't think we are going to feel a lot of pressure, but we just want to go have fun and see what happens."

Expectations are high for Dillon

as he is one of the top golfers heading into state action. His 73 was the top

score from all the regionals last Monday, but Dillon knows

state will be a big challenge as he has medaled the last two seasons.

"The Winfield course is set up

really tough," Dillon said. "The rough is really thick and the greens are fast.

If I play like I did (Monday), I think I can have a genuine shot at winning."

Louisburg coach Brian Burns agrees that Dillon will be among the favorites come tee time.

"Calvin is playing great golf right now,"

Burns said. "He is still working on his accuracy on his drives, but is hitting

the ball a long way. I know the course at Winfield has long rough and hard

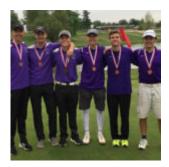
and fast greens, but we are trying our best to play the ball down at our course

this week to work on a more upright swing, chopping down at the ball to advance our rough shots.

"Overall, I like where everyone is with their game, but it is an individual sport and they must get over their own nerves and be confident. Calvin has a chance to place in the top five at state, if not better."

Dillon wins Ottawa Invitational; Wildcats take

second



The Louisburg golf team took second last week at the Ottawa Invitational. Members of the team are (from left) Garrett Rolofson, Noah Hill, Calvin Dillon, Drake Varns, Ryan Haight and Cole Williams.

OTTAWA — It has been a special

year so far for the Louisburg golf team and the Wildcats added to that on April

29 when they traveled to the Ottawa Invitational.

For the fifth time this season,

the Wildcats finished in the top two of the team standings as they took second

overall with a 346. Louisburg junior Calvin Dillon also recorded his fourth

consecutive tournament win and made for a successful day at Ottawa Country Club.

"We are very happy to get second

at Ottawa," Dillon said. "Ottawa is a great team and they are high up in the

state rankings. Surprisingly, our teams have become friends throughout the season."

Dillon continued his hot streak as

he carded a 75 to roll to the Ottawa title and has taken first in every

tournament but one so far this season.

"I played a solid round at Ottawa,

with ups and downs along the way," Dillon said. "I played the front nine at

3-over, but I really buckled down on the back nine to shoot the 75.

"The course was a little wet and

the greens were punched as well, which led to some bumpy putts. I got off to a

slow start with my driver, so I switched to my 3-wood towards the end of the

front nine. That really helped me get things under control and finish well."

Senior Noah Hill had his best

round of the season so far as he finished with an 88 to finish second on the

team. Junior Garrett Rolofson was third with a 91.

Junior Drake Varns and senior Ryan

Haight both carded a 92, while senior Cole Williams rounded out the Wildcat

team with a 106.

"Noah was very excited about his

round," Dillon said. "He birdied his first hole, which was a good

representation of the rest of his day. He feels like he has more in the tank

too, which is a great sign."

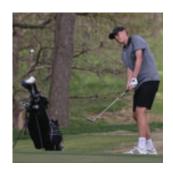
Louisburg was scheduled to compete

in the Anderson County Invitational today, but was rained out. The Wildcats

will compete at the Prairie View Invitational on Thursday at Deer Trace in

their final competition before regionals.

Wildcats take first at Atchison, second at home invitational



Louisburg junior Garrett Rolofson chips onto the green last Monday during the team's home invitational at Metcalf Ridge Golf Course. Rolofson medaled seventh and then medaled again Thursday in Atchison.

ATCHISON — It couldn't have been a much better week for the Louisburg golf team, or for junior Calvin Dillon.

The Wildcats certainly had plenty of medals to prove it.

Louisburg won the Atchison Invitational on Thursday at Bellevue Country Club with a 356 and earned their second team medal of the week. The Wildcats won the team title by two strokes over Kansas City Christian.

Dillon continued his tear through the 2019 season as he won his third consecutive tournament with a 78 on the Atchison course, in what was less than ideal conditions.

"The wind was very tough for the guys at Atchison," Louisburg coach Brian Burns said. "I was

happy with their scores considering all that."

Junior Garrett Rolofson picked up an individual medal, along with Dillon, as he finished ninth

with a 92. Fellow

junior Drake Varns also carded a 92, but just missed out on the top 10 for

medal as he lost a scorecard playoff.

Another junior, Ryan Haight, had

one of his best scores of the season as he shot a 94. Senior Noah Hill (100)

and junior Luke Wickersham (107) was fifth and sixth on the Wildcat team,

respectively.



Junior Ryan Haight watches his tee shot last Monday during the Louisburg Invitational.

As great as the end of the week was for Louisburg, the beginning was almost as good as the Wildcats hosted the Louisburg Invitational last Monday at Metcalf Ridge Golf

Course.

Louisburg finished second in the

team standings with a 340 and finished seven strokes behind champion Ottawa,

which had a 333.

Dillon was able to get the victory

on his home course, but it was a challenging one as he finished in a tie with

Ottawa's Cade Gollier as both players carded a 77. However, Dillon won the

scorecard playoff as he was one of three Wildcats to medal.

"We shot the best we have all year," Burns said. "I am very proud of all the guys."

Dillon had a rough start to his round as he had a triple bogey to open, but then followed with an eagle on No. 4 to get back into it. He nearly had another eagle a couple holes later, but his shot rimmed out and he settled for a birdie.

After that, Dillon was able to settle in as he has now won all but one of this tournaments that he has competed in this season.

Varns and Rolofson also earned medals for the Wildcats. Varns had a strong outing as he finished with an 83, which was good for fifth place.

Rolofson carded an 88, which was

his best round of the season for Louisburg, and he came in seventh overall.

Junior Ryan Haight and senior Noah

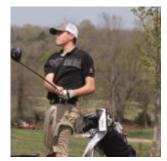
Hill also had their best rounds of the season on their home course as they shot

a 92 and 93, respectively. Junior Colin Cook rounded out the

Louisburg scores with a 98.

Louisburg returns to action today when it travels to the Ottawa Invitational. Tee time is set for 2 p.m. at Ottawa Country Club.

Birdie on final hole clinches second straight league title for Dillon



Louisburg junior Calvin Dillon watches his tee shot last Tuesday during the Osawatomie Invitational. On Thursday, Dillon won the Frontier League title with a 75 at Sycamore Ridge.

SPRING HILL — Calvin Dillon wasn't overly enthused about his round last Tuesday at Osawatomie Invitational, where he finished third overall.

It wasn't a bad round, but for Dillon, it was rough enough for him to want make amends in one of his biggest tournaments of the season. Dillon and the Louisburg golf team

competed in the Spring Hill Invitational on Thursday at Sycamore Ridge, which

also doubled as the Frontier League Invitational. Needless to say after it was

all over, Dillon felt a lot better about his performance.

For the second consecutive season,

Dillon won the Frontier League title as he carded a 75 on the par 72 course.

"I am extremely happy to win

league again," Dillon said. "Sycamore Ridge is an amazing venue and I just love

that golf course. It's very challenging, but if you hit your spots right it's

very scoreable."

Dillon's score also helped the

Wildcats to a third-place finish in the league portion of the tournament.

Dillon, Drake Varns, Garrett Rolofson, Ryan Haight, Noah Hill and Cole Williams

combined for a 358 and finished behind league champion Ottawa (321) and

runner-up Tonganoxie (346).

Down a stroke going into his final

hole, Dillon picked the perfect time to have his best hole of the day. He birdied

No. 18 to finish in a tie with Mill Valley's Tanner Moore and Dillon won the

tiebreaker to capture the league and Spring Hill tournament titles.

"I was happy with the finish considering the windy, cool and wet conditions," Dillon said. "It was really a

day where you had to be mentally tough and grind through some tougher holes. I

had three bogeys on the front side and finished with a 39, where on the back \mathbf{I}

had one bogey and the birdie on 18. It was a great feeling to head to the

clubhouse having birdies the last hole."

Juniors Drake Varns, Garrett

Rolofson and Ryan Haight each finished in the top 20 of the league standings.

Varns shot a 90 to take 14th overall and Rolofson carded a 96 to

finish 19th. Haight shot a 97 and was 20th.

Seniors Noah Hill and Cole

Williams rounded out the Wildcat team with a 101 and 114, respectively.

Louisburg will be back on its home course today when the Wildcats host the Louisburg Invitational at Metcalf Ridge

Golf Course. Tee time is set for 1 p.m.

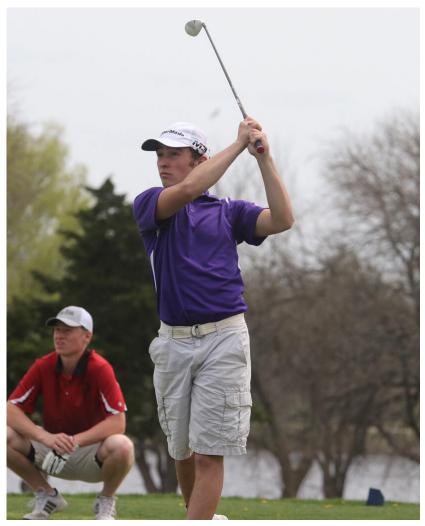
Wildcats finish second at Osawatomie

Louisburg started its week with a stop at the Osawatomie Invitational and the Wildcats put together another strong team performance.

The Wildcats finished second overall with a 346 at the Osawatomie Golf Course and finished 13 strokes behind Ottawa, which took first with a 346.

Louisburg had three medals on the day as junior Calvin Dillon was third with a 78 and fellow junior

Drake Varns carded a 79 and finished fourth. Junior Garrett Rolofson shot a 94 and medaled 18^{th} overall.



Louisburg senior Cole Williams watches his tee shot last Tuesday during the Osawatomie Invitational.

"The team came in clutch and

played extremely well to finish second," Dillon said. "We are gaining more and

more confidence as the season rolls on. I struggled a little bit, and the short

game wasn't quite all there as it's tough to score with the small greens."

Junior Ryan Haight just missed a

medal as he carded a 95 and was 21st. Seniors Noah Hill and

Williams each shot a 99 as they took 29^{th} and 30^{th} , respectively.

Dillon, Wildcats win Paola Invitational title



Louisburg junior Calvin Dillon puts his fairway shot onto the green last Monday during the Paola Invitational at Paola Country Club. Dillon won the individual crown with a 75.

PAOLA — The Louisburg golf team couldn't have asked for a better start to its season last Monday when the Wildcats competed in the Paola Invitational.

Not only did Louisburg have two of the top three individual medalists, but the Wildcats took home the tournament's top prize. The Wildcats scored a 349 to finish first overall in the team standings and won by seven strokes over second place Anderson County.

Louisburg junior Calvin Dillon continued to show that he is one of the best golfers in the area. Dillon, a two-time state medalist, won the individual crown with a 75 on what was a soggy course at Paola Country Club — the same course the

Wildcats will compete on later in the year for regionals.

"I hit the drive and putter really

well," Dillon said. "I made too many mistakes on my approach shots leading to a

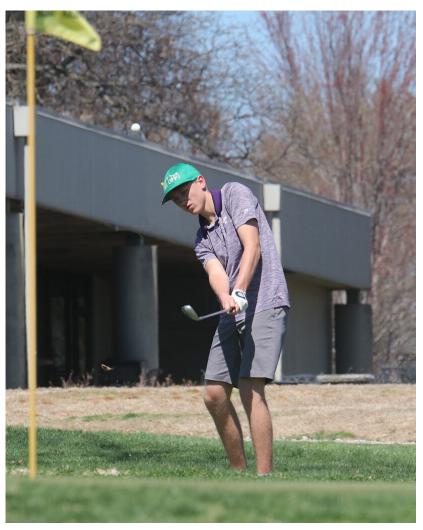
lot of bogeys, but I covered them up nicely with birdies. It was really nice to

win the first tournament and that gives me confidence moving forward knowing

that I am capable of competing at a high level.

"The course was very wet, so the balls were plugging a lot and almost every club got no roll. However, already playing in Paola gives us a big advantage in the regional tournament having played that course already and having it so close to home."

Dillon wasn't the only Wildcat to medal as junior Drake Varns had a strong first showing as well. Varns carded an 82 to finish third overall, and was one stroke behind Spring Hill's Patrick Hartsock for second. Varns, along with Dillon, were two of several reasons for the team's first place finish.



Junior Drake Varns chips onto the green during the Paola Invitational. Varns took third overall.

"The team played very well and we are all so excited to get a win under our belt," Dillon said. "Drake played a

great round too. I'm happy for him because he has been putting in a lot of hard

work in the offseason, as well as in practice."

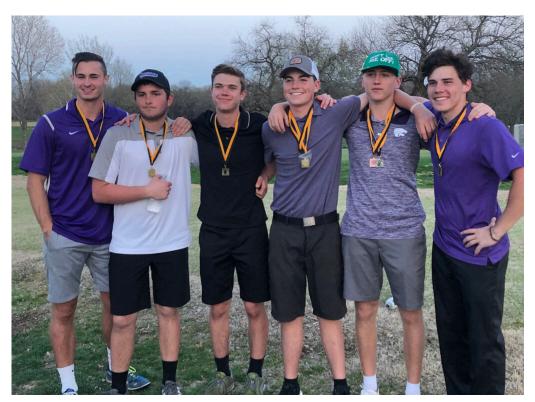
Junior David Perentis was third on

the Wildcat team with a 94 and finished 14^{th} overall. Luke Wickersham, another Louisburg junior, carded a 98 to take 21^{st} .

Junior Ryan Haight (102) and

senior Noah Hill (103) rounded out the Wildcat team in 24^{th} and 26^{th}

place, respectively.



Members of the Louisburg golf team that took first at Paola last week are (from left), Noah Hill, Luke Wickersham, Ryan Haight, Calvin Dillon, Drake Varns and David Perentis.

"I was pleased when my

number six, David Perentis, came through and shot his best score 94. Also,

Luke Wickersham broke 100 with a 98 and that helped our team score. Drake played

well at his home course and Calvin, who has not had a bunch of practice time, got

back on track as well.

"I know we can shoot a team score in the 330's, but my golfers need to work harder in focusing more when having small competitions during our

practices. They can take that experience to the meets."

It will be a busy week for the Wildcats as they will travel to the Osawatomie Invitational on Tuesday, and then they will compete in the

Spring Hill Invitational on Thursday at Sycamore Ridge.

Dillon hopes to secure another state medal as he leads Wildcat golf



Louisburg junior Calvin Dillon is hoping to earn his third consecutive state medal this season for the Wildcats.

Calvin Dillon has had one of the best starts — if not the best start — to a golf career in Louisburg High School history.

Dillon earned state medals during
his freshman and sophomore seasons, and for some, those
results alone would be
a great high school career. However, Dillon is only halfway
done and he isn't
resting on his laurels.

Once his season completed last May, Dillon didn't stop playing as he competed in junior tournaments over the summer and into the fall as well. Even the cold weather didn't stop Dillon from picking up the clubs.

"With how bad our winter was, I hit a lot of balls and putted in an indoor facility in Overland Park," Dillon said. "It was a great feeling when the weather turned and it was nice to see some balls fly again."

Dillon and his Wildcat teammates

have been hard at work at practice the last couple weeks with the warmer

weather as they prepare for their season opener Monday in Paola.

Last season, Dillon finished 11th at the state tournament in Emporia and he is hoping for even better things this time around.

"I would like to win another state

medal and improve my placing from the last two years," Dillon said. "We've been

working really hard at practice, putting a lot of emphasis on the short game.

Coach has been giving us a lot of wedge and putting drills that will really

help us throughout the season. We're all ready to compete and the guys are

hungry to win this year."

Louisburg coach Brian Burns knows

Dillon is capable of doing great things for the Wildcats this season and has

noticed a little difference in his game.

"Calvin switched to an overlapping

grip last year and has been playing a bunch," Burns said. "I know he will be

trying to win every meet. He is a great golfer."

The Wildcats return three golfers with varsity experience from a year ago. Along with Dillon, juniors Ryan Haight, Drake Varns and David Perentis will return to help lead Louisburg.

Juniors Garrett Rolofson and Luke Wickersham, along with

senior Cole Williams, could all see varsity time as well, according to Burns.

"There are a couple junior varsity

players that are improving that might be able to take one or two of those

varsity spots," Burns said. "My expectations for the season are always high,

but we are not where we need to be yet. I would like to get no lower than third

in any tournament containing less than 10 teams."

The Wildcats will get their season

started Monday when they travel to the Paola Country Club for the Paola

Invitational. Tee time is set for 2 p.m.

Top 10 Stories of 2018



It was a successful, and eventful, 2018 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 to Louisburg.

Below are the Top 10 stories from 2018, along with a brief explanation of each. Included in the explanation is the link to the actual story from the event.

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 2019 to begin. Looking forward to it!



10. Dillon medals at state golf for second straight year

EMPORIA - All season,

Calvin Dillon had been atop or near the front of leaderboard and that didn't

change in what was his biggest tournament of the season.

The Louisburg High School sophomore went up against the state's best during the Class 4A state golf tournament on May 19 at the Emporia Municipal Course and did more than old his own. Dillon earned a state medal as he finished 11thoverall with a 3-over par 74.

It was the second consecutive state medal for Dillon after he finished 10^{th} overall last season at

Wamego as a freshman.

"It is a real honor

to earn another state medal, especially with the quality players that were at

the state tournament," Dillon said. "There were lots of good players and lots of good teams."

Ιt

was another notch on Dillon's list of accomplishments that included a Frontier

League title and six straight tournament victories during the 2018 season.



Louisburg football coach Robert Ebenstein



Louisburg girls soccer coach Kyle Conley

9. Conley, Ebenstein named Class 4A Coach of the Year

Louisburg

girls soccer coach Kyle Conley and Wildcat football coach Robert Ebenstein both

led their respective teams to special seasons.

Those seasons were special enough for both coaches to earn two big awards.

Conley was rewarded for all his hard work in June when it was announced that he was named as the Kansas Soccer Coaches Association's Girls Coach of the Year for Class 4-1A.

He guided the Wildcats to a 14-7 record and a spot in the state championship match, where the Lady Cats finished second overall. The

finish was something to remember for Wildcat fans as that was accomplished in

just the program's third year of existence.

He has posted a

41-18-2 record during his time as the Wildcat girls head coach and also guided

the Louisburg boys soccer team to its best finish in program history in 2017

with a fourth place finish at state.

As for Ebenstein, he

guided the Wildcats to 10 straight victories and a regional championship to

start the 2018 season, before getting knocked out in the sectional round

against eventual state champion, Bishop Miege.

Following the season, the Kansas Football Coaches Association named Ebenstein as the Class 4A Coach of the Year. Ebenstein, who is just in his second season as head coach, has a 16-4 record with the Wildcats as he guided his team to a Frontier League championship this year.



8. Holtzen finishes Louisburg career with 12 varsity letters

Once Isabelle Holtzen

received her diploma and walked out of Louisburg High School for the last time

as a student, she officially became one of the most decorated female athletes

in school history.

No, she doesn't have any individual state championships, or even

one as part of a team. Holtzen's decorations aren't ones in the form of

trophies or all-state honors, but instead, they can be found on the front of

her letter jacket.

Holtzen became the first female athlete in at least 20 years to earn 12 varsity letters, which means she lettered on the varsity level in three sports in each of her four years of high school.

In research done by Louisburg Sports Zone, it was unable to find

the last athlete to accomplish the feat, which could mean Holtzen could be the

first Lady Cat to do so. She competed in cross country, basketball and track and field

The last athlete to come close was in 2001 when Krystal Bowes earned 10 varsity letters before moving on to a collegiate track career at Wichita State.

"The biggest thing that it means to me is to just have an opportunity to participate in three sports at a school like Louisburg," Holtzen

said. "The bigger the school that you go to, the harder it is to play multiple

sports at the varsity level and I think Louisburg is unique in that fact. The

best part of this whole journey was I think my freshman year because there was

no pressure and no one was expecting anything from me. It was surprising and

exciting to be able to letter in all three sports."

Holtzen is currently at

Northern Iowa, where she received a scholarship to pole vault for the Panther

Track and Field Team.



7. Dixon earns All-American, Player of the Year honors, signs with Kansas State

Louisburg

senior Anna Dixon led the Lady Cat volleyball program all season and she was recognized for her play on the court.

Dixon was named to the Under Armour Volleyball All-American team as she received a spot on the honorable mention squad when the list was released in November.

Dixon, the 6-foot-3 outside hitter, was recently named the Class 4A Player of the Year by the Kansas Volleyball Association, and along with that was also selected to the all-state first team.

It was the second year in a row Dixon was named player of the year, as she had to share the honor last season with Rose Hill's Gracie Van

Driel.

The honors certainly didn't stop there as Dixon was all named to the All-Frontier League first team as she helped guide the Lady

Cats to an undefeated league season.

Dixon led the Lady Cats in kills with 584 in 105 sets played. She also finished with 325 digs, as she played all six rotations and also had 50 aces and 42 blocks.

In her four years with the program, Dixon finished with 2,003 kills, which would place that total among the best the school has ever seen.

All that success resulted in a dream come true for Dixon as she made it official last November when she signed to play volleyball at Kansas State.

"I have always known Kansas State was going to be my home," Dixon said. "Even since I committed as a sophomore, I always wanted to go up to Manhattan and see the girls and spend time with the team. K-State is where I need to be."



6. Louisburg wrestling sends six to state, Holtzen earns first state medal

SALINA - As the final

whistle sounded in his blood round match, Cade Holtzen looked up into the

rafters of the Tony's Pizza Events Center and smiled.

He had finally reached his goal.

Holtzen defeated Columbus' Gabe Porter by a 6-0 decision Saturday during the Class 4A Kansas State Wrestling Championships in Salina and secured his state medal.

"It is one of the best

feelings that I have had in my life," Holtzen said. "Just knowing that I'm

going to place — you just can't match that with anything else."

It certainly wasn't

easy for the Louisburg freshman as he faced a win or go home with nothing

scenario heading into his match with Porter. Holtzen pulled out the victory and

eventually finished sixth overall at 113 pounds to give Louisburg a state

medalist for the third consecutive season.

"It is pretty cool,"

he said. "I have been working for this all season, so to get a state medal is

great. It may not have been as high as I wanted, but any state
medal is pretty
amazing."

Holtzen had a special

year for the Wildcats as he finished with a 45-6 record and broke the school

record for most wins in a single season. He won four different tournaments and

was a Frontier League and regional tournament runner-up.

To add to his resume,

he became only the second freshman in school history to earn state medal —

second to only Austin Hood, who would go on to with three state titles.

Austin Moore finished

one victory shy of earning his first state medal, while Ryan Adams, Thad

Hendrix and Blue Caplinger also picked up wins at the state tournament.



5. Moore, Johnson finished in top 10 at state cross country, girls qualify for second straight year

WAMEGO - It was going

to be hard for the Louisburg High School girls cross country team to duplicate

its magical season of 2017.

Not only did the Lady Cats qualify their team for state for the

first time in program history, but they also had a top five finisher in Trinity

Moore.

Fast forward to 2018, Louisburg wasn't able to match that successful

run — the Lady Cats took it a step further.

Moore, along with freshman Reese Johnson, each had a top 10 finish during the Class 4A Kansas State Cross Country Championships at Wamego Country Club, and it is the first time

in school history that two female runners had medaled at a state meet. Louisburg added on to that as the girls finished fifth in the team standings with 154 points, which is also the highest finish in school history.

Moore, who finished

fifth at state a year ago, bested her performance by one place as she took

fourth with one of her better performances of the season. Johnson was right

behind her as she crossed the finish line in sixth.

Shaylor Whitham, Carlee Gassman, Kaitlyn Lewer, Delaney Wright and Kennady Wilkerson were also members of the Lady Cats' team to run at state. Emily Williams was a member of the regional team that finished second overall.



4. Louisburg track earns six state medals, Gassman state runner-up in

300 hurdles

WICHITA — Carlee Gassman had broken the Louisburg High School 300-meter hurdle record three different times in 2018 prior to the state track meet.

She picked the perfect time to make it a fourth.

Gassman broke her own school record in the 300 hurdles in May at the Class 4A Kansas State Track and Field Championships in Wichita as she ran a time of 45.68 seconds to earn a silver medal as she was the Wildcats' top performer on the weekend. Andale's Abby Smarsh, who is a senior, won the event in 44.73.

It was the Louisburg sophomore's first time competing at the Kansas meet as she transferred in from Iowa last year, where she qualified for

the state meet there in the 400 hurdles.

Gassman's medal in the 300 hurdles was just one of six the Wildcats were able to bring home following the two-day meet. Those six medals

were the most Louisburg has earned since 2011, when the Wildcats combined to

medal in 10 events and the boys won their first team state title.

The 300 hurdles wasn't the only event Gassman found success in as she also medaled in the long jump. Gassman, who hadn't competed in the event

prior to this year, finished fifth with a mark of 17 feet, 0.25 inches.

Isabelle Holtzen

would go on to finish sixth in the pole vault, the boys 4×400 team of Chris

Williams, Blue Caplinger, Ben Wiedenmann and Justin Collins went on to take

seventh. Williams finished eighth in the 400-meter run and

Trent Martin medaled eighth in the boys pole vault.



3. Louisburg volleyball takes runner-up at state for second straight season

HUTCHINSON - The
feeling was much of the same.

The pride of finishing as a state-runner up was a popular one among the members of the Louisburg volleyball team. At the same time, the

frustration of taking second in state in back-to-back seasons was just as prevalent.

Louisburg wasn't quite sure what to feel following its 25-13 and 25-14 loss to Bishop Miege in the championship game of the Class 4A state tournament Saturday at Hutchinson Sports Arena.

In 2017, the Lady
Cats fell to Rose Hill by two points in the championship

match, and fast

forward to the present, they were in the same spot — holding the state

runner-up trophy. It was the 15th time in

program history that Louisburg finished in the top four at state.

The Lady Cats rattled off four straight wins to start

the tournament, including knocking off No. 1 seed Independence, and defending

state champions Rose Hill and Topeka Hayden. Louisburg then battled back to

defeat Andale in the state semifinals.

"The loss was tough,"

Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. "To come so close to a state title two

years in a row, only to come up short is tough. But with that being said, it is

a huge accomplishment for this team to get back to the state championship and

make it two years in a row. Finishing second is nothing to hang our heads on.

Last year's finish fueled the fire for the team this year, and I challenged the

returning players to use this loss and feeling to fuel them for next year."

Louisburg has been

one of the more dominant teams in Class 4A in the last decade as the Lady Cats

have made the state tournament seven out of the last nine years and have

finished as a state runner-up on three different occasions, along with several

third and fourth place finishes. They finished 2018 with a 36-9 record.



2. Louisburg girls soccer advances to title game, has best finish in program history

NORTH NEWTON — The obstacle seemed insurmountable — and it was.

The Louisburg High School girls soccer team found itself in the

Class 4-1A state championship match in the program's third year of existence,

but if they wanted to take it another step further, the Wildcats were going to

have to knock the defending state champion of its perch.

Unfortunately, Bishop Miege wasn't about to be moved.

In a state title game that was played in the sweltering heat in late May at Bethel College, the Wildcats couldn't stay with the Stags in a 5-0 defeat. It was the third consecutive title for Bishop Miege, while Louisburg earned a state plaque for the first time in its short history.

It was special season for the Wildcats as the night before they knocked off Topeka Hayden, 1-0, in the state semifinals to secure the program's first state plaque. In 2017, Louisburg both games in its state tournament appearance and finished fourth.

The road to this state

championship appearance has been an interesting one for the Wildcats. More than

three years ago, a group of Louisburg parents and citizens raised enough money

to begin the girls soccer program and fund it for three years.

Louisburg was in the final year of that funding, and while the program isn't going away, the team realized they needed to play for more than themselves.

"We played for the community tonight," Louisburg senior Bailey Belcher

said after the Hayden win. "We have to remember that when they raised money for

this program, it was just through this year, so I think we owed it to them to

play well. I really think it might have helped with how we played and I think

it was one of the best games we played all season."

"It is a third-year program

with 41 wins, three regional championships, two state final fours and now a

state runner-up," Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said after the title game. "We

just have kids who come in and work their butt off. They are not soft, they

aren't weak and from top to bottom they are going to work hard.

"We worked hard, but we just played Miege. That is one of the best teams in the state, and that stinks, but our kids played hard, worked

their tail off and it was a great year. We had people criticize us for how we

got there, but we won games and that really motivated the kids. It got them

fired up to go do something bigger than themselves. I couldn't be more proud of

they stuck together and what they accomplished."



1. Football wins 10 straight, takes Frontier League title and regional championship

It had been almost two

months since Louisburg and Piper squared off on the football field in what was

one of the more entertaining games on the Wildcats' schedule.

Back in early

September, Louisburg left Piper High School with a seven-point win — a victory

that would help propel them to a Frontier League championship and a perfect regular season.

The two teams squared

off again and the stakes were a bit higher. The game, at least for Louisburg

anyway, was even more exciting.

The Wildcats dominated action from the opening kickoff and never looked back in a 48-0 win over the Pirates. In the process, Louisburg won the school's first regional championship since 2016 and are off to a 10-0 start for the first time since 2010.

Louisburg advanced to the sectional round where it fell to eventual state champion Bishop Miege, 55-21, and finished its season with a 10-1 record.

It was as season

marked with special moments, including a 28-7 victory over then-undefeated

Paola late in the year to secure a league title.

"Being 10-0 and then having

that first loss of the season was very disappointing," Louisburg coach Robert

Ebenstein said. "Losing always sucks, but losing in the playoffs and having to

wait until next August is the worst. At the end of the day, Miege is a

very good team and we did some good things. We got them to fourth down on

multiple drives in the first quarter, we just couldn't make the plays on

those big downs. Then we got behind a little and started pressing.

"Overall it was a great year.

I am very proud of our guys and excited for them that they were able to get

double digit wins for only the third time since 2000, and

there was a lot of really good football played during that time period. It was a lot fun to be a part of."



Austin Moore was named to the Kansas Shrine Bowl and was a first-team all-state player for the Wildcats. Moore was also named as the Kansas Small-Class Player of the Year by 810 Varsity.

With all that success, honors

started to roll in for its players as running backs Austin Moore and Blue

Caplinger, along with linemen Brayden White and Kiefer Tucker all earned

all-state honors.

Moore and White went on to be

semifinalists for the Simone Awards and Moore was also selected to participate

in the Kansas Shrine Bowl in the summer of 2019. Ebenstein was also named as

coach of the year by the football coaches association.

Most recently, Moore was

named the Kansas Small-Class Player of the Year and Running Back of the Year by

810varsity.com, while White was named the Small-Class Lineman of the Year.

Ebenstein was also named Kansas Small-Class Coach of the Year by 810 Varsity.