

Blue Caplinger selected as 2019 Louisburg Sports Zone Male Athlete of the Year



Blue Caplinger made history in a few different ways for Louisburg High School during the 2018-19 season.

Caplinger, along with fellow LHS student Alyse Moore, became the first Wildcat athlete in recent memory – if ever – to participate in two sports during the same season. All that led up to what was a spectacular finish to his senior year.

Caplinger helped the 4×400-meter relay to a state championship in late May, which was the school's first individual track title since 2015. When all was said and done, Caplinger lettered in four sports this past year.

These are just a couple of the reasons why Caplinger was chosen as the 2019 Louisburg Sports Zone Male Athlete of the Year.

The award, which is in its second year, is to recognize an outstanding LHS student athlete. Louisburg Sports Zone asked the head coaches at LHS to submit nominations and those nominations were then organized and submitted back to the coaches for a vote.

The coaches then submitted their top three choices and the number of votes were added up, which decided the winner.

Caplinger was one of the leaders of the Wildcat football team that reeled off 10 straight wins to start the season and captured a regional championship before falling to eventual state champion Bishop Miege.

He was an All-Frontier League player on both sides of the ball as he earned first team defensive honors from the safety spot with 31 tackles, two fumble recoveries and an interception.



Blue Caplinger poses for picture with his coaches (from left), boys track coach Andy Wright, head football coach Robert Ebenstein and baseball coach Joel McGhee. Not pictured is wrestling coach Bobby Bovaird.

Caplinger played a couple different positions offensively and earned second team all-league honors as a multi-purpose player. He had 310 yards rushing and four touchdowns to go

along 234 yards receiving and two more scores.

He was also the lead blocker on a lot of the big runs that teammate Austin Moore – who was a first-team all-league and all-state running back – had during the season.

“Blue was the most all-purpose player we had,” Louisburg football coach Robert Ebenstein said. “He was the ideal teammate who put the team first all the time. He always did anything that was asked of him. He was a tough competitor and a great all-around person.”

During the wrestling season, Caplinger was a state-ranked wrestler at 170 pounds for much of the year. He ended his season with a team-high 33-5 record and was a regional champion.

At the Class 4A state tournament, Caplinger finished one win shy of his first state medal. In all, Caplinger finished with a team high in wins and also holds the school record for most career reversals (72) and most career escapes (86). He ended his Wildcat career with a 111-57 record.

“Anyone who knows Blue understands what a great young man he is,” Louisburg wrestling coach Bobby Bovaird said. “Blue embodies so much about what wrestling is all about. I wanted him to get that state medal so badly, and he came so close not once, but twice. With these sorts of setbacks, Blue has demonstrated that he’s gained the resilience to be a champion in life.”

In the spring, Caplinger became a dual-sport athlete as he participated in both baseball and track and field.

Although his focus was on track, Caplinger helped out the Wildcat baseball team as a pinch-runner as he stole five bases

in eight games.

However, Caplinger did a lot of his damage on the track as he was one of the Wildcats' top sprinters. He joined Justin Collins, Ben Wiedenmann and Chris Williams to win the Class 4A state title in the 4×400-meter relay.

Caplinger, along with Charlie Koontz, Wiedenmann and Collins, also medaled fifth at state in the 4×100 relay. Both relays broke school records this past season in the Frontier League and regional meets.

Caplinger will continue his athletic career this fall as he plans to attend Benedictine College on a football scholarship.

2019 Louisburg Sports Zone Athlete of the Year nominees



For the past three years, Louisburg Sports Zone has given out Athlete of the Week awards during each of the three sports seasons. I do it to recognize special athletic achievements and to highlight the athletes.

For the second straight year, Louisburg Sports Zone will be handing out an Athlete of the Year honor to a male and female athlete at Louisburg High School. I wanted the opportunity to recognize those who exemplify what it means to be an

“athlete.”

Although I am giving out the award, I wanted the process to be subjective, so I asked the head coaches at LHS to help me out. I asked each coach to send me nominations of who they thought exemplified the Athlete of the Year honor. They will then vote for their top 3 male and female athletes and then I will tabulate the results and determine the winner. In the next week, I will announce this year’s recipients.

Below are the nominees for this year’s award in alphabetical order by last name. Congrats to all those who were nominated and best of luck!

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES



CARSON BUFFINGTON – SENIOR – BASKETBALL, SOCCER, VOLLEYBALL

Carson was a 3-time letter winner in her senior season and was named as a team captain in volleyball, basketball and

soccer.

In volleyball, Buffington earned second team All-Frontier League honors as she helped lead the Lady Cats to a Class 4A state runner-up performance. She also moved from her starting setter position to the outside hitter spot and had a lot of success for the Lady Cats as she tallied 130 kills in her new position. With all that success, Buffington was also selected to the Greater Kansas City Volleyball Coaches Association Senior All-Star Match.

Buffington also wrapped up a strong career for the Louisburg basketball team as she averaged eight points and seven rebounds to go along with three steals a contest. She was named as a Frontier League honorable mention this past season, and she also was selected as an all-state honorable mention.

In girls soccer, Buffington was the starting goalie for Louisburg in all 20 games. She posted 13 shutouts, which is a school record and had a .952 goals against average, which is also a school record. Buffington had 90 saves on the season that ended as a Class 4-1A state runner up for the second consecutive year. For her efforts, she was also selected second team All-Frontier League. Buffington was also named first team all-state goalie and was named Goalkeeper of the Year.



ANNA DIXON – SENIOR – VOLLEYBALL

Anna wrapped up her fourth volleyball season as a varsity starter for the Lady Cats and guided Louisburg to its second consecutive Class 4A-state runner-up finish.

Dixon, who is currently with the Kansas State volleyball team, ended her senior season with 584 kills and had a hitting percentage of .260. She also added 325 digs, 50 aces and 42 blocks as she played all six rotations. With those lofty numbers, Dixon earned several big time honors in her final season.

She was selected as an All-Frontier League first team player and was also named to the 4A State All-Tournament Team. Those honors continued as she was named the Kansas Volleyball Coaches Association Class 4A Player of the Year and earned a spot on KVA All-State First Team.

Following the season, Dixon was also named as an Under-Armour All-American also earned MaxPreps/American Volleyball Coaches Association Player of the Week honors.



ALYSE MOORE – SOPHOMORE – BASKETBALL, SOFTBALL, TRACK AND FIELD

Alyse is a 3-sport varsity letter-winner this past year as she earned letters for the basketball, softball and track and field teams. This past spring season, Moore went to state in two different sports and became the first Wildcat athlete in recent memory to do so.

In her first season in track and field, Moore threw the javelin for the Lady Cats and went on to become regional champion as she

eclipsed her personal best throw by almost 25 feet in just her third competition of the season. The following week, she medaled fourth at the Class 4A state tournament with a personal best throw of 131 feet and 9 inches.

Moore was also the starting shortstop for the Lady Cats as she helped Louisburg to its first regional championship since 2014.

During the basketball season, Moore was a starter for the Lady Cats and averaged six points, five rebounds and three steals a game.



TRINITY MOORE – JUNIOR – CROSS COUNTRY, SOCCER

Trinity is 2-sport letter-winner for Louisburg this past year as she had state performances in both cross country and soccer.

During the fall, Moore was the top runner on the Louisburg

girls cross country team as she helped the Lady Cats to a regional runner-up finish and qualified for state as a team for the first time in school history. Moore medaled fourth at the Class 4A state meet in Wamego and currently holds the school record for the fastest time in program history. She also earned first-team All-Frontier League honors for her third place finish at the league meet.

In soccer, Moore was a starter on the Wildcat team that recently finished as the Class 4-1A state runner-up for the second consecutive year. At the midfield spot, she finished the season with 12 goals and six assists and was also named to the All-Frontier League first team.



DELANEY WRIGHT – FRESHMAN – BASKETBALL, CROSS

COUNTRY, TRACK AND FIELD

Delaney is a 3-sport letter-winner as she took part in cross country, basketball and track and field and competed at the state level in two of those.

Wright found most of her success in track and field as she earned four medals at the Class 4A Kansas State Track and Field Championships

in Wichita this past month. She medaled in the long jump, 400-meter-dash,

200-meter dash and as a member of the 4×400-relay.

During the regional meet, Wright broke two school records (long jump, 400 dash) and earned a regional and Frontier League title in the

long jump. She also earned a medal in the long jump at the Kansas Relays

earlier in the season.

In cross country, Wright was a member of the Louisburg team that finished as a Class 4A regional runner-up and qualified for the state meet

as a team for the first time in school history. In basketball, Wright saw

playing time at the varsity level as a freshman at different points throughout

the season.

MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES



BLUE CAPLINGER – SENIOR – BASEBALL, FOOTBALL, TRACK AND FIELD, WRESTLING

Blue is a 4-sport letter-winner in football, wrestling, baseball and track and field and competed at the state level in two of the sports.

In football, Caplinger was an All-Frontier League player on both sides of the ball as he was named to the first team defense as a defensive back and second team offense as a multi-purpose player. On defense, Caplinger, who helped Louisburg to a 10-1 record and a regional championship, had 31 tackles from the safety spot and also had two tackles for a loss, two fumble

recoveries and an interception. Offensively, he had 544 total yards and six touchdowns.

On the wrestling mat, Caplinger was a regional champion at 170 pounds and finished his season with a 33-5 record. The Louisburg senior fell one match short of state medal with a 2-2 record at the Class 4A state tournament. He currently holds the school record for most career reversals (72) and most career escapes (86). Following the season, he was also named to the KWCA Academic All-State first team.

Caplinger split time between baseball and track and field in the spring. Although he spent time as a reserve and pinch-runner on the baseball team, Caplinger found a lot of success on the track.

He qualified for state as a member of two relays. Caplinger was a member of the 4×400 relay team that won the Class 4A state championship in 3 minutes and 25 seconds. Caplinger also helped the 4×100 relay to a fifth place finish and went on to garner two state medals.

Caplinger will join the Benedictine football team this fall.



AUSTIN MOORE – SENIOR – FOOTBALL, TRACK AND FIELD, WRESTLING

Austin is a 3-sport letter winner in football, wrestling and track and field and was among the state's best in two of the sports.

Moore thrived on the football field for the Wildcats as he helped Louisburg to a 10-1 record and a regional championship. Moore was a first team All-Frontier League player on both sides of the ball and was the league's leading vote-getter. He went on to rack up all-state awards as the Louisburg senior earned Class 4A first team all-state honors as a running back from the Topeka Capital-Journal and the Kansas Football Coaches Association. Moore was also named as a Class 4A first team all-state linebacker from the Wichita Eagle.

When the season was all said and done, Moore tallied 1,554 total yards from the running back spot, including 1,428 yards on the ground, and had 21 touchdowns before he broke his collarbone during the regional championship game.

With those numbers, he was named the Kansas Small Class Player of the Year by 810 Varsity and was All-Purpose Player of the Year by Kpreps.com. Earlier this year, Moore was also named to the Kansas Shrine Bowl roster.

On the wrestling mat, Moore missed more than half of the season with his broken collarbone, but came back in a big way. Moore won his first 14 matches when coming back at 220 pounds, which included a regional championship. He went on to earn his first state medal as he finished fourth at the Class 4A state tournament with a 3-2 record. He was also named to the KWCA Academic All-State first team.

During the spring, he was a member of the Louisburg track and field team and threw the javelin for the Wildcats. He was also on the throwers relay that ranked Top 5 nationally at one point in the season.

Moore will join the Kansas State football team this fall.



KIEFER TUCKER – SENIOR – FOOTBALL, TRACK AND FIELD, WEIGHTLIFTING

Kiefer is a 2-sport letter winner in football and track and field and also went to state competition in two activities.

Tucker was a presence on the line of scrimmage for the Louisburg football team as he was a first team All-Frontier League player on both sides of the ball and helped the Wildcats to a 10-1 record and a regional championship.

The Louisburg senior was among on the leaders on the offensive line as he helped pave the way for more than 3,500 yards of total offense. On defense, Tucker recorded 55 tackles from the defensive end spot, including three tackles for a loss, three forced fumbles, a fumble recovery and a sack. Those numbers helped earn him honorable mention all-

state honors and was also named to the all-state team by the Kansas Football Coaches Association. The honors kept coming for Tucker as he was recently selected to participate in the Kansas Shrine Bowl.

During the winter, Tucker was a member of the Louisburg powerlifting team and certainly made his mark there as well. Tucker won the Class 4A state championship in the 220-pound class and broke a 24-year-old record in the bench press with a lift of 375 pounds.

In track and field, Tucker qualified for state for the first time in the discus. He finished as a regional runner-up and went on to take ninth at the Class 4A state meet in Wichita, just one spot away from earning a state medal.

Tucker will join the Emporia State football team this fall.

Wright earns four medals to lead Lady Cats at state track



Louisburg freshman Delaney Wright reaches out for the sand pit during the long jump Saturday at the Kansas State Track and Field Championships in Wichita.

WICHITA – Coming off an impressive regional performance where she qualified in four events and broke two schools records, Louisburg's Delaney Wright was busy last weekend at the Kansas State Track and Field Championships.

Wright may have not gotten the times or marks she had hoped, but she left Wichita with a lot of decoration around her neck. The Louisburg freshman medaled in all four events at Wichita State's Cessna Stadium.

In all, the Lady Cats medaled in eight events and racked up 28 points to finish 10th in the team standings. The finish left a good impression with the Louisburg athletes as almost all of its state qualifiers are underclassmen.

It wasn't easy for Louisburg either as the Wildcats had to deal with numerous weather delays and didn't get to compete till Saturday. The meet wrapped up a day later and the athletes in running events didn't get to run in any preliminaries, while jumpers and throwers only got four attempts with no finals.

"Delays are always tough, but we weathered the storm and performed well," Louisburg coach John Reece said. "It was an awesome long weekend. On paper, I was hoping for a little more, but with the youth we took, I could not be happier. They did great."

Wright's best individual event came in the 400-meter dash Saturday as she finished fourth overall in 1:00.74 and Ottawa's Summer Spigle won the race in 59.51 seconds.

“To be able to qualify for four events was super cool and I will definitely remember my first season as a freshman,” Wright said. “Running the 400 was very difficult, but I was so nervous that I barely remember a lot of it. The competition was tough and I didn’t think I would do as well as I did. Running with all the girls from 4A was so fun and such a good experience.”

The Lady Cats saved their best performance for last as the 4×400-meter relay of Wright, Carlee Gassman, Rain Pugh and Sydni Keagle ran a personal best time of 4:12.74 to take fourth overall and was just .10 seconds behind third place Andale.



The Louisville 4×400 relay of (from left) Carlee Gassman, Rain Pugh, Sydni Keagle and Delaney Wright ran a personal best time to medal fourth.

“I’m so proud of my 4×400 team,” Gassman said. “We had to deal with a lot of chaos, but we

still stayed strong.

We have so much talent and we fought for that fourth place finish. I can't wait to see what we do next year."

Wright would also go on to finish seventh in the 200-meter dash in 27.07 seconds. In her first event on Saturday, she was eighth in the long jump with a mark of 15 feet and 10.5 inches.

"I feel like it was rough in my two other events," Wright said. "It was such a great experience to go to state and learn how things work as a freshman. After not competing how I wanted to in the long jump, I had to change my mindset because I had three other events.

"Our 4×400 was so fun to be a part of. We have a great team and we worked so hard this season. I was grateful to be a part of that team and stand with them on the podium."

Gassman, a junior, also had a big meet for the Lady Cats she came away with three medals, including an individual one in the 300-meter hurdles. Gassman ran a time of 47.52 seconds to finish fourth overall.



Junior Carlee Gassman left Wichita with three state medals last weekend.

"In all honesty, I was very disappointed with my 300 race," Gassman said. "I know I can do so much better, and knowing my time from last year was faster than first place at state this year, just tells me that I didn't work hard enough. I am going to keep my head high and work for it next year."

A second Louisburg relay also made its way to the medal stand. Gassman, along with Jordon Leach, Pugh and Keagle, ran a time of 50.69 seconds in the 4×100 relay to take eighth overall.

"It was great being able to go on

the medal stand with the people I love and getting a medal for the 4×100 is amazing,” Gassman said. “Getting to run against girls that are so much faster than us just pushed us even more.”

In the field events, the Lady Cats earned two more medals as both Alyse Moore and Avery Graham both captured their first state medal.

In the javelin, Moore recorded a personal best for the second week in a row as she had a toss of 131-9. The Louisburg sophomore went on to finish fourth in her first state meet.



Louisburg sophomore Alyse Moore and javelin coach Alex Gentges get a picture with her state medal.

Graham also found her way to the

medal stand in the pole vault. The Louisburg junior tied a personal best mark of 10 feet to take fifth overall.

“It was really nice to see both of them medal,” Reece said. “I think that is going to be a huge confidence builder for them.”

Keagle, a junior, just missed out on her first state medal by one place in the 100 hurdles. On Saturday morning, she ran a time of 16.67 seconds to take ninth overall.

Leach, a senior, competed in her final meet for the Lady Cats and came in 12th in the 100-meter dash in 12.81 seconds.

Louisburg 4×400 relay sprints way to state championship



The Louisburg 4×400-meter relay (from left) of Justin Collins, Blue Caplinger, Ben Wiedenmann and Chris Williams pose with their state championship medals Sunday at Wichita State's Cessna Stadium. The Wildcat quartet won the state title in

3:25.39.

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

The four Wildcat runners had the top time in Class 4A going into the 4×400-meter relay, but weather threw a little wrench into their plans. The meet, which was supposed to end on Saturday, was postponed to Sunday morning and all races were judged by times with no preliminaries.

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

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

"I felt we ran well," Wiedenmann said. "Our coach (Andy Wright) had told us that individually there would be kids faster than us, but that as a team they couldn't beat us as long as we ran our best race."

Collins opened the relay, and the Louisburg sophomore was a little nervous, knowing there was

more than just a
state championship on the line.

"It was a relief because right
before I went out there to run, coach Wright told us he had
never had anyone
win a state championship and we wanted to make sure to do
that," he said.

Collins then handed the baton to
Caplinger, who also helped keep the Wildcats toward the front
of the pack and
the Louisburg senior was happy to do his part.

"I think it was cool to win state,"
Caplinger said. "It is something everyone hopes for and
actually accomplishing
it is pretty awesome. I think I ran a decent leg, but it
wasn't my best. The
competition was tough and much different than anything we saw
during the
regular season."

Caplinger then gave the baton to Wiedenmann and the Louisburg
sophomore remembered something he told Williams two days prior
to the race.

"I told Chris that I would do my
best to give him a 20-meter lead, and even after all the
delays, I made sure to
stick to my promise," Wiedenmann said. "When I handed it off
to him, I thought
I was pretty close to accomplishing my goal."

Williams then took the final leg
of his high school career and made it count as he left the
other seven teams
behind him.

"Once I crossed the line, I knew that I used all the effort that Justin, Blue and Ben gave to get me the baton in first and to finish the race like they started," Williams said. "It was a great feeling that we were able to provide coach Wright with his first state championship in his coaching career."

The rest of the team felt the same as they came together to celebrate on the infield as Williams crossed the finish line.

"I had mixed feelings watching Chris cross the finish line," Wiedenmann said. "One part of me was stoked that we had finished first, but the other half of me was glad that it was finally over and that our hard work had finally paid off."

Louisburg's 4×400-meter relay was one of two relays to earn state medals for the Wildcat boys. Louisburg medaled in four events overall as the top eight in each event make their way to the medal stand.

Charlie Koontz, Caplinger, Wiedenmann and Collins worked their way to the medal stand for the 4×100 relay as the Wildcats finished fifth in 43.68, just behind rival Paola who ran a 43.66.

"Getting a medal was really cool in the 4×100," Caplinger said. "We were ranked seventh coming in and we were just .02 seconds off of third place. I think we ran well against this

competition, even though it wasn't our best time."



Sophomore Luke Faulkner cleared a personal best of 13-6 in the pole vault to earn his first state medal after he finished fourth overall.

Sophomore Luke Faulkner picked the perfect time to have his best performance in the pole vault as he cleared a personal best 13 feet, 6 inches to finish fourth overall and earned his first state medal. Teammate Trent Martin was 12th in the event after clearing 12-6.

Williams also earned an individual state medal for the second straight season in the 400-meter dash. The Louisburg senior finished seventh in 52.52 seconds.

"To be honest, the one race I cared about was the 4×400, but once the race started I decided to just go for it," Williams said. "I was just wanted to make my last individual race in high

school a good one and it is nice to get another medal.”

Senior Kiefer Tucker was just one spot away from earning his first state medal, but the Louisburg senior took ninth with a throw of 141-3, just three feet behind the eighth-place finisher.

Junior Michael Waldron recorded his best throw of the season Saturday in the javelin as he recorded a toss of 165-3 and took 10th. Waldron was a little more than a foot behind eighth-place.

In other events, freshman Tom Koontz had a good time in his first state meet as he took 12th in the 300 hurdles in 42.21 seconds and senior Brandon Cooper was 13th in 11.45 in the 100 dash.

Junior Anthony Davis and freshman Ryan Rogers finished 15th and 16th, respectively, in the 1,600-meter run.

Moore to compete at state in two sports in same season



Louisburg sophomore Alyse Moore is competing at state this weekend in both softball and track this weekend and is the first Wildcat athlete to do so in recent memory.

Alyse Moore was filled with excitement after she and the Louisburg softball team qualified for state last week.

As the team's starting shortstop on the 5-win team, it was an unexpected, yet a fantastic feeling for the Wildcat sophomore. Just three days later, however, Moore's excitement level reached a new level.

Moore qualified for state in the javelin after she won a regional title in the event last Friday in Paola. So, for the first time in recent school history, she is the first Wildcat athlete to head to state in two sports in the same season.

"It is such an honor," Moore said.

"I am so thankful because I couldn't imagine do it without my teammates in softball and my coaches in track. I am just very thankful and it is a great opportunity for me."

After the Lady Cat softball team won the regional title on May 14, Moore took to the javelin runway last Friday in Paola during regional track and she had an outside shot of earning a spot at the state track meet.

She knew she was going to have to have her best throw of the season to have a chance. Moore had competed in just two meets all season prior to regional due to her softball schedule.

So in her final throw of prelims, Moore let it fly and she shattered her old personal record by 25 feet with a throw of 129 feet, 11 inches. That mark jumped her to the top of the leaderboard and it was good enough win regionals by three feet.

She held off Baldwin senior Kayla Kurtz, who recently signed with the University of Oklahoma. When Moore's personal record mark was read out, her javelin coach, Alex Gentges, got a little excited himself.

"I knew she was capable of a big throw but 129-11 exceeded expectations so I let out some excitement after they read off the distance, that's for sure," Gentges said. "The great thing is that she is capable of more, but walking away a regional champ after the first year ever throwing is incredible."



Alyse Moore was all smiles after she won regionals with a personal best throw of 129-11.

The idea of participating in two sports was brought to Moore's attention before the start of the season, and after talking with coaches from both sports, she was given the go-ahead to compete in both, with softball being the priority.

It made for some busy afternoons and evenings after school as she would attend softball practice and then made her way over for track workouts.

"It is definitely a challenge sometimes, but at the same time it is super fun and it is fun to be around different people," Moore said. "Most of the time I will go to softball first, practice there, and then Gentges comes over and we will put in the time after softball practice working on throwing. It

means a lot that he created extra time for me to get better.”



Alyse Moore, the Lady Cat starting shortstop, competed in the state tournament Thursday in Salina.

Moore grew up playing softball and the thought of throwing javelin hadn't even entered her mind until before the season when the Wildcat track coaches brought the idea to her parents. They knew she had a strong arm as a shortstop, and they thought it would translate well into the javelin.

Although there were some growing pains early, Moore has taken off with the javelin as she threw over 100 feet in just her second meet earlier this month at Wellsville. She then followed it up with the regional-winning throw.

"I'm very impressed about her success in both sports," Gentges said. "She comes to practice with a great attitude and takes criticism well.

She is a competitor and anyone that watches her compete knows that. This is the

first time in a long time that someone has played two sports at once and to have this success this early is a special thing.”

Moore and the Lady Cats softball team competed in Salina on Thursday and left with a 10-0 loss to No. 1 seed Andale-Garden Plain. It is just the first part of what is a busy weekend as Moore will throw the javelin at 9:45 a.m. on Saturday in Wichita at the state meet.

Whatever happens, Moore has enjoyed the experience of being able to participate in two sports and is hoping for good things on Saturday.

“Although this is my first year throwing javelin, I am expecting to go out there and place,” Moore said. “There are a lot of good throwers out at state, but hopefully I can go out there and throw well. It will be a lot of fun.”

Lady Cats qualify in 10 events, break 4 records, win 4 regional titles



Louisburg freshman Delaney Wright lands in the sand pit after breaking the school record in the long jump with a mark of 17-11.75 on Friday at the Class 4A regional meet in Paola. Wright qualified for state in four events.

PAOLA – Delaney Wright was already having a great season for the Louisburg girls track and field team as a freshman.

On Friday, she took it to even bigger heights.

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

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

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

Wright's day was just one of the many positives for the Lady Cats as they broke four school records, had four regional champions and qualified for state in 10 events.

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

Wright began her historic day in the long jump as she was sitting third going into the finals when she popped her best jump of the season in her first attempt in the finals. Wright had a mark of 17 feet, 11.75 inches, which won her a regional championship and broke a school record in the process.

She eclipsed the old record of 17-10.5 set by Carolyn Burk in 1995 and Wright currently has the best jump in Class 4A heading into the state meet.

"I was so surprised," Wright said.

"Carlee (Gassman) and I said a prayer right before finals and we both just went for it. It was a great jump and I am just really happy."

Her record-breaking streak continued in the 400 dash as she was second overall in 1 minute, just .05 seconds behind Ottawa's Summer Spigle. Wright finished .28 seconds ahead of Baldwin's Carly Lindemeyer as all three runners reached for the finish line.

Wright's time broke Sue Truman's 44-year-old record of 1:00.30 that was set in 1975.

"It was just a battle," Wright

said. "It was all about who had the most heart and we all wanted to go to state. It was a great race. This season has really exceeded my expectations. I just wanted to come out and do my best and do what it takes to win."

She later qualified in her third event as she took second in the 200-meter dash in 26.45 seconds. In the last event of the night, Wright, Gassman, Pugh and Keagle recorded a season-best time of 4:15.28 to take second overall in the 4×400 relay.



Junior Carlee Gassman clears the final hurdle Friday at the Class 4A regional meet in Paola. Gassman won the regional title in the event in a time of 46.69.

As for Gassman, she is heading to state in three events. The Louisburg junior won the regional championship in the 300-meter hurdles in a season-best time of 46.69 seconds and has the second-best time going into the state meet this weekend.

"I'm blessed to have gotten the regional title," Gassman said. "Honestly, I started out the season a little rocky and to know that I've been working hard enough to keep improving my time, makes me extremely happy."

Gassman also helped the 4x100-meter relay earn a trip to state as she joined Pugh, Keagle and Jordon Leach to finish second overall in 50.70 seconds. Bishop Miego was first at 50.54.

"I'm so proud of both the relay teams," Gassman said. "We have so much talent and determination. I think out at state we are going to run our hearts out and good things will come from that"

Leach continued the historic day for the Lady Cats she broke the school record in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.66 second and broke LeAnn Rhoten's mark set in 1980. Her time was also good enough to win her first regional title as she heads into state with one of the top times.

"The prelims were pretty tough and I didn't think that I ran all that well," Leach said. "Coach (John) Reece told me I was ranked first going in so that they are chasing me. I knew that I needed to step up in the finals and I just went for it. I was so nervous though. I have raced a lot of these girls before, and it is always a toss-up on

who wins and after I crossed I almost cried. It felt so good.”



Senior Jordan Leach sprints after taking the handoff in the 4×100 relay. Leach won regionals in the 100 dash and broke the school record in the process.

Sophomore Alyse Moore provided the Lady Cats with their biggest surprise of the day as Moore, who had thrown in just two meets prior to regionals, finished her day as a regional champion.

Moore set a new personal record by almost 25 feet as she finished with a mark of 129 feet, 11 inches, which came in her final throw of the prelims. She is now headed to state in two different sports as she is also the starting shortstop on the softball team.



Sophomore Alyse Moore won the regional championship in the javelin Friday in Paola with a new personal best mark of 129-11.

"I've worked all week on it and I've been focusing a little more," Moore said. "Whenever I let it go, it just felt really natural for me and I was so excited to be able to go to state in track too, along with softball."

"It definitely surprised me that I was able to win it. It all has to do with Coach G (Alex Gentges) because he has really worked with me and put in extra time whenever I have to come late because of softball. It is definitely all because of him helping me out and it feels awesome to be able to win."

Keagle competed in a difficult field of the 100-meter hurdles, but the Louisburg junior rose to the occasion as she recorded a time of 15.99 seconds to set a new school record and earned her first state bid in the process as she came in fourth.

She broke the 40-year-old mark of 16 seconds that was set by Barbara Spies in 1979.



Junior Sydni Keagle races down the straightaway and clears the final hurdle Friday in Paola. Keagle was fourth in the 100 hurdles and broke a 40-year-old school record.

Junior Avery Graham also earned her first state bid in the pole vault as she took fourth overall after she finished at 8-6. Graham cleared that mark early in the competition, but sustained an ankle injury after and wasn't able to vault.

Louisburg will begin their journey to a state medal Friday afternoon at Cessna Stadium on the campus of Wichita State University. The top eight in each event will earn a medal.

“Having so many people qualify for state just proves how much talent we have on our team,” Gassman said. “I’m so proud of everyone who made it and I know everyone is going to do their absolute best this weekend.”

Other results are:

100 dash: Rain Pugh, 6th,
13.23

200 dash: Jordon Leach, 10th,
29.49

1,600 run: Shaylor Whitham, 10th,
6:25

High jump: Eileen Benne, 5th,
4-8; Shelby Grandon, 7th, 4-6

Pole vault: Malee Rutherford, 11th,
7-0

Long jump: Carlee Gassman, 5th,
17-1; Sydni Keagle, 10th, 15-7

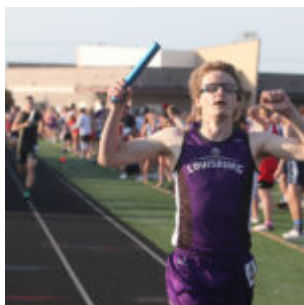
Triple jump: Benne, 12th,
29-5.5

Shot put: Shea O’Hara, 11th,
32-0.50; Cayden Forrester, 13th, 24-9

Discus: Rinny McMullen, 5th,
100-11; Aiyana Penca, 8th, 90-8; Melia Rice, 13th, 81-2

Javelin: Davis Guetterman, 10th,
91-7; Lakin Cunningham, 17th, 71-3

Wildcats qualify for state in 9 events; relays set school records



Louisburg senior Chris Williams pumps his fists in the air after the Wildcat 4×400-meter relay won a regional championship and broke their own school record with a new time 3:23.76 on Friday during the Class 4A regional meet in Paola.

PAOLA – As Justin Collins, Blue Caplinger, Ben Wiedenmann and Chris Williams raced around the track in the 4×400-meter relay Friday at the Class 4A regional meet in Paola, they had only two thoughts in mind.

One was to qualify for state and the other was to hold on to that No. 1 state ranking.

The Wildcats did both of those things and then some. The Louisburg quartet easily won the regional championship as they broke their own school record with a time of 3 minutes and

23.76 seconds after setting it last week at the Frontier League meet.

"I think we ran pretty well,"

Caplinger said. "We are looking forward to even tougher competition at state. I

think we compete harder as the competition gets tougher and it was very

satisfying to know that we can run good times consistently."

Louisburg currently has the best

time in Class 4A heading into the state meet this weekend in Wichita.

"We are all pretty excited since

we are No. 1 in the state instead of No. 8," Williams said.

"It is always a

good thing to be at the top. At the same time, we are now the team to beat and

we are who everyone wants to catch. It is going to be a fun race. It is going

to be tough and we are going to do our best."

It was a successful day for the Wildcat team as they qualified for state in nine events and will send 13 to Wichita this weekend. The end of the meet almost got even better for Louisburg as it was in the hunt for the regional runner-up trophy.

Louisburg finished with 82 points,

but unfortunately they finished one point behind Eudora for second place in the

team standings. Paola won the regional crown with 168 points.

Still, the Wildcats had a successful

regional meet that led them to qualifying for state in nine events and are

sending 13 athletes to Wichita in the process. The top four finishers in each

event get to compete at the state meet.

Along with his regional title in the 4×400 relay, Williams, a senior, ran his best race of the season in the 400-meter dash in 51.44 seconds to win a regional championship.

“I thought I ran it pretty slow, but down the final stretch I decided to just go for it since it was my last one and finally got below 52 seconds, which I had been struggling with all season,” Williams said. “It was good to get that good time.”

Louisburg’s 4×100-meter relay of Charlie Koontz, Caplinger, Wiedenmann and Collins ran their best time of the season Friday. After tying the school record the week before at the league meet, the four athletes now have it all to themselves as the Wildcats ran a 43.34 to finish second overall to Paola, who ran a 43.17.



Blue Caplinger takes the handoff from Charlie Koontz in the

boys 4×100 relay as the Wildcats set a new school record in 43.34.

“It’s really awesome to get the record to ourselves,” Caplinger said. “It was nice since we’ve been working for that record for two years. If we make it to finals (at state), I think we’ll do very well.”

In the discus, senior Kiefer Tucker almost finished as a regional champion as he put together a strong round of throws to take second overall with a toss of 148 feet, 6 inches.

Tucker led going into finals of the competition, but in the second round of the finals, he was passed by Bishop Miege’s Taylor Poitier with a 152-7.

“It feels to go out to state, especially with it being my senior year,” Tucker said. “I am just glad I made it and it will be my first time going so it will be a new experience, but I am definitely excited for it.

“Going in, I was a little scared, but once I got my warm-up throws in I felt good and I knew it was going to be a good day. I’m just glad that I went out and competed and just got it.”



Senior Kiefer Tucker lets the discus fly Friday during the Class 4A regional meet in Paola. Tucker was second overall.

The Wildcats also had six athletes that finished in either third or fourth place to earn a state bid.

Junior Michael Waldron will make his trip to state in the javelin as he took third overall with a throw of 154-9 in windy conditions. Waldron is excited for his first opportunity in Wichita after narrowly missing state a year ago.

"It feels great," Waldron said. "This is my first year going and last year I missed out on going to state by like a few feet, so it is a nice to be able to get there.

"It was actually good throwing into the wind, and I have actually had success this year doing that, so it was good and I'm looking forward to state."

Louisburg had a pair of pole vaulters qualify after both Trent Martin and Luke Faulkner both tied personal bests to finish third and fourth, respectively.

Martin cleared 13-6 for the second consecutive week, while Faulkner was fourth at 13-0. A lot of their competition was eliminated early on and knew they qualified shortly into the event, which made it a little less stressful.

"I felt really good today," Martin said. "It was nice when the four of us found out early in the competition that we had already qualified and that took a lot of the pressure off. It just let us have fun.

"We are going to be putting in work this week and going for PR's at state and we will just see what happens."

It will be the second trip to state for both vaulters and Martin will try for his second state medal.

"I am just trying to go to state all four years and I have been successful so far," Faulkner said. "There was great conditions and that helped with some of the high marks.

"It is fun having competition to go up against at practice with Trent. Everyone is slowing getting better and it makes the sport more fun."



Freshman Tom Koontz celebrates at the finish line as he finished third in the 300 hurdles and qualified for state.

Louisburg got a pleasant surprise from freshman Tom Koontz in the 300 hurdles. Koontz ran a personal best time of 41.35 seconds to finish third overall and led to a celebration at the finish line.

The Wildcats also qualified a pair of distance runners as junior Anthony Davis and freshman Ryan Rogers finished third and fourth, respectively, in the 1,600-meter run. Davis ran a 5:00.48, while Rogers sprinted toward to the finish to edge Osawatomie's Bryce Filipin in 5:03.

In the sprints, senior Brandon Cooper was fourth in a difficult race in the 100-meter dash. Cooper ran a time of 11.22 to punch his ticket to state.

Events for state will begin at 3

p.m., Friday at Cessna Stadium on the campus of Wichita State University and
the top eight in each events will earn state medals.

Other results:

100 dash: Justin Collins, 5th,
11.33; Blue Caplinger, 6th, 11.51

200 dash: Charlie Koontz, 10th,
23.85; Ben Wiedenmann, 11th, 23.95

800 run: Anthony Davis, 14th,
2:24; Ryan Rogers, 15th, 2:24

110 hurdles: Tom Koontz, 5th,
16.88

Long jump: Hayden Feikert, 7th,
19-10; Will Finestead, 8th, 19-8.5; Weston Guetterman, 15th,
16-10

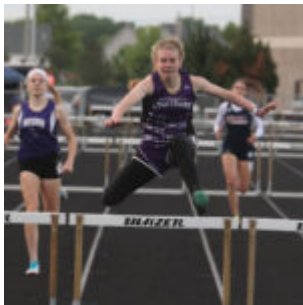
Triple jump: Finestead, 5th,
40-7.5; Isaac Guetterman, 10th, 39-5.25; Indy Strumillo, 13th,
38-5.75

Shot put: Kiefer Tucker, 12th,
42-9.5; Jonathan DePriest, 15th, 39-7.5

Discus: Carter Anglin, 8th,
122-2

Javelin: Jay Scollin, 6th,
148-7; Austin Moore, 7th, 142-10

Gassman, Wright win league titles; relay breaks school record



Louisburg junior Carlee Gassman glides her way to a Frontier League crown in the 300-meter hurdles last Friday in Paola. Gassman won with a time of 47.07 seconds.

PAOLA – Carlee Gassman and Delaney Wright had a Frontier League Invitational to remember for a few different reasons – one of which was they left with a league title in hand.

Gassman won the league crown in the 300-meter hurdles and Wright took first place in the long jump as they guided the Lady Cats to a fifth-place team finish Friday in Paola. The Wildcat duo certainly wasn't done scoring points.

Both athletes captured three league medals and Gassman was also a part of history. Gassman, along with Jordon Leach, Rain Pugh and Sydni Keagle, broke the school record in the 4×100-meter relay as they ran a time of 50.59 seconds to finish second overall.

They eclipsed the old mark of 50.96 that was set in 2000 by the quartet of Laura Gjerde, LaTasha Roberts, Megan Howard and Libby Dean.

It was a competitive event as Piper went on to set a new league record in a time of 49.15 seconds.

“The 4×100 did an awesome job,” Louisburg coach John Reece said. “I was coaching when the 2000 team broke the record and again with this group. Yes, there are similarities between them, but only one difference – we only lose one from this relay due to graduation. I expect them to continue to improve on their time, not only this year, but next as well.”



The 4×100 relay of (from left) Rain Pugh, Jordon Leach, Sydni Keagle and Carlee Gassman broke the school record Friday with a time of 50.59.

Gassman continued to show improvement in the 300 hurdles as she recorded a season-best time of 47.07 seconds to win the event

going away.

The Louisburg junior broke the school record in the event last year in 45.78 and Reece believe she is rounding into form for the postseason run.

“Carlee had a great start in the first 150 meters, which made the others chase her,” Reece said. “Her conditioning continues to improve and the best is yet to come.”

Wright, a freshman, had a big performance in her first ever league meet as she won the long jump with a mark of 17 feet, 4 inches. She beat out Baldwin senior, Carly Lindenmeyer, by one inch to take the top spot.

Gassman also scored points for the Wildcats in the long jump as she was fifth at 16-5.75.

“Delaney is not a freshman when it comes to competition,” Wright said. “She is a focused individual that will bring it every time. It is impressive for a freshman to claim a league title, especially in our league.”



Freshman Delaney Wright won the Frontier League title in the long jump with mark of 17-4 on Friday in Paola.

Wright and Gassman teamed up with Pugh and Keagle to run the 4×400-meter relay as well. The team medaled third overall with a personal best time of 4:17.86.

In the sprints, the Wildcats picked up a couple more medals as Wright took third in the 200-meter dash in 26.83 seconds, while Leach was third in the 100 dash in 12.96. Wright also went on to score points in the 400 dash with a season-best time of 1:01.26 and took fourth.

Louisburg also scored points in a pair of field events. Junior Avery Graham cleared 8-6 to medal second in the pole vault and freshman Rinny McMullen was fifth in the discus with a toss of 93-11.

As a team, the Wildcats were fifth overall with 65 points. Baldwin won the league title with 112.5 points and Paola was second at 105.50.

The Lady Cats will be back in action Friday when it travels to Paola for the Class 4A regional meet. Events start at 1 p.m. and the top four finishers in each event will qualify for the state meet next week in Wichita.

"I believe we can qualify as many as 8 girls and be represented in 11 events," Reece said. "As always, we need to go and take care of what we can control, our own performances, and good things will happen. If we go and PR, the other teams will see the energy we create and they will feel the pressure, not us. The best is yet to come."

Other results are:

200 dash: Jordon Leach, 7th,
29.99

800 run: Shaylor Whitham, 11th,
2:52

1,600 run: Whitham, 10th,
6:15

100 hurdles: Kristen Bell, 8th,
18.90

300 hurdles: Bell, 14th,
1:04

High jump: Shelby Grandon, 10th,

4-8; Eileen Benne, 10th, 4-8

Long jump: Sydni Keagle, 13th,
14-3

Triple jump: Benne, 11th,
29-5

Shot put: Shea O'Hara, 15th,
29-2; Cayden Forrester, 20th, 25-3; Eden Strumillo, 21st,
24-6

Discus: Aiyana Penca, 12th,
85-7; Melia Rice, 13th, 81-9

Javelin: Alyse Moore, 10th,
95-7; Davis Guetterman, 16th, 74-8; Lakin Cunningham, 20th,
68-0

Wildcat boys rewrite record book at league track meet



The Louisville 4×400 team of (from left) Justin Collins, Blue Caplinger, Ben Wiedenmann and Chris Williams broke at 19-year-

old school record with a time of 3:25.10 to win a league title Friday in Paola.

PAOLA – It was a record-breaking night for the Louisburg boys track and field team and the Wildcats picked a good time to do it.

At the Frontier League Invitational at Paola High School, the Wildcats broke a school record, tied another and finished with two league champions Friday. Most of it was on the track as both relay teams were a part of history.

The 4×400-meter relay team of Justin Collins, Blue Caplinger, Ben Wiedenmann and Chris Williams broke the school record with a time of 3 minutes and 25.10 seconds and earned a league title in the process. The old record of 3:25.60 was set in 2000 by the team of Sauber, Brittingham, Johns and Hoppe.

Louisburg beat runner-up Eudora by more than a second as the Wildcat quartet eased to a league championship in the event. Their new school record time is currently the top mark in Class 4A this season.

“They were on a mission and they wanted the school record,” Louisburg coach Andy Wright said. “They ran with a purpose and were determined to win. I don’t want them to be satisfied and I don’t think they are. They are all competitors and compete with that mentality. I can’t ask for more than that as a coach.”

The Wildcats’ 4×100 team of Charlie Koontz, Caplinger,

Wiedenmann and Collins rose to the occasion as well. Louisburg tied a school record in the event with a time of 43.43 seconds as the Wildcats took third overall in a fast race that saw Piper win the league title at 43.20.

That mark of 43.43 tied the record set in 1996 by Hoppe, Burk, Jaccard and Antisdell.

“It was a well-deserved time,” Wright said. “This crew works hard every day in practice. They show up and do everything that is asked of them. They competed hard. All of the events, including the relays, were state-medalist caliber at this meet.”



The 4×100 team of (from left) Charlie Koontz, Blue Caplinger, Ben Wiedenmann and Justin Collins tied a 23-year-old school record with a time of 43.43.

Junior Trent Martin had the best day of his high school pole vaulting career as he won his first league crown.

Martin cleared a personal best mark of 13 feet and 6 inches

and nearly cleared
14 feet in his final attempt.

Martin tied Paola's Preston Martin
at 13-6, but Trent won based on number of misses. Louisburg
sophomore Luke
Faulkner cleared 12-6 and finished fourth.

"Trent had some great attempts on
Friday," Wright said. "It is nice to have him healthy and
improving. He is
working very hard this week and I know he will be ready for
regionals."



**Junior Trent Martin won his first Frontier League title Friday
after he cleared 13-6.**

As a team, the Wildcats finished fifth in the
league standings with 55 points. Piper won the league
championship with 122
points and Paola was second with 121.

On the track, Williams rounded out the Wildcat medalists as he
was the league runner-up in the 400-meter dash with a time of
52 seconds.

Also in the sprints, Collins ran a time of 11.47 seconds to take fifth in the 100-meter dash. Caplinger was fifth in the 200 dash in 23.33.

Louisburg also scored points in the 300 hurdles as freshman Tom Koontz was sixth in 42.81.

The Wildcats also scored points in a few field events. Junior Michael Waldron recorded a throw of 156-6 to take fifth in the javelin.

Junior Carter Anglin was sixth in the discus with a toss of 131-5 and junior Indy Strumillo took sixth in the triple jump with a mark of 39-4.

“The Frontier League meet is, event for event, one of the toughest we will compete at,” Wright said. “In several events, the top finishers are the leading event leaders in the state. I was very proud of the way our team handled themselves and the level of competition. They didn’t back down.”

Louisburg will be back in action Friday when it travels back to Paola to compete in the Class 4A regional meet. The top four finishers in each event will travel to Wichita next week to compete at the state meet.

“Our regional is tough, and has some very tough competition,” Wright said. “The mark coming into the Paola regional are some of the best in 4A. I expect us to go out and give it our

best, and if we compete like we can, we hope to qualify in several events. It should be very exciting on Friday.”

Other results are:

100 dash: Blue Caplinger, 8th,
11.72; Charlie Koontz, 11th, 11.91

200 dash: Ben Widenmann, 9th,
23.41; Skylar Tinsley, 13th, 24.31

400 dash: Dylan Armstrong, 12th,
55.96; Weston Guetterman, 14th, 56.92

800 run: Anthony Davis, 14th,
2:19; Ryan Rogers, 17th, 2:26; Caden Bradshaw, 18th, 2:27

1,600 run: Davis, 7th,
4:58; Rogers, 12th, 5:12; Bradshaw, 13th, 5:12

3,200 run: Gareth Baus, 18th,
13:00

110 hurdles: Tom Koontz, 10th,
17.84

Long jump: Will Finestead, 11th,
18-4; Hayden Feikert, 12th, 18-3; Guetterman, 18th, 17-2

Triple jump: Isaac Guetterman, 8th,
38-0.50; Finestead, 9th, 37-6.5

Shot put: Kiefer Tucker, 10th,

45-6; Brayden White, 17th, 39-11; Jonathan DePriest, 22nd, 37-6

Discus: Tucker, 16th, 109-7; White, 18th, 107-6

Javelin: Jay Scollin, 7th, 142-2; Austin Moore, 9th, 141-2

Gassman medals in three events to lead Wildcat track at Wellsville



Carlee Gassman won the 300 hurdles, was second in the long jump and helped the Louisburg 4×100 relay to a first place finish Friday in Wellsville.

WELLSVILLE – The Louisburg track and field teams took part in one of its toughest meets of the season Friday in Wellsville.

Louisburg competed in the Red Bud Relays and both the boys and girls teams had a fair amount of success as they

each took sixth in the team standings. The Lady Cats came in sixth with 45 points, while Baldwin won the meet with 91 and Paola was second with 79.

The Wildcat boys were also sixth with 43 points. Paola took first in the team standings with 124 points and Spring Hill was second with 104.5.

"The boys ran up against some good competition," Louisburg boys coach Andy Wright said. "We had some athletes step up and compete. As a team, I would like to see us refocus our goals and get ready for league coming up."

Carlee Gassman had a big meet for the Lady Cats on the girls side as she earned a pair of gold medals and was runner-up in another event as well.

Gassman won the 300-meter hurdles in 48.53 seconds to pull away from the rest of the field. Earlier in the day, Gassman, along with Jordon Leach, Rain Pugh and Sydni Keagle, put together a season-best time in the 4×100-meter relay in 50.99 seconds.

The Louisburg junior would also go on to finish second in the long jump with a mark of 15 feet and 6 inches.

Louisburg won one event on the boys side and that came thanks to the arm of Kiefer Tucker. The Louisburg senior captured the discus title for the second week in a row on a throw of 144-6.

"Kiefer really competed," Wright said. "He lost the lead in the finals and I was proud of how he responded by putting his last throw out there to regain the lead and win it."

Although it didn't count in the team standings, Tucker also took part in the thrower's relay with Austin Moore, Michael Waldron and Jonathan DePriest. The team took first in 48.37 seconds and their time is the fourth fastest in the nation according to milesplit.com

Two other relays also had season-best times as the 4×400-meter relay of Chris Williams, Justin Collins, Blue Caplinger and Ben Wiedenmann finished second in 3 minutes and 28 seconds to take second overall.

The 4×100 relay of Brandon Cooper, Caplinger, Wiedenmann and Collins found themselves in a competitive race, but came in fourth in 43.98 seconds.

"The 4×400 set a PR by two seconds and they ran a solid race, even without everyone running their best split," Wright said. "When we get everyone's best in the same race we are going to be right at the top of the mix in league and regionals."

"The 4×100 also got a PR, but we just have to keep improving every week. We are getting down to the end and we need to stay focused on improving with the races we have left."

In the sprints, Cooper led the way in the 100-meter dash as he took third in 11.49 seconds and Caplinger was sixth in 11.70. Caplinger was also sixth in the 200 dash in 23.87.

Williams ran a 52.82 to take fourth overall in the 400 dash and freshman Tom Koontz was sixth in the 300 hurdles in 44 seconds to complete the point-getters on the track.

In the field events, Waldron earned a medal in the javelin with a throw of 152-5 to take third and sophomore Jay Scollin was fifth at 148-4.

On the girls side, Leach had a successful day as she was runner-up in the 200-meter dash in 27.50 and was fifth in the 100 dash in 13.54.

Keagle earned points for Louisburg in the 100 hurdles as she finished fifth in 17.06 seconds. Keagle, Pugh, Gassman and Shaylor Whitham was sixth in the 4×400 relay in 4:28.

The girls 4×100 thrower's relay, although they didn't earn points, took gold in 1:03.

A pair of throwers also placed for the Lady Cats. Sophomore Alyse Moore finished fifth with a toss of 104-4 and freshman Rinny McMullen was sixth in the discus at 93-1.

Senior Eileen Benne and sophomore Shelby Grandon tied for sixth in the high jump after clearing 4-6.

Louisburg will begin its postseason slate Friday when it travels to Paola for the Frontier League Invitational. Events are set to begin at 3:30 p.m.

Other results are:

GIRLS

400 dash: Andrea Gaza, 19th,
1:14

1,600 run: Shaylor Whitham, 14th,
6:21

100 hurdles: Kristen Bell, 11th,
19.59

Long jump: Sydni Keagle, 10th,
13-6

Triple jump: Eileen Benne, 11th,
28-5

Shot put: Shea O'Hara, 16th,
26-10; Eden Strumillo, 18th, 25-6; Cayden Forrester, 24th,
22-9

Discus: Aiyana Penca, 15th,
87-0; Melia Rice, 22nd, 77-4

Javelin: Davis Guetterman, 23rd,
73-5

BOYS

100 dash: Justin Collins, 9th,
11.79

200 dash: Ben Wiedenmann, 8th,
24.27; Brandon Cooper, 10th, 23.90

400 dash: Dylan Armstrong, 21st,
56.69; Weston Guetterman, 25th, 59.39

800 run: Anthony Davis, 18th,
2:20; Ryan Rogers, 21st, 2:25; Sawyer Richardson, 24th,
2:28

1,600 run: Davis, 12th,
5:01; Rogers, 15th, 5:14; Richardson, 17th, 5:24

110 hurdles: Tom Koontz, 7th,
17.54

Pole vault: Trent Martin, 8th,
11-6; Caleb Shaughnessy, 12th, 9-6

Long jump: Will Finestead, 9th,
18-4; Hayden Feikert, 12th, 18-0

Triple jump: Finestead, 8th,
37-4; Indy Strumillo, 9th, 36-11; Guetterman, 13th, 34-10

Shot put: Kiefer Tucker, 9th,
42-3.5; Jonathan DePriest, 13th, 39-8; Brayden White, 19th,
38-3

Discus: Carter Anglin, 7th,
121-7; White, 14th, 111-8

Javelin: Austin Moore, 12th,
125-11