

Lady Cats finish runner-up at home tournament



Louisburg senior Haley Cain blocks an Olathe North shot at the net Saturday during the Louisburg Invitational. Cain and the Lady Cats finished second overall.

It certainly did end the way it wanted, but the Louisburg volleyball team took a lot of positives Saturday following the Louisburg Invitational.

The Lady Cats may have finished second, but they picked up several wins along with the way and advanced to the championship match where they squared off with Basehor-Linwood. Louisburg fell to the Bobcats in two sets, but it was a step forward for the team this season.

“I thought we played pretty well throughout the entire tournament,” Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. “It’s always a positive when you are playing in the championship, and even better when it’s our home tournament. Overall, we had fewer ups and downs throughout the tournament. We did hit a couple slumps, but we were quicker to respond than we had been in the past.”

Louisburg opened the tournament strong as it went 3-0 in pool

play and it got started with a 25-14 and 25-16 win over Shawnee Mission West and then downed Olathe North, 25-16 and 25-21. The Lady Cats finished it off with an easy win over Heritage Christian, 25-4 and 25-7.

Once they got to the semifinals, the Lady Cats came up against their first challenge of the tournament against Shawnee Mission East. Louisburg found itself down 17-11 in the first set, but rallied to back to win 25-22 and 25-18.

Junior Carleigh Pritchard registered three kills in the comeback, while senior Haley Cain recorded an ace and served several points in a row for the Lady Cats in the first set. Tied at 19-all, senior Riley Kallevig served an ace, Pritchard and senior Liz Jacobs recorded a kill and sophomore setter Davis Guetterman tipped the ball over the East defense for a point and a 23-20 lead.

“I was very happy to see how the team responded and rallied back to win the first set,” Compliment said. “We were down big and the team really stepped up and played to win rather than not to win. It was a good match. “

Against Basehor-Linwood in the championship, Louisburg held an 8-5 lead early in the first set after a kill and block from Pritchard and an ace from Kallevig. Basehor eventually went on a run and took a 17-14 lead.

Jacobs recorded a kill to cut the Basehor lead to 20-19, but the Bobcats went on a 5-1 run to end the match and take the first set 25-20.

It was much of the same in the second

set.



Senior Liz Jacobs tips a shot over the Heritage Christian defense Saturday in Louisburg.

Louisburg (12-8) jumped out to a 6-0 lead after a kill and block from Cain, a block from junior Alyse Moore and an ace from sophomore Riny McMullen. Basehor then went on a 11-1 run to take an 11-7 lead.

The Lady Cats didn't back down and rallied to tie the match at 21-all after an ace from sophomore Chase Kallevig and a kill from Riley Kallevig. Another Moore block kept the Louisburg advantage at 22-21, but Basehor went on a mini 4-1 run to

close the match out at 25-23.

“Basehor is always a tough a team that we typically see often throughout the season,” Compliment said. “It’s tough to lose to them, but they are a talented team. I think we had opportunities where we could have pushed a little harder and possibly won, but I still think the team played well. A couple plays here or there could have changed the outcome. We’ll see them again Saturday in Ottawa and hopefully it’ll be different outcome.”

Jacobs led Louisburg at the net with five kills against Basehor and senior Erin Lemke finished with four. Moore added a team-high four blocks at the net, while Pritchard and Cain added three each.

McMullen and Guetterman both recorded seven assists in the win, while McMullen led the team with 10 digs and senior libero Reilly Ratliff-Becher added seven.

Against Shawnee Mission East, Pritchard led the Lady Cat attack with seven kills, while Jacobs and Lemke added six and five, respectively. McMullen registered three aces and 11 assists in the win, while Chase Kallevig led the Lady Cats with seven digs.



Sophomore setter Davis Guetterman sets up teammate Carleigh Pritchard for a kill Saturday during the Louisburg Invitational.

Guetterman added a team-high 12 assists in the semifinal win and McMullen finished with 11 of her own.

It was McMullen's serving that was a big positive for the Lady Cats on Saturday as she finished the five-match tournament with 16 aces. McMullen also served 16 consecutive points in the first set of the Lady Cats' win over Heritage Christian.

"Rinny's always been a tough server," Compliment said. "She leads the team in aces and we definitely score a lot of points while we're in that rotation. It was fun to see her serve so well, and the

team responds to the energy those serves and plays bring."

Louisburg returns to action tonight when it hosts Baldwin in a Frontier League dual. The Lady Cats will then turnaround on Thursday and travel to Tonganoxie.

Louisburg rolls Fort Scott, Girard

Before its home tournament, Louisburg traveled to Fort Scott on Thursday for triangular with Girard and left with a pair of easy victories.

Louisburg downed Fort Scott 25-16 and 25-14, and then followed it up with a 25-8 and 25-21 win over Girard.

Against Fort Scott, junior Carleigh Pritchard led Louisburg with eight kills on the night and senior Riley Kallevig added five. Seniors Haley Cain and Liz Jacobs both finished with four.

Serving was also strong for the Lady Cats as they tallied eight aces in the match, including two from Cain, Kallevig and sophomore Davis Guettermann. Senior libero Reilly Ratliff-Becher added a team-high six digs and sophomore Chase Kallevig had five.

Sophomore setters Rinni McMullen and Guettermann also had big nights as they tallied 13 and 12 assists, respectively.

It was a balanced attack against Girard as Cain and Riley Kallevig each had four kills in the win, while Jacobs, Pritchard and junior Alyse Moore each had three.

McMullen had a team-high three aces, while Cain and Riley

Kallevig both finished with two. McMullen also led Louisburg with 11 assists.

Lady Cats stop losing streak with win over Cyclones



Louisburg libero Reilly Ratliff-Becher runs down a ball Tuesday during a Frontier League dual at Ottawa High School. The Lady Cats defeated Ottawa, 3-1.

OTTAWA – The Louisburg volleyball team found itself in a pivotal position on the road Tuesday in Ottawa.

In the midst of a five-game losing streak, the Lady Cats had just lost a second set to Ottawa and the match was all tied up at 1-all. They could have gone a couple different directions, but the Lady Cats responded in dominating fashion.

Louisburg ended its losing skid as it downed Ottawa, 25-20, 18-25, 25-14 and 25-14, and picked up its second Frontier League win on the season and are now 2-2 in league play.

“We have had such a tough schedule, we have seen some really good teams and have picked up some losses along the way, so it is easy to sometimes second guess your confidence level,” Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. “I was happy to see us respond and get the win. We came out strong, but that second set we just made too many errors on our side and we needed to loosen up a little bit.”

It was the win the Lady Cats (6-7) were looking for as they got off to a good start against the Cyclones.

Louisburg found itself down 8-5 in the first set, only to come charging back to take the lead after sophomore Riny McMullen served five straight points.

Sophomore Carleigh Pritchard, along with seniors Liz Jacobs, Sydni Keagle and junior Alyse Moore all provided kills to put Louisburg up 14-11 and the Lady Cats never looked back.

The Lady Cats weren’t the same team in the second set as Ottawa took an early 6-5 advantage and never let up as it extended its lead eight at one point. The Cyclones were able to tie the match, but it only fueled Louisburg’s fire.

“Ottawa is an improved team and they were able to dig up a lot of balls and it produced some exciting plays on both ends of the floor,” Compliment said. “They have a couple pretty good hitters, but I was happy to see us respond after that second

set. You could tell the girls were having a lot more fun late in the match and that is what we need to see from them."



Senior Sydni Keagle tries to tip the ball over the Ottawa defense Tuesday in Ottawa.

Louisburg took a 15-7 lead in the third set behind two aces from McMullen, along with kills from Haley Cain, Pritchard, Jacobs and Keagle. Senior Riley Kallevig provided three kills down the stretch to give the Lady Cats an 11-point win.

It was much of the same in the fourth. Pritchard registered three kills, a block, Jacobs had two kills and senior Reilly Ratliff-Becher had an ace to help give Louisburg a 13-7 lead. Chase and Riley Kallevig recorded aces late and Cain sealed it

with a kill to give the Lady Cats a nice road victory.

McMullen was a factor all night for Louisburg as she recorded 16 service points on her way to three aces and also ran the offense well with a team-high 22 assists.

"Rinny is great as far as being a leader on the court and keeping everyone calm, but at the same time finding that urgency and drive out there," Compliment said. "She has a way of cranking up the energy and I think her teammates feed off her. Her serves are ones that you can always count on to be aggressive and tough."

Pritchard, the team's middle hitter, was a presence at the net as she led Louisburg with 13 kills on the night and Jacobs was second with 10. Moore and Riley Kallevig added nine and eight, respectively.

Defensively, Ratliff-Becher led the team with 13 digs and Riley Kallevig was right behind her with 12.

Sophomore setter Davis Guettermann also finished in double figures with 10 digs and added 18 assists to her line as well.

Louisburg will try and build some momentum tonight when it travels to Fort Scott for a triangular with Girard. Matches are set to begin at 5 p.m.

KSHSAA releases classifications for 2019-20 school year



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

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

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

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

Kansas State High School Activities Association
Football Classifications and Enrollments-Descending Order
2020 & 2021

Enrollment figures are based on ninth, tenth and eleventh grades only.

Enrollment figures are as of September 20, 2019.

6A	5A	4A	3A
Member Schools - 32	Member Schools - 32	Member Schools - 32	Member Schools - 48
Range: 1854 - 1092	Range: 1083 - 655	Range: 654 - 340	Range: 324 - 168
Wichita-East	1854 Liberal	1083 Lansing	654 Baldwin
Wichita-North	1691 Hutchinson	1049 Great Bend	651 Topeka-Hayden
Wichita-Southeast	1662 Wichita-Heights	1045 Lenexa-St. James Academy	649 Parsons
Derby	1638 Shawnee-Mill Valley	982 Bonner Springs	640 Andale
Garden City	1560 Leavenworth	977 Arkansas City	620 Pratt
Dodge City	1533 Wichita-Northwest	970 Andover Central	608 Clearwater
Olathe South	1503 Emporia	949 Basehor-Linwood	587 Iola
Olathe East	1477 Kansas City-Turner	902 McPherson	535 Girard
Olathe North	1469 Wichita-Bishop Carroll	890 Kansas City-Piper	518 Nickerson
Topeka-Washburn Rural	1449 Topeka West	882 Ottawa	507 Clay Center Community
Wichita-South	1438 Topeka-Seaman	881 Buhler	497 Holton
Lawrence-Free State	1411 Tecumseh-Shawnee Heights	876 SM-Bishop Miege	493 Concordia
Manhattan	1402 Maize	871 Augusta	491 Kansas City-Bishop Ward
Topeka	1364 Kansas City-Washington	850 Winfield	472 Garnett-Anderson County
Olathe Northwest	1356 Maize South	842 Tonganoxie	471 Chapman
Kansas City-Wyandotte	1355 OP-Blue Valley Southwest	811 Independence	461 St. George-Rock Creek
SM East	1353 Salina-South	800 Chanute	452 Baxter Springs
Gardner-Edgerton	1325 Newton	788 Paola	447 Osawatomie
Haysville Campus	1297 De Soto	758 Fort Scott	434 Columbus
SM West	1277 Salina-Central	758 Louisburg	432 Carbondale-Santa Fe Trail
SM Northwest	1266 Topeka-Highland Park	757 Towanda-Circle	429 Wichita-Trinity Academy
Olathe West	1256 Andover	733 Coffeyville-Field Kindley	409 Hoyt-Royal Valley
OP-Blue Valley Northwest	1233 Goddard-Eisenhower	725 El Dorado	400 Hugoton
SM North	1226 Valley Center	699 Eudora	391 LaCygne-Prairie View
Lawrence	1221 Kansas City-Sumner Acad.	698 Rose Hill	381 Hiawatha
OP-Blue Valley	1182 OP-St. Thomas Aquinas	693 Altamont-Labette County	377 Frontenac
OP-Blue Valley West	1182 Wichita-Kapaun Mt. Carmel	693 Mulvane	375 Meriden-Jefferson West
Junction City	1136 Pittsburg	691 Atchison	355 Holcomb
Wichita-West	1129 Hays	687 Abilene	352 Burlington
Kansas City-JC Harmon	1110 Kansas City-FL Schlage	687 Wamego	351 Hesston
SM South	1106 Spring Hill	668 Wellington	345 Colby
OP-Blue Valley North	1092 Goddard	655 Ulysses	340 Wichita Collegiate
			200 Lindsborg-Smoky Valley
			199 Galena
			198 Scott Community
			192 Caney Valley
			192 Perry-LeCompton
			188 Larned
			186 Cherryvale
			183 Marysville
			182 Cheney
			182 Goodland
			182 Riley County
			181 Russell
			180 Council Grove
			173 Sabetha
			171 Gypsum-Southeast of Saline
			168 Halstead

* *Note: Per classification*

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

2A

Schools - 48
Range: 168 - 112

Cimarron 168 Whitewater-Remington 111
 Lyons 168 Conway Springs 110
 Wellsville 167 Horton 110
 Haven 166 Sedgwick 108
 Hoisington 162 Arma-Northeast 106
 Osage City 161 Brookville-Ell-Saline 106
 Seneca-Nemaha Central 161 Richmond-Central Heights 106
 Fredonia 159 Wabaunsee 105
 Silver Lake 158 Wichita-The Independent 102
 Easton-Pleasant Ridge 156 Lyndon 99
 Riverton 155 Sublette 99
 Neodesha 153 Ellinwood 98
 Norton Community 153 Oakley 98
 Beloit 150 Salina-Sacred Heart 98
 Anthony/Harper-Chaparral 148 Uniontown 98
 Kingman 148 Johnson-Stanton County 96
 Eureka 147 Winchester-
 Jefferson Co. North 94
 Pomona-West Franklin 144 Inman 93
 Douglass 142 Elkhart 90
 Kismet-Southwestern Hts. 141 Plainville 89
 Lakin 141 Pleasanton 86
 St. Marys 141 Allen-Northern Heights 85
 Hays-TMP-Marian 140 Blue Rapids-Valley Heights 82
 Oskaloosa 140 Smith Center 82
 Minneapolis 139 Holton-Jackson Heights 78
 Ellsworth 137 Troy 70
 Atchison-Maur Hill-Mt Acad. 135 Olpe 69
 Rossville 135 Centralia 62
 Effingham-
 Atchinson Co Comm. 130
 Erie 130
 Hillsboro 129
 Humboldt 129
 Mound City-Jayhawk Linn 128
 Phillipsburg 128
 Wathena-Riverside 127
 Belle Plaine 124
 Syracuse 121
 Garden Plain 120
 Ellis 119
 Cherokee-Southeast 118
 Belleville-Republic County 117
 McLouth 117
 Eskridge-Mission Valley 116
 Hutchinson-Trinity Catholic 116
 Leon-Bluestem 112
 Marion 112
 Pittsburg-St. Mary's Colgan 112
 Sterling 112

1A

Schools - 28
Range: 111 - 62

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

8-Player Division I

Schools - 48
Range: 98 - 66

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

8-Player Division II

Schools - 52
Range: 66 - 29

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



Printing Department

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

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

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

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

2019-2020 Classifications and Enrollments

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

Note: Schools are listed in descending order

↑ School Moved Up in Class

↓ School Moved Down in Class

[Printable View](#)

[Sort By School](#)

6A
Member Schools: 36
Range: [2431-1312](#)

Wichita-East HS
Wichita-North HS
Wichita-Southeast HS
Derby HS
Dodge City HS
Olathe South HS
Garden City HS
Olathe North HS
Topeka-Washburn Rural HS
Olathe East HS
Olathe Northwest HS
Lawrence-Free State HS
Wichita-South HS
Manhattan HS
Shawnee Mission East HS
Gardner-Edgerton HS
Topeka HS
Wichita-Haysville Campus HS
Shawnee Mission West HS
Kansas City-Wyandotte HS
Shawnee Mission Northwest HS
Overland Park-Blue Valley Northwest HS
Lawrence HS
Overland Park-Blue Valley HS
Overland Park-Blue Valley West HS
Shawnee Mission North HS
Olathe West HS
Overland Park-Blue Valley North HS
Shawnee Mission South HS
Junction City HS
Wichita-West HS
Kansas City-JC Harmon HS
Hutchinson HS
Liberal HS
↑ Wichita-Heights HS
Shawnee-Mill Valley HS

5A
Member Schools: 36
Range: [1305-710](#)

2431 ↓ Leavenworth HS
2190 Wichita-Northwest HS
2164 Emporia HS
2105 Maize HS
2010 Wichita-Bishop Carroll HS
2005 Topeka-Seaman HS
1985 Topeka West HS
1976 Tecumseh-Shawnee Heights HS
1933 Overland Park-Blue Valley Southwest HS
1927 Kansas City-Washington HS
1880 Kansas City-Turner HS
1855 Maize South HS
1852 Salina-South HS
1823 Newton HS
1758 Salina-Central HS
1729 De Soto HS
1728 Andover HS
1712 Topeka-Highland Park HS
1638 Goddard-Eisenhower HS
1637 Overland Park-St. Thomas Aquinas HS
1624 Kansas City-FL Schlagle HS
1619 Valley Center HS
1601 Lenexa-St. James Academy
1600 Great Bend HS
1582 Wichita-Kapaun Mt. Carmel HS
1557 Kansas City-Sumner Academy
1535 Pittsburg HS
1498 Hays HS
1469 Lansing HS
1440 Goddard HS
1421 Spring Hill HS
1399 Andover Central HS
1386 Bonner Springs HS
1371 Basehor-Linwood HS
1357 Arkansas City HS
1312 McPherson HS

4A
Member Schools: 36
Range: [661-312](#)

1305 Buhler HS
1260 Shawnee Mission-Bishop Miege HS
1245 Ottawa HS
1194 Winfield HS
1153 Kansas City-Piper HS
1150 Augusta HS
1146 Paola HS
1131 Tonganoxie HS
1089 Fort Scott HS
1084 Chanute HS
1076 Independence HS
1060 Louisburg HS
1046 Tawanda-Circle HS
1044 Coffeyville-Field Kindley HS
1001 El Dorado HS
992 Mulvane HS
959 Eudora HS
959 Altamont-Labette County HS
952 Rose Hill HS
925 Atchison HS
909 Wellington HS
904 Abilene HS
902 Wamego HS
884 Ulysses HS
880 Baldwin HS
871 Topeka-Hayden HS
867 Andale HS
863 Clearwater HS
859 Parsons HS
848 Pratt HS
825 Iola HS
810 Nickerson HS
793 ↑ Holton HS
791 ↑ Girard HS
765 Chapman HS
710 ↑ Clay Center Community HS

3A**Member Schools: 64****Range: 305-172**

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

2A**Member Schools: 64****Range: 171-109**

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

1A**Member Schools: 117****Range: 108-14**

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

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

Lady Cats fall to a pair of state-ranked teams at home



Louisburg's Davis Guetterman (left) sets up teammate Carleigh Pritchard for a kill last week at home against Spring Hill.

In recent years, the Louisburg volleyball team has experienced a lot of success, so whenever the Lady Cats go on a losing streak it is uncharted territory at times.

However, in most seasons, the Lady Cats won't go through the type of schedule they have seen the last two weeks.

Whether is from ranked teams in bigger programs, or just bigger schools, Louisburg has been tested early.

The Lady Cats' woes continued last week as it fell to the No. 7-ranked team in Class 6A, Mill Valley, 24-26,

25-18, 25-19 and 26-24, on Thursday in Louisburg. In their home opener on Tuesday, the Lady Cats fell to the No. 3-ranked team in 5A, Spring Hill, in four sets as well.

Louisburg has now lost five matches in a row, dating back to the Lansing Invitational earlier this month, and are 5-7 on the season. In all five matches, the Lady Cats have been without senior starter Erin Lemke, who has been out with an injury.

“Losing five in a row is rough, but I feel like we’ve made some big improvements over the past week,” Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. “We still have some areas we need to improve on and some areas we need to clean up, but as a whole, the team played well against Mill Valley. They fought hard until the last whistle.”

It was a good start for Louisburg against Mill Valley as they were able to take the first set, but came up short in the next two. The Lady Cats found themselves down 24-20 in the fourth, but sophomore Rinni McMullen served four straight points to tie the set for Louisburg, but Mill Valley won the next two volleys to take the set and the match.

Juniors Alyse Moore and Carleigh Pritchard were strong at the net with 12 and 11 kills, respectively, while seniors Liz Jacobs and Haley Cain each tallied seven.

McMullen and fellow setter Davis Guetterman ran the team well as they finished with 21 and 15 assists, respectively, and McMullen also added two aces in the match.



Senior Riley Kallevig sends one of her eight kills over the net against Spring Hill.

Defensively, the Lady Cats played well at times as senior libero Reilly Ratliff-Becher led the way with a team-high 20 digs, while senior Riley Kallevig finished with 11 and Guetterman

added 10. At the net, Pritchard led Louisburg with four blocks.

“I thought we played well for the majority of the match,” Compliment said. “There wasn’t one or two single plays that would have changed the outcome, but we did make a few mistakes that hurt us at crucial times or in various times throughout the match. There was some really good volleyball played against Mill Valley, which should hopefully provide some needed confidence for the team.”

Against Spring Hill, the Lady Cats had their second straight setback in the Frontier League as they fell 25-19, 25-22, 20-25 and 25-16.

Pritchard, the team’s middle hitter, was a force at the net as she posted a team-high 17 kills and was one of three Lady Cat players to reach double figures in that department. Jacobs and Cain both had 11 and 10 kills, respectively, and Kallevig finished with eight.

“During that first set, we just had way too many unforced errors,” Compliment said. “Carleigh had a really big night for us and played well. We talked to the girls about being vocal leaders on the court and I thought Haley really stepped up as a leader for us.”



Sophomore Riny McMullen sends the ball over the net against Mill Valley on Thursday.

McMullen and Guetterman were responsible for a lot of those big plays on the front row. McMullen finished with a team-high 27 assists and Guetterman also had a big night with 18.

Pritchard was also a force defensively as she recorded six blocks, while Ratliff-Becher led the back row with 29 digs. Kallevig also added 18 in the loss.

In its 12 matches on the season, all

but three of them have been against teams in Class 5A or higher and five have been against state-ranked opponents.

Louisburg will have a busy week once again as it travels to Ottawa tonight for a Frontier League dual and then will go to Fort Scott on Thursday for a triangular with Girard. The Lady Cats will end it Saturday with the Louisburg Invitational.

Lady Cats face three state-ranked teams in up and down week



Louisburg junior Carleigh Pritchard and senior Liz Jacobs team up for a block Saturday during the Lansing Invitational.

It was an up and down week for the Louisburg volleyball team last week – one with started with two wins and ended with losses to three state-ranked teams.

During the Lansing Invitational on Saturday, the Lady Cats finished with a 1-3 record in a tournament that

featured some of the state's best teams.

Louisburg opened tournament play with a 25-23 and 25-9 victory over Shawnee Mission North behind five kills each from seniors Liz Jacobs and Haley Cain and senior Riley Kallevig added four.

The Lady Cats (5-5) also shined from behind the service line as they recorded 10 aces in the match, including five from sophomore Rinny McMullen and two from sophomore Davis Guetterman.

McMullen also handed out 12 assists to lead the Lady Cats.

The schedule got much more difficult for Louisburg as they lost a pair of 2-0 matches to No. 6 Spring Hill and No. 3 Lansing, who are both ranked in Class 5A. The tournament ended with a 2-1 loss to Olathe West.

Louisburg was also a little short-handed as senior hitter Erin Lemke had to sit out with an injury

“Even though we went 1-3 on the day at Lansing, there were some bright moments throughout the day,” Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. “We struggled to find ‘our game’ and played that way all day. The Lansing tournament is loaded with great teams, and has always been one of our toughest tournaments we play in. We stayed with most of the teams throughout the day, but once it got to 15-14 or 16-14, they took off and finished, and we struggled to ‘play to win.’

"We became hesitant and played it safe rather than fighting back and playing to win. There were many instances throughout the tournament we were playing some great volleyball. Our back row had some great saves and our offense clicked well. As I told the team, we need to work on finding that drive, that motivation, that energy, and carry it throughout every set and every match."



Sophomore Davis Guetterman sets up a teammate Saturday at the Lansing Invitational.

On Thursday, the Lady Cats hosted another state-ranked team in their home opener when they faced off with No. 5 Bonner Springs. Louisburg came up short in a 25-23, 25-19,

22-25 and 25-18 loss
to the Braves.

It was a competitive match
throughout, but the Braves were able to make several runs late
in each set to
pull away.

Cain led the attack at the net
with 12 kills, Jacobs finished with nine and junior Alyse
Moore added eight in
the loss. McMullen and Guetterman ran the offense well with 22
and 19 assists,
respectively, and Guetterman also added two aces.

Defensively, Kallevig paced the
Lady Cats with 18 digs on the night and senior Reilly Ratliff-
Becher finished
with 13. Lemke and junior Carleigh Pritchard had two blocks
each.



Senior libero Reilly Ratliff-Becher digs up a ball Saturday in Lansing.

At the start of the week, the Lady Cats traveled to Santa Fe Trail for a triangular with Burlington. Louisburg left with a pair of easy wins.

The Lady Cats knocked off Burlington 25-8 and 25-14 and downed Santa Fe Trail 25-10 and 25-14.

"The team played well," Compliment said. "They weren't our cleanest matches this season, but our serving was tough, and we moved the ball around well. It was hard for us to maintain our pace throughout the evening, but we were able to get on some long runs where we were very efficient in both the front and back row."

Everyone got involved in the win against Santa Fe Trail as Kallevig led the way with nine kills, while Lemke and Pritchard each finished with seven. Guetterman had three aces to lead Louisburg and Kallevig finished with two. Guetterman and McMullen also had 12 and 11 assists, respectively.

Defensively, sophomore Chase Kallevig had a team-high nine digs and Ratliff-Becher added seven.

Against Burlington, Pritchard had a team-high four kills in the match, but it was the serving that was the story of the match.

Louisburg tallied 11 aces against Burlington, including five from Guetterman and three from McMullen. The two sophomores also combined for 13 assists.

Louisburg returns to action with a pair of home duals this week, including a rematch with Spring Hill at 6:30 p.m. tonight.

Frontier League sends proposal to KSHSAA to

separate private schools



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

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

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

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

“Kansas needs to catch up with

the rest of the country and get this competitive imbalance under control in our state," Hines said. "The longer we wait then more students will be negatively impacted. We have a responsibility as educators to create the best opportunities possible for our students. No one can honestly say we have the best system possible right now. It can definitely be improved."

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

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

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

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

However, KSHSAA would not be able to make this change with a multiplier due to state statute

K.S.A. 72-130 that states a high school association "must establish a system of classification of member high schools according to student attendance."

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

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

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

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

The public versus private school debate has been going on for the last several years and Hines has been leading the charge since 2015 when he put together a study that displayed the disparity of state championships won by private schools.

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

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

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

**Presentation of Public/Private School Survey Results
to The KSHSAA Executive Board**

January 10, 2019

Results from Survey

313 of the 355 KSHSAA Member Schools Responded – 88.2%

291 Public Schools Responded

22 Private Schools Responded

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

271 Public Schools Voted Yes for Change

2 Private Schools Voted for Change

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

20 Public Schools Voted No for Change

20 Private Schools Voted No for Change

87.2% voted that they want the current system changed.

Survey Response Rate Support Change

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

School Superintendent Response Rate

175 School Superintendents Responded

169 out of 175 Support Change

96.6% Support Change

Principal Response Rate

182 Principals Responded

84.6% Support Change

Activities Director Response Rate

200 Activities Directors Responded

85% Support Change

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

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

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

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

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

Despite what happens at the

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

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

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

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

Lady Cats beat Olathe West, fall to De Soto



Louisburg senior Erin Lemke goes up for a kill during a match

earlier this season.

DE SOTO – It is never easy to go on the road and get a win, especially against bigger school, and the Louisburg volleyball team found that out Thursday in De Soto.

The Lady Cats took the first set 25-23 over De Soto, but lost the last two 25-18 and 25-22, to fall 2-1 against the Class 5A school. Instead of letting one loss turn into two, the Lady Cats bounced back nicely in their other match against Olathe West.

Louisburg took care of business as it swept Olathe West, 25-16 and 25-19, to end its day on a good note and improved its record to 2-1 on the season.

In that match, junior Alyse Moore led the way up front with a team-high five kills, while seniors Erin Lemke and Riley Kallevig each added four.

Serving was also a big key for the Lady Cats as they tallied six aces, including three from sophomore Chase Kallevig and two from sophomore Rinni McMullen. McMullen also led the team with nine assists on the night.

Louisburg was strong defensively with 17 digs, including five from senior libero Reilly Ratliff-Becher and four from Riley Kallevig.

“It was good to see how the team regrouped and rebounded for the Olathe West match,” Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. “Olathe came out strong with some big

blocks at the beginning. We had to work to find the hits around their big blockers, and once we did, we were able to find our rhythm offensively.

“Our back row defense made some huge plays during the Olathe West match. Chase Kallevig did a great job defensively and we served more aggressively as well.”

The Lady Cats got off to a good start against De Soto as it took the first set, but had a tough time finding a rhythm offensively in the final two sets.

Middle hitters Haley Cain and Carleigh Pritchard were big up front for the Lady Cats as they each finished with nine kills, while senior Liz Jacobs and Moore each had four. Jacobs also led the team with two blocks.

Chase Kallevig and McMullen each had two aces for the Lady Cats, while sophomore setter Davis Guetterman led Louisburg with 12 assists and McMullen added 10.

“During the De Soto match, I felt like we never found our groove as a team,” Compliment said. “We played a little tight and nervous. We talked afterwards how everyone on this team can be a playmaker, and is fully capable of putting the ball away. But during the second and third set with De Soto, it was

almost as
if we were waiting for someone else to step up."

"We
also seemed to be fairly reserved or cautious with our
serving. We are normally
a tougher serving team, but we didn't show De Soto that. Good
teams like De
Soto will capitalize and take advantage of those types of
situations."

Louisburg
is back in action at 6:30 p.m., tonight when it travels to
Santa Fe Trail for a
triangular with Burlington. The Lady Cats will face off with
Bonner Springs on
Thursday in their home opener.

Lady Cats get season started strong with win over Paola



Louisburg senior Liz Jacobs goes up for a kill in between two Paola blockers Tuesday during the Lady Cats' season opener at Paola High School.

PAOLA – The Louisburg volleyball team is ranked toward the top in the state again in Class 4A this season, and on Tuesday,

Paola found out exactly why.

The Lady Cats got off to a hot start and never let up in a 3-0 dual win over the Panthers in their season opener at Paola High School. It was exactly the start Louisburg was looking for as it begins its quest to get back to the state title game for the third straight season.

“For the first time out, I think they did well,” Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. “We knew coming in that Paola is always tough, and it is a good rivalry, and the girls were ready for that. We obviously have some ideas of some things that we can work on, and how we can keep building from here.”

Louisburg opened with a 25-14 victory in the first set after jumping out to a big lead and then followed it up with a 25-13 win in the second. Paola made things interesting in the third set, and the match was tied at 23-all late, before Louisburg scored the final two points to complete the sweep.

“They had high energy in those first two sets and some in the third,” Compliment said of her team. “That resilience in that third set was good to see, instead of just throwing in their hat and saying we will win the next one. To finish the match out like that was important.”



Senior libero Reilly Ratliff-Becher digs up a ball Tuesday in Paola.

The Lady Cats had balance all over the floor as several girls chipped in and made impacts.

At the net, seniors Liz Jacobs and Erin Lemke each finished with a team-high six kills, while senior Riley Kallevig and junior Carleigh Pritchard each added five in the win.

Sophomore setters Riny McMullen and Davis Guetterman ran the offense well as they recorded 11 and nine assists, respectively. Sophomore Chase Kallevig had a big game from behind the service line as she tallied a team-high four aces and senior Haley

Cain added three.

Defensively, the Lady Cats were strong as well. Senior libero Reilly Ratliff-Becher had a team-best nine digs.

Chase and Riley Kallevig were right behind her as they had eight each.

Cain and Pritchard also had strong games in the middle for Louisburg as they each had three blocks to lead the team.

“I think Reilly did a really good job getting to balls, and on the front row, I thought Haley had some big plays at the net and so did Carleigh,” Compliment said. “They both had some good blocks and were key up there. I thought Rinny did a good job with her serves and moving things around offensively. Davis did a great job as well from the setter spot.

“To be honest, we are just a well-balanced team and I thought each of the girls did something well out there. We are just more spread out offensively and it could make us more of a threat down the road.”



Sophomore setter Davis Guetterman sets up teammate Carleigh Pritchard for a kill Tuesday in Paola.

As well as they played at times on Tuesday, the Lady Cats know it will get tougher as the season goes along. That begins today when they travel to De Soto High School for a triangular with Olathe West. Those matches begin at 5 p.m.

"We hit aggressive and we blocked aggressively," Compliment said of her team's performance on Tuesday. "The thing I really like about this group is that they just have so much fun, as has been the case with the team's past. They just enjoy playing together."

After two runner-up finishes, Lady Cats want elusive state title



Senior middle hitter Haley Cain is one of several returning players from last year's state runner-up volleyball team for Louisburg.

In the last two seasons, the Louisburg volleyball team has found itself one win away from capturing its ultimate goal – a state championship.

Most programs would relish the opportunity to play in one state championship game – much less two. Still, as proud as the players are of their accomplishments, they have concluded each season with a rotten feeling in their stomach.

That feeling provided the Lady Cats with extra motivation as they head into the 2019 season – trying to get that elusive first state title.

"The players understand that nothing has been given to them in the past," Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. "Because of their past experiences, they understand how important summer

weights/conditioning/open gym/camps, etc are. They've been working really hard and have set high expectations for themselves this season. They also understand the history and tradition of Louisburg volleyball and want to continue that tradition of not only qualifying for state, but for placing at state."

The Lady Cats have had a big advantage on their side the last two years as they have had the Class 4A Player of the Year on their roster in Anna Dixon. After putting up big numbers as a four-year starter for Louisburg, Dixon has moved on to play for Kansas State and left a big hole to fill on the Lady Cat team.

Although one player might not be able to replace her production, Compliment is looking to several players to fill that role.

"Anna has probably been the best volleyball player to come through Louisburg in my 13 seasons, so losing her is huge," Compliment said. "However, I think this year's team could be just as good, if not stronger, because each player is taking more ownership and owning their role on the team more."



Senior Riley Kallevig is one of six seniors returning for Louisburg this season.

Louisburg will continue to run its 6-2 offense with returning setters Riny McMullen and Davis Guetterman. The two Lady Cat sophomores played well last season as freshmen and their coach has seen them take a big step forward in the offseason.

McMullen was a second-team All-Frontier League selection a year ago, and both her and Guetterman, were considered among the best setters in nine-team league.

"They did a great job last year as freshmen, and they each continue to get better and better," Compliment said. "They were both awarded with the 'Best Setter Award' at Nebraska's team camp. We have five players that are versatile across the net and that gives us lots of options to run different offensive

plays. Our key defensive players are returning as well, and a few new faces are going to make our defense stronger.”

Defense also will be another strength for the Lady Cats as they return all of their defensive specialists – including senior libero Reilly Ratliff-Becher. Senior Riley Kallevig will also play a big role in the back from her 6-rotation spot, as will sophomore Chase Kallevig, who will see full-time varsity action for the first time this season.

“We are a versatile team with players who are comfortable and willing to play at any position,” Compliment said. “That is huge when I can play with rotations, and it gives the setters multiple options at the net. Reilly Ratliff-Becher has had a great summer. She was good last year, but this summer and so far this season, I’ve been really impressed with her go-get-it attitude and her leadership. Riley Kallevig is returning and is solid as a 6-rotation player.”



Reilly Ratliff-Becher returns to lead the Lady Cat defense from the libero spot.

Louisburg also returns its two middle hitters as senior Haley Cain and junior Carleigh Pritchard both bring experience to the position and the Wildcats will have several options on the outside with senior Erin Lemke, senior transfer Liz Jacobs, senior Sydni Keagle, Riley Kallevig and junior Alyse Moore.

Cain is in her fourth-year as a starter and will be one of the leaders at the net for the Lady Cats. Cain, Riley Kallevig and Ratliff-Becher were all honorable mention all-league players last season and Compliment expects them all to take another step forward.

"Between Haley's leadership and experience, we'll look to her to be more of a threat at the net," Compliment said. "Erin Lemke and Carleigh have both improved their play since last season as well. I'm really excited to see what they can bring to the team.

"We also have a few new faces. Liz Jacobs is a transfer senior who joined us this summer and fit right in with the team. She'll be able to help us both offensively and defensively. There is a lot of depth in positions this season, which is awesome. These players have great chemistry and are unselfish."



Senior Erin Lemke will be one of several options at the net for Louisburg this season.

The Lady Cats, which are currently No. 4 in the Class 4A

preseason rankings, will have some competition for their second consecutive Frontier League title as they will play a difficult schedule in and out of league.

Louisburg

begins its season at 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday as it travels to Paola. The Lady

Cats open their home schedule Sept. 12 against Bonner Springs.

"Spring Hill

and Eudora will be two strong teams in league this season," Compliment said. "The

Lansing and Emporia Tournament will continue to be tough, and we've added a few

different teams to our schedule this year. I'm excited to kick the season off

Tuesday at Paola."

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



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

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

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

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

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

Louisburg volleyball has also seen a spike in its numbers as 40 athletes have attended tryouts. Those tryouts will go through Wednesday and head coach Jessica Compliment believes those high numbers will be beneficial down the road.

"The players are excited, but I think some are nervous as well with tryouts and cuts these first few days," Compliment

said. "Forty is the most we've had tryout for quite some time. Generally we have around 35. The higher numbers leads to more competition for uniforms and playing time."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"The heat was an interesting factor to go along with the late start due to the KSHSAA schedule," Conley said. "We started in the AUX gym for the first hour and 15 minutes then transitioned outside for an hour. It was frustrating but the boys handled it very well."

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

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

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

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

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