

# Louisburg outlasts Olathe North in dual



Louisburg sophomore Sophie McMullen stretches out for a tip over an Olathe North blocker during the Lady Cats' home match Thursday. The Lady Cats defeated Olathe North 3-2 to improve their record to 25-10 on the season.

---

Having their backs against the wall was nothing new for the Louisburg volleyball team.

Louisburg features a veteran lineup that has played a lot of matches and has been in a lot of tight spots. Down a set in the deciding fifth set Thursday against Olathe North, the Lady Cats stared a loss right in the face on three different occasions.

They never blinked.

The Lady Cats rallied to beat the Eagles 25-15, 21-25, 23-25, 25-17 and 21-19 to complete the comeback in what was an up and down match. Olathe North had match point three times in that fifth set, but the Lady Cats always had an answer.

"For them to stay focused and stay aggressive was really good to see," Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. "We talked all week about not making two mistakes in a row. If you make a mistake, you need to come back and get the sideout or the kill

and I really thought helped us in that last set.

“There is a lot of experience between the girls where they have been in a lot of close matches so they know when to make the play.”



**Senior Cate Stambaugh sends a kill over the net Thursday during the Lady Cats home match against Olathe North.**

It was a crazy final few points in the fifth set.

Louisburg found itself down 11-8 in the first-to-15 set. The Lady Cats rallied to tie it up after a tip from Sophie McMullen and a kill from Madison Turner.

The match, which had to be won by two, was tied eight more times. Olathe North served for match point up 15-14, 18-17 and 19-18, but each time the Lady Cats had an answer thanks to kills from Anna Dixon and Lauren Dunn.

Two sideouts gave Louisburg a 20-19 lead and the Lady Cats put it away thanks to a block from Turner.

It was a relief for the Lady Cats who started out with a

convincing first set win, only to see Olathe North bounce back and win the next two. Louisburg had a 15-9 advantage in the second set and appeared to have a firm hold on the match, but it watched the Eagles go on a 16-6 run to steal the set.

"We are the kind of team sometimes where we come out strong and then we can get a little overconfident," senior libero Makenzie Kallevig said. "We know we can bounce back together. We work together, play our hearts out and we know what needs to be done."

The Lady Cats (25-10) got big performances at the net from a senior and a freshman.

Turner, a senior middle blocker, had a big night defensively as she had a team-high 17 blocks, including 10 solo blocks. Turner was also second on the team with 11 kills.

Dixon, a freshman, was the go-to-player at the net as she finished with a team-high 17 kills. McMullen, the sophomore setter, moved the ball around and recorded 42 assists. She also had a strong serving night as she led the team with five aces to go along with 17 digs.

Defensively, Dunn led the Lady Cats in the back row. The Louisburg senior came away with 22 digs, but also had 11 kills for her work on the front row. Kallevig and fellow senior Megan Lemke added 16 and 15 digs, respectively.

Senior Cate Stambaugh also recorded nine kills and five blocks in the winning effort.

Louisburg will try and wrap up its undefeated league crown tonight when it hosts Ottawa on senior night. The Lady Cats will honor their five seniors; Dunn, Turner, Stambaugh, Kallevig and Lemke before the match, which is scheduled to begin at approximately 6:30 p.m.

## **Louisburg takes care of business at Eudora**

Louisburg hasn't been tested much when it comes to its Frontier League opponents and that didn't change on Oct. 13 when it traveled to Eudora.

The Lady Cats kept their undefeated league record alive with a 25-20, 25-13 and 25-23 victory over the Cardinals.

Sophomore setter Sophie McMullen provided with a big spark all over the floor. She rattled off a season-high 10 aces in the three-set match and gave the Cardinals fits.

McMullen also ran the offense well with 32 assists to go along with five blocks and four kills.

Louisburg also got big performances from Anna Dixon and Madison Turner at the net. Dixon led the Lady Cats with 12 kills and Turner added 11 in the win. Turner and fellow senior Cate Stambaugh each finished with six blocks to lead their squad.

Seniors Lauren Dunn and Makenzie Kallevig were strong defensively with 17 and 15 digs, respectively and Dunn also added eight kills in the win.

"We played OK in Eudora," coach Jessica Compliment said. "They controlled the tempo for a little bit in the third set where they scored four or five points in a row, but for the most part I thought we played pretty well."

---

## **Lady Cats remain perfect in**

# League



Louisburg senior Megan Lemke dives to the floor for a dig during the Lady Cats' home match against Spring Hill on Tuesday. Lemke and the Lady Cats defeated the Broncos 3-0 to move to 4-0 in league play.

---

The Louisburg High School volleyball team is one step closer to capturing its undefeated Frontier League title following its match Tuesday against Spring Hill.

The Lady Cats made quick work of the Broncos inside the LHS gymnasium with a 25-12, 25-15 and 25-22 victory. Louisburg now has a record of 23-10 and is 4-0 in league play, but even though it is later in the season, the Lady Cats decided to change some things up.

Louisburg altered its rotation a little bit starting senior Megan Lemke in the back row with libero Makenzie Kallevig and Anna Dixon and having Madison Turner, setter Sophie McMullen and Lauren Dunn start up front.

"We flipped flopped the middles around, so we just moved Madison and Cate (Stambaugh) around in the lineup and we just rotated the offense," Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. "I just wanted to look at different options for blocking and I wanted to try and tighten up some of our rotations. We started with Sophie, Lauren and Madison in the front row and had more

defensive players in the back row to get things going.”

The new rotation seemed to work, especially early on as the Lady Cats opened with big leads at the beginning of the first two sets.

They got those leads thanks to their serving as Turner, Lemke and Dunn didn’t make a serving error, while Turner racked up 16 service points and Lemke added 10. Turner and Dixon added three aces in the win.



**Libero Makenzie Kallevig passes the ball off to a teammate Tuesday against Spring Hill.**

“Megan has been pretty consistent all year long,” Compliment said. “She doesn’t necessarily have the most aces, but she is the most consistent and her serves are always the ones that get teams out of their offense. She did a really nice job as did Madison. I wanted to get Madison going early and get that tempo going and we were able to do that.”

Turner was also active on the front row as she and Stambaugh went on the offensive with 11 kills each. Dixon and Dunn also

added seven and six kills, respectively, in the win. McMullen also moved the ball around well with 34 assists

Defensively, Stambaugh and Dixon played well at the net. Stambaugh led Louisburg with seven blocks and Dixon came up with six.

Kallevig led the team with 17 digs out of the back row while Dunn and Dixon added 13 and 12 digs, respectively.

“Our thing was just to push the tempo and play our game and for a majority of the night that is what we did,” Compliment said. “We also tried a new lineup out and I think that really helped out. There were some teaching moments in there too.”

### **Lady Cats put up a fight against Olathe Northwest**

Louisburg went up against the toughest team the Lady Cats will face all season last Thursday when they hosted Olathe Northwest.

Northwest, which is currently the No. 1 team in Class 6A, currently has a record of 25-1 and knocked off nationally-ranked St. James Academy earlier in the season. To make matters worse, Northwest had only lost five sets all season in those 26 matches.

The Lady Cats didn't back down from the Ravens, in fact, the Lady Cats are responsible from one of those five set defeats.

Although Louisburg fell 25-14, 23-25, 25-17 and 25-22, the Lady Cats showed a lot of fight and it was exactly what their coach was looking for.

“Stealing a set from Olathe Northwest was great to see,” Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. “We didn't play well in that first set, but for them to come back against a great team like that was great to see. They fought hard in the third

and fourth sets, but they were able to rally back when they got down and didn't get frustrated."

Louisburg got down early in the first set as Northwest jumped out to an 18-6 lead. The Lady Cats made a mini-run as they got three blocks from Madison Turner and an ace from Anna Dixon to cut the lead to 18-11, but it was as close as they would get.

The second set was completely different.

The Lady Cats got out to a 10-7 lead after back-to-back aces from Megan Lemke and a kill from Lauren Dunn. Northwest battled back to tie the set at 19-all, but Louisburg went on a 4-1 run to take a 23-20 advantage after a kill from Cate Stambaugh and an ace from Makenzie Kallevig. Dixon and Turner followed with kills to secure the set win.

"In that second set, they didn't come out as intimidated or nervous and that is what happened in that first set," Compliment said. "They let Northwest's serving mentally control what they were doing and that second set they came out with more confidence. We got a couple big plays at the beginning, which is always key for us and the girls played with a higher energy level."

Setter Sophie McMullen helped guide the Louisburg offense as she finished with 19 assists and also led the team with three aces, along with Lemke. Dixon and Kallevig each added two aces of their own.

Turner was strong at the net with a team-high seven kills and seven blocks, while Dunn was next with six kills. Defensively, Kallevig and Lemke finished with 14 and 11 digs, respectively, out of the back row.

Louisburg returns to action Tuesday when it travels to Eudora for another Frontier League dual.



---

# Lady Cats survive test at Paola



Louisburg senior Lauren Dunn sends a kill over the outstretched arms of a Paola blocker during Tuesday's road contest in Paola. Louisburg defeated Paola 3-2 in the best of five sets and had to rally from 2-1 down to win.

---

PAOLA — Madison Turner wasn't about to give in and neither were the rest of her Louisburg volleyball teammates.

The Lady Cats found themselves on the verge of their first Frontier League defeat, and to make matters worse, it was against rival Paola on Tuesday during the Panthers' senior night. In the final two sets of the night, Louisburg showed why it is the favorite to win the league.

Down after three sets, the Lady Cats rallied to defeat Paola 25-23, 22-25, 23-25, 25-14 and 17-15 to get their third league victory of the season.

Louisburg ran away with the fourth set, and in a back-and-forth fifth set, Turner's play at the net was the difference as she provided pivotal kills and blocks to pull it out. The

Louisburg senior middle hitter finished with 20 kills and 20 blocks on the night.

“It was really nice to get the win,” Turner said. “We started playing together more at the end. We started out slow, but we were able to put it together. We just weren’t talking as much as we needed to and we weren’t playing together in the beginning, but I was glad to see us finish it out.”

The deciding fifth set encompassed the entire match as it was back-and-forth that provided a lot of drama. The Lady Cats jumped out to an 8-3 lead after a kill, tip and an ace from Turner, while fellow middle blockerCate Stambaugh also had a kill and block.

Paola roared back and went on a 9-2 run and eventually took a 12-10 lead in the first-to-15 set. Freshman Anna Dixon came through to tie the match on back-to-back kills, while Turner added a kill and a block to give Louisburg a 14-13 advantage.



**Louisburg's Madison Turner (left) and Olivia Bradley celebrate a big point Tuesday in Paola.**

Junior Olivia Bradley and Turner teamed for several blocks on

a long volley that was also key to giving Louisburg the lead.

The Panthers didn't fold as they recorded back-to-back points to eventually take a 15-14 lead. One more point and Paola would steal the match, but Turner came up with a kill to tie it at 15-all, while senior Lauren Dunn and Stambaugh followed with a kill and a block, respectively, to seal the win.

"I was glad to see that the team didn't give up, and they handled the pressure well," Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. "Paola puts together a great crowd and a great student section every time we go there to play. The team never let the crowd or the energy of the Paola team intimidate them which I was pleased to see. Paola has been the first team to really push us and test our limits. We needed that to help us see where we are as a team and how we can play under pressure."

Louisburg (22-9) got big performances from several other players along with Turner's 20-20 output. Stambaugh led Louisburg with 21 blocks and finished with 12 kills, while setter Sophie McMullen led the attack with 49 assists. McMullen also shined on defense as she finished second on the team with 14 digs and had 10 blocks.

Dunn and Dixon played well at the net with 12 kills on the night. Dixon also finished with three aces and had 11 digs.

Senior libero Makenzie Kallevig led the Lady Cat back row with 25 digs and fellow senior Megan Lemke added 12.

"Madison had a big night at the net, and she definitely pulled through with some big plays that either helped stop Paola's momentum or helped us pick up our momentum," Compliment said. "Anna had a few big hits as well. Overall, each player made some key plays when we needed them. Olivia Bradley had a few big blocks right at the end that helped us maintain our energy and momentum."

The match started out just like it ended. The two teams traded

leads throughout the first set and Paola held a 23-22 late. However, Turner responded with two kills and Dunn added another to give the Lady Cats a good start.

In the second set, it was Louisburg that had the late 21-18 advantage, but Paola went on a 7-1 run to even the match. The Panthers held the lead through much of the third set and held on for the win despite two kills from Turner and another from Dunn to tie it at 23-all.

The Lady Cats didn't hold anything back in the fourth set. Louisburg went on a 7-1 run to take a 17-8 lead that it wouldn't give up thanks to six straight service points from Kallevig, including an ace.

"I was happy to see the team pull out with the win," Compliment said. "Paola came to play, and they didn't let up all evening. We hadn't been placed in that situation before when we had been down a few sets and had to battle back. I was very glad we didn't completely shut down but found the guts to continue to battle and hold on to the win.

"Overall, we could have played better. We made a few too many mental and communication errors that need to be addressed. We also seemed to have a lack of energy from time to time."

---

## **Lady Cats finish strong at home tourney**



**Louisburg's Cate Stambaugh (left) and Ellie Katzer team up for a block during the Lady Cats' third-place match with Basehor-Linwood on Saturday in the Louisburg Invitational. The Lady Cats finished third overall.**

---

The Louisburg volleyball team was used to playing in the championship match of its home tournament – the Louisburg Invitational – so it felt a little different for the Lady Cats to be playing on a different court for a different prize.

Louisburg didn't let struggles from the Saturday tournament bring them down as it made sure it ended on a positive note.

After losing 2-0 to Shawnee Mission East in the semifinals, the Lady Cats faced off with Basehor-Linwood for third place. Despite losing the first set, the Lady Cats rallied for a 23-25, 25-21 and 25-16 victory to secure their third-place finish.

Although the Lady Cats (21-9) had their ups and downs on the day, Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment was happy to see her team finish well, but knows there is still a lot to improve upon for the rest of the season.

"We are familiar with them," Compliment said of Basehor. "The girls wanted to end the day on a win and end on a high note. I think that was really nice to see.

"We just need to find that confidence with everyone from time

to time. It just a matter of coming together as a team and finding that confidence on every single play. We still second guess on defense on who is going to go get it, but it still a matter of confidence and just going after every single ball. They are a good group that works hard and I know they want it.”

Louisburg opened pool play with a 25-20 and 25-10 victory over Leavenworth and went three sets with Fort Scott in its next match, 21-25, 25-23 and 25-18.



**Sophomore Sophie McMullen sets up teammate Madison Turner for a kill Saturday during the Louisburg Invitational.**

The Lady Cats then went up against Class 6A’s Olathe South in the final match of pool play, and despite a good start, fell 25-23, 10-25 and 20-25.

“We had a slow start to our day,” Compliment said. “It has been a busy week with homecoming, then last night with the dance, you could tell they were tired. They weren’t mentally and physically here and ready to play. We were slow to come out against Leavenworth and slow to come out against Fort

Scott.

"We could not find our rhythm against Olathe South. They served really, really well and we could not get a serve or a pass. That is about being more mentally tough, mentally sound and learning to let a bad play roll off our shoulders and move on. We let too many balls go by us, and with a team like them, they take advantage of it. We came out with a little more energy in the third set, we just weren't hitting consistently."

Louisburg was still able to advance to the championship bracket, where the reward was the opportunity to play Shawnee Mission East, the No. 2 team in Class 6A, in the semifinals. East had already beaten Louisburg easily in the Lansing Invitational earlier in the year, but the Lady Cats put on a better showing this time around in the 22-25 and 15-25 loss.

The Lady Cats started out sluggish in their third-place match to Basehor-Linwood and it didn't get any better as senior Lauren Dunn left the game in the first set with an injury.

Junior Ellie Katzer filled in for Dunn for the rest of the first set and played the entire second set before Dunn entered in the third.

"She is going to be ok," Compliment said of Dunn. "I just wanted to keep her out and make sure she got her legs back underneath her before I put her back in. Plus, it gave Ellie a chance to get out there and play and get some touches. She hasn't spent a whole lot of time on the court with the varsity players and she did a nice job to step in."

It didn't look good for the Lady Cats as they trailed 14-10 in that second set, but freshman Anna Dixon responded with three straight aces to cut into the lead. Senior Megan Lemke eventually tied it up at 17-all with another ace.

Senior Cate Stambaugh responded with a kill that led to a 7-3

run and it ended with a tip from senior Madison Turner to keep the match alive.

In the third set, the Lady Cats got off to a good start and never looked back. Louisburg took a 12-8 lead after three straight kills from Turner.

Back-to-back kills from Dixon, an ace from Dunn and a block from Sophie McMullen widened the lead to 18-12 and Basehor-Linwood couldn't get any closer.

"When we see the bigger 5A and 6A schools, we tend to shut down a little quicker and we can't bounce back," Compliment said. "When we play other 4A schools, we have that mental fortitude to bounce back and win. They wanted to win and I was happy to see how they held it together on the court."

Turner had a big day at the net for Louisburg as she racked up a team-high 49 kills to go along with 33 blocks. Dixon was second on the team with 37 kills and had a team-high five aces. Stambaugh led the Lady Cats with 36 blocks on the day and also had 24 kills.

McMullen, the team's setter, ran the offense well with 122 assists in the five matches and also had three aces and 39 digs. Libero Makenzie Kallevig had a team-high in digs with 63 and added three aces. Dunn added 48 digs from the back row, had 30 kills at the net and two aces. Lemke also finished with three aces.

### **Louisburg downs Baldwin**

Louisburg competed in its first Frontier League road match of the season on Sept. 22 when it traveled to Baldwin.

The Lady Cats didn't have much of a problem as they cruised to a 25-18, 25-14 and 25-10 win over the Bulldogs.



Madison Turner led Louisburg at the net with 10 kills and also had three blocks. Cate Stambaugh had a team-high 11 blocks to go along with six kills.

Lauren Dunn played well all over the court as she finished with nine kills and also had a team-high 11 digs in the back row. Setter Sophie McMullen countered with 27 assists, nine digs and four blocks.

Senior libero Makenzie Kallevig posted a team-high three aces and also had eight digs. Anna Dixon finished with eight digs and six kills, while Olivia Bradley added four kills and three blocks.

---

## **Lady Cats seventh at Hayden Invite**



Louisburg senior Lauren Dunn sends a kill over the net during a match earlier this season. The Lady Cats traveled to the Topeka Hayden Invitational on Saturday and finished seventh overall with a 1-4 record.

---

TOPEKA – The Topeka Hayden Invitational featured seven state

ranked teams in three classifications, so the Louisburg volleyball team knew it was going to be a tough road Saturday.

The Lady Cats had their hands full, got off to a bad start and couldn't recover as they finished with a 1-4 record on the day. Louisburg did finish the tournament on a positive note as it defeated Bishop Carroll 25-18 and 25-9 in the seventh-place match.

It was a revenge match of sorts as it was Bishop Carroll, the No. 7 team in Class 5A, that handed the Lady Cats their first loss of the day. After Louisburg won the first set 25-23, Carroll responded with 25-19 and 25-15 victories in the first match of pool play.

Louisburg (17-7) got strong performances from seniors Madison Turner and Lauren Dunn in that first match. Turner led the way with a team-high 12 kills to go along with six blocks.

Dunn finished with eight kills, but also had a team-best 14 digs on defense. Sophomore setter Sophie McMullen added 27 assists in the three-set match.

Next up in pool play for the Lady Cats was Olathe East, the No. 2 ranked team in Class 6A. It was a tough battle, but Louisburg came up short in the 25-17 and 25-21 loss.

Freshman Anna Dixon led the Louisburg attack with six kills and an ace. Turner had a team-high 10 blocks on defense and fellow senior Cate Stambaugh added eight in the loss.

It didn't get any easier as Louisburg squared off with host Topeka Hayden, which also happens to be the No. 1 team in Class 4A-Division I. The Lady Cats, which are ranked No. 4, couldn't get the momentum it needed in the 25-20 and 25-20 setback.

Dunn led the Lady Cats with seven kills and Dixon added six, while senior Megan Lemke finished with two aces. Turner added

a team-best nine blocks and senior libero Makenzie Kallevig had eight digs in the back row. McMullen also had 17 assists to lead the Lady Cat offense to go along with five blocks.

Louisburg finished up pool play against the No. 10 team in Class 6A, Manhattan. The Lady Cats wrapped up pool play winless in the 25-22 and 25-17 defeat.

Turner and Dixon finished with nine and seven kills, respectively, to lead the Lady Cat offense and McMullen added 21 assists. Defensively, Kallevig racked up a team-high 16 digs and Dunn finished with 10. Stambaugh also had nine blocks to help the Louisburg defense.

After all the losing, the Lady Cats took their aggression out on Carroll in the seventh-place match to win in two sets.

Turner and Stambaugh had a strong match at the net from their middle hitter positions with eight and six kills, respectively. Dunn added a team-high four aces and Kallevig recorded three.

Kallevig also came up big again defensively with 14 digs. McMullen moved the ball well from the setter spot with 18 assists.

The Lady Cats will try and rebound as they host the Louisburg Invitational on Saturday. Pool play is set to begin at 8 a.m. Teams scheduled to attend are Basehor-Linwood, Fort Scott, Leavenworth, Olathe North, Olathe South, Shawnee Mission East and Turner.

### **Lady Cats sweep quad at Prairie View**

Louisburg didn't have much of a problem Thursday when it traveled to Prairie View High School for a quadrangular with Osawatomie and Fort Scott.

The Lady Cats won all three matches in two sets and didn't get much of an opposition.

Louisburg defeated Fort Scott 26-24 and 25-15 behind 10 kills from Lauren Dunn and six kills each from Cate Stambaugh, Madison Turner and Anna Dixon. Stambaugh also had a big match at the net with 10 blocks.

Setter Sophie McMullen handed out 22 assists, while three Lady Cats posted double-digit numbers in digs. Dixon led the way with 14, while Dunn and McMullen added 11 and 10, respectively.

It was much of the same against Osawatomie as the Lady Cats rolled to a 25-13 and 25-13 win. Dixon, Dunn and Turner had five kills each, while Dixon had three aces to lead the Louisburg offense. McMullen also added 18 assists.

Against Prairie View, Louisburg took care of business against the home team with a 25-15 and 25-9 victory. The Lady Cats served well as they racked up 11 aces in the two sets, with Dixon and Turner recording four each.

---

## LHS volleyball wins league opener



Louisburg sophomore Sophie McMullen sets up a teammate at the

**net during the Lady Cats' league opener Tuesday against De Soto at home. Louisburg defeated De Soto in three sets.**

---

The Louisburg High School volleyball team showed a couple things during Tuesday's league home opener.

One, the Lady Cats are really good.

And two, the other six teams in the Frontier League are going to have their hands full.

Louisburg competed in its first league dual of the season against De Soto, and other than an up and down first set, it didn't have much of a problem. The Lady Cats defeated De Soto 28-26, 25-19 and 25-18.

"We are not playing our best ball right now, which is fine, because we want to be playing our best ball at the end of the season," Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. "That is still something we have to work on and get better at. Overall, I thought we did a pretty decent job. The good thing about this group is that they play really well together and they feed off each other."

It is that chemistry that helped the Lady Cats, which are ranked No. 4 in Class 4A-Division I, get through a back and forth first set.

Louisburg built a small 8-5 advantage, but De Soto kept battling and eventually took a 15-4 lead midway through the set. After a kill from Madison Turner, the Louisburg senior rattled off six straight service points thanks to two kills from senior Lauren Dunn, a kill from freshman Anna Dixon and a block from senior Cate Stambaugh to put Louisburg back up 21-15.

De Soto then went on a 9-1 run to take 24-22 and appeared it was going to steal the first set. Instead, the Lady Cats buckled down and got back-to-back points after a tip and an ace from Dunn.

It remained tied at 26-all, but Dixon gave Louisburg the lead with an ace and senior libero Makenzie Kallevig finished the match off with an ace.



**Megan Lemke sends the ball over the net during Tuesday home match with De Soto.**

“I was really pleased that they were able to come back and win that first set,” Compliment said. “It would have been easy to give up there, but they didn’t.

“I think it is hard to keep that intensity and focus sometimes. This is the third time we have seen De Soto and we have beaten them twice before, and I think they had that in the back of their head. They will come out and play well, ease back and then push back at the very end.”

The Lady Cats used that momentum in the second set to build a 21-13 lead behind kills by Dixon and Turner. De Soto made a

little dent in the lead, but Stambaugh stopped the run with a kill and block. Sophomore setter Sophie McMullen and Dixon added kills of their own to finish the set out.

Dixon continued her strong play in the third set as she recorded five straight service points to build a 6-1 lead behind an ace of her own and a tip and kill from Dunn.

A block and a kill from Stambaugh, a block from Dixon and a kill from Turner put Louisburg up 16-8 and the Lady Cats never looked back. For most of the night, Louisburg was efficient with its offensive attack and Compliment saw quite a few positives from her team.

“Serving was pretty good,” Compliment said. “We got into a little rut in that third set, but they served tough and they served aggressive.

“Defensively we still have some miscommunication at times, but overall it was a good night. Sophie did a great job moving the ball around and did some real nice things with her hitters.”

Louisburg will face another tough part of its schedule Saturday when it travels to the Topeka Hayden Invitational. Matches are set to begin at 8 a.m.

---

## **Lady Cats get revenge to take third at Lansing**



**Senior Cate Stambaugh (left) celebrates a big point during Louisburg's pool play match against Topeka Seaman on Saturday at the Lansing Invitational. The Lady Cats defeated Topeka Seaman and finished third overall.**

---

LANRING – The Louisburg High School volleyball team went up against some big and talented schools during the Lansing Invitational on Saturday.

The Lady Cats showed resiliency several different times as they left Lansing with a third-place finish overall, including big wins over Topeka Seaman (Class 5A) in pool play and Shawnee Mission West (Class 6A) in the third-place match.

Louisburg defeated Shawnee Mission West 25-23 and 25-20 for third and exacted a little revenge in the process. The Lady Cats fell to West in pool play in two sets, which put them in danger of not making the championship bracket.

It was a weird day as the tournament lasted longer than normal and the team had to do a lot of sitting in-between matches.

“Saturday was definitely a roller coaster ride,” Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. “We had a lot of highs, but we also hit a lull where we let too many things get to us and let the other teams get the momentum.

“We are used to that tournament where you play back-to-back, but with the new format and only three courts, we played and



then sat. It was just harder to stay focused after sitting for so long and then having to play.”

Senior Lauren Dunn had a big day at the net with a team-high 33 kills. Defensively, she was second on the team with 42 digs.



**Senior libero Makenzie Kallevig gets underneath the ball during the Lansing Invitational on Saturday.**

Freshman Anna Dixon was second with 29 kills and had a strong day serving with eight aces, including four in the third place match against Shawnee Mission West.

Middle hitters Madison Turner and Cate Stambaugh also made their presence known. Turner finished with 22 kills and a team-high 46 blocks, while Stambaugh added 20 kills and 33 blocks on the day.

Sophomore setter Sophie McMullen ran the offense well as she moved the ball around and racked up 97 assists in the six matches. McMullen was also the best from behind the service

line with 13 aces.

Makenzie Kallevig, the team's libero, was busy in the back row with a team-high 51 digs and also had five aces. Megan Lemke also had 25 digs and two aces from the back, while outside hitter Olivia Bradley had five kills and four blocks.

The Lady Cats didn't have much of a problem to start the day as they opened with a 25-20 and 25-20 victory over De Soto. Then came Shawnee Mission West in the second match, which left them a little frustrated in the 25-17 and 25-20 loss.

"We just never found our groove against Shawnee Mission West the first time," Compliment said. "They played good defense and they were picking every single ball and that was frustrating, which got in our hitters' heads a little bit."

If Louisburg wanted to keep its hopes alive for the championship bracket, then it had to beat Topeka Seaman in its next match, and it did, 26-24 and 25-18.

It was no easy task as the Lady Cats trailed early on in the first set, but put together a big run to grab a 17-12 lead. Seaman put together a rally of its own to record 10 straight points and take a 22-17 advantage.

Louisburg had one more run left in it as it took a 24-23 lead before winning 26-24. The Lady Cats used that momentum to finish off the match in two sets.

Stambaugh was a force defensively at the net with 11 blocks to turn away several Topeka Seaman attempts, while Dunn and Dixon each had six kills.

"We needed to beat Topeka Seaman to stay at the top of our pool so that was a big win for us to be able to stay in the top two and allowed us to move on," Compliment said. "Once they find that rhythm, they don't give up. They are good at competing and being able to bounce back. Volleyball is very

much a game of momentum and I was happy with the way they fought there.”

The Lady Cats made quick work of Piper (25-17, 25-14) to advance to the championship bracket where they faced Shawnee Mission East in the semifinals. East, which is ranked No. 5 in Class 6A, showed why as they defeated Louisburg 25-9 and 25-16 to stop the Lady Cats’ bid of a title.

“Shawnee Mission East just dominated us with their serves,” Compliment said. “We never found a rhythm against them. They are a good team and they just started picking us apart. I don’t think we showed them the team that we are.”

Louisburg came to life against Shawnee Mission West in its third place game and it had revenge on its mind. The Lady Cats won the match in two sets behind seven blocks and six kills from Turner, along with six kills and four aces from Dixon.

McMullen ran the offense well with 18 assists and also had three aces. As a team, the Lady Cats had nine aces. Defensively, Kallevig had her best game of the day with a team-high 14 digs to go along with two aces.

“To come back and beat Shawnee Mission West was good for us,” Compliment said. “To play in that consolation game is always tough. It was the last match of the day, it was late in the evening and for the girls to find the energy and drive to beat a team you had already lost to, I was happy to see where they came out and played.”

Louisburg returns to action Thursday when it travels to Prairie View for a quadrangular with Osawatomie and Fort Scott.

### **Lady Cats fall to Blue Valley West**

Louisburg still had yet to lose its first match of the season

when the Lady Cats traveled to Blue Valley West last Thursday.

The Lady Cats, ranked No. 4 in Class 4A-Division I, went up against the No. 4 ranked team in Class 5A and couldn't stay with the bigger program in the 3-0 loss. Louisburg had a tough time staying with West as it fell 25-17, 25-18 and 25-14 in the best-of-five dual.

Dunn led Louisburg with seven kills on the evening and Dixon added two aces. Stambaugh finished with a team-high eight blocks, while Kallevig had 12 digs. McMullen also had 12 assists and five blocks in the loss.

---

## Lady Cats cruise in home triangular



Freshman Anna Dixon sends the ball past the outstretched arms of a Santa Fe Trail player Tuesday at Louisburg High School. The Lady Cats improved their record to 8-0 on the season with wins over Burlington and Santa Fe Trail.

---

With no practice because of the Labor Day weekend, and a tough end of the week schedule looming, Tuesday's triangular with

Burlington and Santa Fe Trail was sandwiched in between and had all the makings of a trap game for the Louisburg volleyball team.

The Lady Cats, who are ranked No. 4 in Class 4A-Division I, faced off with two smaller, and lesser-talented programs.

As it turned out, there was no trap at all.

Louisburg rolled to victories in both matches to run its record to 8-0 on the season. The Lady Cats defeated Burlington 25-15 and 25-10 and then downed Santa Fe Trail, 25-17 and 25-12.

"Having (Monday) off, we just never really got into a rhythm against Burlington," Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. "We made too many errors and mistakes on our side. We were watching balls drop and we didn't play with that sense of urgency that we need to have. The Santa Fe game there was a lot more energy and momentum and we played more of our game."

Louisburg had its rough spots against Burlington, but it was never in any danger of dropping a set. In fact, the Lady Cats had a 17-2 lead in the second set before clinching the match.

The Lady Cats' match against Santa Fe Trail went much the same way.



**Louisburg senior Makenzie Kallevig passes the ball to a teammate Tuesday during the Lady Cats' match with Santa Fe Trail.**

Louisburg jumped out to a 5-1 lead in the first set thanks to back-to-back aces from Sophie McMullen and kills from Anna Dixon and Madison Turner. Louisburg eventually widened its lead to 20-10 and easily claimed the first set.

Cate Stambaugh helped get the Lady Cats going in the second set as she recorded two kills to help give them a 7-1 lead. Turner and Dixon also provided several blocks and kills down the stretch to give Louisburg a 24-12 advantage before Megan Lemke finished the night off with an ace.

The Lady Cats dominated the net as they have done for most of the season. Dixon, a freshman, led Louisburg with seven kills against Santa Fe Trail. Stambaugh and Turner finished with six each, while senior Lauren Dunn added five kills in the win.

Junior Olivia Bradley led Louisburg with six blocks in the match, while Stambaugh and Turner each finished with four. McMullen ran the offense well as she finished with 20 assists.

"The nice thing about this team is that we are pretty even across the net," Compliment said. "We have Lauren who can hit the ball, we have Madison, Cate is playing a lot better this year and has really stepped up and playing with more confidence. Anna has been playing well, too. So, Sophie can go anywhere she wants to and know her hitters are going to do well."

Defensively, Dunn led the Lady Cats against Santa Fe Trail with 12 digs and senior libero Makenzie Kallevig added six. Serving-wise, Turner finished with three aces to lead Louisburg.

"Kenzie and Lauren have been doing a good job on defense," Compliment said. "Both got under balls and did a good job of digging them out, especially in that second match."

"Our serving was a lot better and we didn't have many errors. I can't really blame them on the errors we had because they were serving tough. When Madison, Sophie and Megan are back there serving, I feel that we can really get on a roll with those three."

Louisburg will be tested starting today as it travels to meet the No. 4 team in Class 5A, Blue Valley West. The Lady Cats will then travel to the Lansing Invitational on Saturday with matchups against De Soto, Piper, Topeka Seaman and Shawnee Mission West.

If they advance far enough, the Lady Cats could meet Shawnee Mission East (No. 5 in 6A) and Lansing (No. 5 in 5A).

---

# Lady Cats rally to victory in home opener



Louisburg senior Madison Turner goes up for a kill during Tuesday' home opener against Blue Valley Southwest. The Lady Cats rallied after a first set loss to win the next three and the match to go to 6-0 on the year.

---

Already down a set in its home opener against Blue Valley Southwest, the Louisburg volleyball team needed to find a spark.

Enter Sophie McMullen and Madison Turner.

The two players helped lift the Lady Cats to three straight set wins to capture the 3-1 (18-25, 25-12, 25-22 and 25-12) victory Tuesday at Louisburg High School. McMullen's serves helped get the Lady Cats on a roll in the second set, while Blue Valley Southwest had a tough time stopping the Lady Cat middle hitter as Turner found herself on the right end of a lot of kills.

"Once we started passing better and setting up Madison a little more, she was the momentum swing we needed to get those kills and side outs," Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. "I really think that changed the game in the second set and carried that throughout. I told Sophie to get her more



involved and she did a good job of finding spots and time to get her involved.”

Turner finished the game with a team-high 11 kills and had 17 blocks to go along with three aces to pace the Lady Cats. Blue Valley Southwest didn’t have an answer for the 6-foot, 4-inch senior.

As for McMullen, she set the tone in the second set with four aces to help build a 9-0 advantage at the time. Overall, the sophomore setter finished with a team-high nine aces to go along with 31 assists.

“Sophie was really on with her serves,” Compliment said. “She did a really good job hitting her spots and she served aggressive. She is really finding her serve in her development and did a great job. She helped us going on a couple different long runs.”



**Olivia Bradley goes up for a kill Tuesday during the Lady Cats’ match with Blue Valley Southwest.**

The Lady Cats (6-0) never let up in the second set as they

jumped out to a 16-2 advantage behind aces from McMullen and kills from Turner and freshman Anna Dixon to even the score at 1-1.

“The first set we just came out flat,” Compliment said. “We didn’t have a lot of energy or momentum on our side. I think we had a little nerves and we played tentative. The second set we just played a lot more aggressive and we definitely looked a lot better.”

A victory in the third set was going to provide either team a big advantage for the rest of the match as the loser would have to win two straight. The two teams traded leads seven times with several ties mixed.

Blue Valley Southwest had a 21-20 lead late, but the Lady Cats would rattle off a mini 5-1 run to take the set. A kill and a tip from Turner gave Louisburg a 22-21 lead, and after a couple side outs, Dixon finished it off with a kill.

Louisburg seized the momentum in the fourth set as it took a quick 5-1 lead after back-to-back aces from Dixon. Turner, Lauren Dunn and Cate Stambaugh followed it up kills and Megan Lemke added an ace to give the Lady Cats an 11-3 advantage they wouldn’t relinquish.

Dunn, a senior, was second on the team with nine kills and was also strong on the defensive end with 12 digs. Senior libero Makenzie Kallevig led the defense with 18 digs.

Dixon and Stambaugh finished with eight and seven kills, respectively, while Dixon added four aces.

As a team, the Lady Cats connected on some tough serves as they racked up 20 aces on the evening. With that, however, came 17 service errors.

Those errors are something Compliment hopes her team can clean up with a big week coming ahead. The Lady Cats will host

Burlington and Santa Fe Trail on Tuesday and then will travel to Blue Valley West, a Class 6A program, Thursday.

Throw in an always competitive Lansing Invitational on Saturday and the Lady Cats know they have a challenging week in front of them.

“I wasn’t really pleased with our serves again. In that first set, especially, we missed on so many serves and we still need to work on that,” Compliment said. “We have a few days to work on some stuff, but we have another tough week coming up, especially with Blue Valley West and the Lansing tournament. Lansing will be a tough tournament.”

---

## Lady Cats roll to Frontier League title



Louisburg senior Madison Turner (left) and Anna Dixon go up for a block Saturday during the Frontier League Tournament at Eudora High School. The Lady Cats recorded a 5-0 record and didn’t lose a set all day on their way to the title.

---

EUDORA – The Louisburg High School volleyball team had a

little different look about itself.

The Lady Cats sported new uniforms and some fresh faces as they opened the 2015 season Saturday. They may have had a new look, but the results were the same.

Louisburg rolled through the preseason Frontier League Tournament in Eudora as they finished the day with a 5-0 record and didn't lose a set. It was clear that the Lady Cats, the defending league champs, are the team to beat in the league once again.

"I thought the team had a pretty decent first outing of the season," Louisburg coach Jessica Compliment said. "We had a few bumps along the way but that is to be expected for the first few matches of a season. I was pleased to see how the team handled those situations, and to finish every match in two sets is a good accomplishment."

The No. 5 ranked team in Class 4A Division I showed why it is considered one of the best teams in the state as it came out swinging right from the opening match. Louisburg dispatched Baldwin, Eudora and Basehor-Linwood in two sets in pool play, before doing the same to Paola in the semifinals and De Soto in the championship.

Seniors Lauren Dunn and Madison Turner had a big day for the Lady Cats as they were able to turn the tide in a few different sets when the opposition tried to make a run.

Dunn finished with a team high 31 kills in the five matches to go along with seven aces and was also second on the team with 60 digs when she played in the back row. Turner controlled the net from her middle hitter spot as she led Louisburg with 28 blocks, finished with 25 kills and also had seven aces.



**Louisburg senior Cate Stambaugh goes up for a kill during the semifinals of the Frontier League tournament Saturday in Eudora.**

“Madison and Lauren both had a great tournament,” Compliment said. “They are both very seasoned players and stepped up big when we needed them. All of the players contributed yesterday, and I was happy to see a well-balanced team effort. We had four players with 25 or more kills apiece so there was definitely a balanced effort made.”

The Lady Cats helped get that balance from sophomore setter Sophie McMullen as she moved the ball around to several different options. She finished the tournament with 125 assists, which averaged out to 25 a match. McMullen also finished with a team-high eight aces.

Whether it was Dunn, Turner, senior Cate Stambaugh, junior Olivia Bradley or freshman Anna Dixon, McMullen seemed to find the right option at the right time.

Louisburg also fared well on the defensive side as well, led by libero Makenzie Kallevig. The Lady Cats senior finished with a tournament-high 98 digs. Senior Megan Lemke also fared well with 31 digs and four aces.

"Our back row defense also did a good job throughout the day," Compliment said. "We have some more work to do to make our blocking more consistent so our back row knows where to align, but for the first weekend out they still did a pretty good job."

Different players stepped up at different times for the Lady Cats. In their opening match against Baldwin (25-19, 25-18), Stambaugh had a strong showing with nine kills and six blocks in the two sets. She finished the tournament with 25 kills and also had 21 blocks for the tournament.

Against Eudora (25-20, 25-18), Turner had nine kills and 11 blocks to pace the Lady Cats. Then against Basehor-Linwood (25-15, 27-25) in the final round of pool play, Louisburg nearly lost its first set of the day, but rallied to take the second behind 11 kills from Dunn and seven blocks from McMullen.

Dixon responded with her best outing in the semifinals against Paola (25-13, 25-20). She didn't play like a freshman as she had 11 kills in the match to go along with two aces. Kallevig was also strong in the back row with 25 digs.

"If Anna had any nerves, she didn't show it on the court," Compliment said. "She plays pretty steady and with confidence wherever she is on the court."

In the championship match against De Soto (25-13, 25-22), the Lady Cats were in danger of being forced to a third set, but held on once again. Dunn led the way with seven kills, Turner had nine blocks and McMullen had three aces in the win.

"There were a couple of times they could have thrown in the towel and forced the third set, but the team rallied back well and finished the match," Compliment said. "We talked a lot about staying aggressive at the net and finishing the play rather than looking for that easy out play."



**The Louisville volleyball team pose for a shot after winning the league tournament Saturday. Members of the team (front row, from left) are Megan Lemke, Makenzie Kallevig, Lauren Dunn; (back row) coach Jessica Compliment, Olivia Bradley, Anna Dixon, Madison Turner, Cate Stambaugh and Sophie McMullen.**

If there was one coaching point Compliment will get to use on her team this week, it was their serving. The Lady Cats had 27 service errors in the five matches, but even with that, they were able to counter with 35 aces a team.

“Serving is something we touch on every day at practice, and it is about the only skill where it’s just you, the player who has to make the play,” Compliment said. “We work a lot on spot serving and finding your ace serve. We may have missed some of our serves because we were going for ‘that spot’ on the court or for that ace serve, but those serves still need to be playable. Some of it may have been nerves since it was the first day out, but it still doesn’t excuse the missed serves back-to-back. We talk about when to never miss a serve, and we had a few of those moments yesterday.”

The Lady Cats will try and keep their winnings ways going

tomorrow when they host Blue Valley Southwest in their home opener. Freshman matches begin at 4:30 p.m., followed by junior varsity and then varsity.