

Muhl nets 750th win as Kirkwood coach

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IOWA FALLS - Kim Muhl collected his 750th victory as the head coach of the Kirkwood women's basketball program Wednesday night with a 74-39 romp past Ellsworth in an ICCAC conference game in Iowa Falls.

Muhl has compiled a flashy 750-139 record with six NJCAA Division II national titles in 26 years. His winning percentage is a gaudy 84.4 percent during that time.

True to his nature, Muhl downplayed the milestone. "It makes you feel a little older," he joked during the bus ride home.

Muhl cast doubt on whether he'll keep coaching until he hits 1,000 wins. "I doubt it. I don't think I'll be around for 250 more wins," he said.

He did not rule it out, however. "'I don't know' is a better answer," he said.

Muhl celebrated his 750th win with a roast beef sandwich with his team at Arby's. "It's all right," he said about the modest meal. "It's in the budget."

He planned to have a cupcake when he got home.

The fourth-ranked Eagles held Ellsworth to only two field goals and 11 points in the second half.

Kirsten Larson led a balanced attack for Kirkwood with 13 points, five steals and three 3-pointers. Anna Martensen contributed 12 points and eight rebounds. Taylor Silva had nine

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points and five assists. Cassidy Clark grabbed seven rebounds and blocked three shots.

All-American Ariel Sneed returned to action for Kirkwood after missing several weeks with a knee injury and scored two points.

The Eagles raised their records to 16-4 overall and 4-0 in the conference with their 12th straight victory.

Keziah Lewis scored 16 points for Ellsworth (3-15, 0-4).

KIRKWOOD (74): Sneed 1 0-0 2, Downs 2 1-1 5, Silva 2 4-5 9, Oberman 2 0-0 6, Sudduth 2 0-0 5, Larson 5 0-0 13, Hutchins 3 0-0 7, Martensen 6 0-0 12, Bockholt 2 0-0 5, Kallenberger 0 0-0 0, Clark 3 0-0 6, Wood 2 0-0 4. Totals 30 5-6 74.

ELLSWORTH (39): Rumph 1 0-0 2, Smith 1 0-0 2, Greenfield 1 0-0 3, Thigpen 0 0-1 0, Lehman 2 0-0 6, Jones 0 2-4 2, Gates 3 2-2 8, Lewis 5 2-4 16. Totals 13 6-11 39.

Halftime - Kirkwood 41, Ellsworth 28. 3-point goals - Kirkwood 9 (Larson 3, Oberman 2, Silva 1, Sudduth 1, Hutchins 1, Bockholt 1), Ellsworth 7 (Lewis 4, Lehman 2, Greenfield 1).