Kirkwood women take 5th at NJCAA

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OVERLAND PARK, Kan. - Cassidy Clark scored 14 points and grabbed 10 rebounds Saturday afternoon as Kirkwood topped Monroe College of New York, 77-71, to finish fifth at the NJCAA Division II national tournament in Overland Park, Kan. The Eagles compiled a 3-1 record at the tournament and finished the season with a 31-6 record. Aliyah Isaac and Madison Wood chipped in 10 points apiece off the bench for Kirkwood. Prairie grad Cyerra Hutchins contributed nine points and five rebounds. Taylor Silva collected eight points and nine assists. Kirsten Larson also had eight points. Ariel Sneed pulled down eight rebounds and Anna Martensen had seven. The Eagles won the battle of the boards, 53-38, and had 19 offensive rebounds.

The game was tied, 40-40, at halftime. Kirkwood outscored Monroe 37-31 in the second half to finish the season with two straight victories at the national meet after falling in the quarterfinals.

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Breana Bey scored 18 points for Monroe (27-10). Aaliyah Mercer and Shania Johnson had 15 points apiece.

MONROE (71): Colbert 1 0-0 2, Bellamy 3 2-2 9, Black 1 0-0 2, Bey 8 2-3 18, Mercer 6 2-2 15, Dennis 0 0-0 0, Ulasi 0 0-0 0, Morris 2 0-0 4, Barnes 3 0-0 6, Johnson 5 2-2 15, Cobbs 0 0-0 0, Jubinville 0 0-0 0. Totals 29 8-9 71.

KIRKWOOD (77): Silva 1 6-8 8, Larson 3 0-0 8, Hutchins 4 0-0 9, Martensen 3 0-0 6, Clark 5 3-4 14, Sneed 2 0-1 4, Miles 2 0-0 6, Downs 0 0-0 0, Isaac 4 2-2 10, Oberman 0 0-0 0, Sudduth 0 0-0 0, Bockholt 1 0-1 2, Kallenberger 0 0-0 0, Wood 4 2-2 10. Totals 29 13-18 77.

Halftime - Kirkwood 40, Monroe 40. 3-point goals - Monroe 5 (Johnson 3, Bellamy 1, Mercer 1), Kirkwood 6 (Larson 2, Miles 2, Hutchins 1, Clark 1).