

No. 2 Eagles sweep twinbill from NIACC

Written by Jim Ecker

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Most teams would put somebody who's hitting .371 in the middle of their batting order and feel good about scoring a few runs.

The Kirkwood Eagles are not like most teams, however.

Four Eagles are hitting better than .500 this season. Three others are hitting better than .400, so that means Audra Bridenstine is the No. 9 batter with her .371 batting average.

There's not a single soft spot in the lineup, putting tremendous stress on the opposition.

Bridenstine went 3-for-3 with a double, home run and five RBIs Wednesday as Kirkwood belted NIACC, 11-0, in the first game of a doubleheader behind a one-hitter by Lexi Kinnaird.

The second-ranked Eagles took the second game, 9-0, on a four-hitter by Angie McBeain that featured home runs by Taylor Nearad and Morgan Frost.

Kirkwood raised its impressive records to 37-2 overall and 15-1 in the ICCAC conference. NIACC fell to 10-26 overall and 1-17 in the league.

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DoniRae Mayhew went 3-for-3 in the opener. Maddie Hansen and Monika Bevans were both 2-for-3 with two RBIs.

Nearad went 3-for-3 with two doubles, three RBIs and her 13th home run of the campaign in the second game. Morgan Frost and McBeain were 2-for-3 and Megan Kublik drove in two runs.

Kinnaird (18-2, 1.42 ERA) leads the nation in victories and strikeouts, with 184 whiffs so far. McBeain is 14-0 with a 1.69 ERA.

Hansen leads the nation with 65 RBIs. As a team, the Eagles are hitting .456 with 75 home runs in 39 games.

GAME 1

NIACC **000 00 - 0 1 0**
Kirkwood **031 7x - 11 14 1**

W - Kinnaird. L - Fossand.

GAME 2

NIACC **000 00 - 0 4 1**
Kirkwood **420 3x - 9 9 0**

W - McBeain. L - Dove.