

McCormick sparks No. 5 Eagles in Missouri

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JOPLIN, Mo. - Sonya McCormick had gotten off to a slow start with the Kirkwood softball team this year after transferring from Iowa Central, but that changed Saturday.

McCormick went 6-for-7 with a two-run homer and six RBIs as the fifth-ranked Eagles won two more games at the Crowder Bash in Joplin, Mo.

McCormick, a third baseman, went 3-for-3 with a home run and three RBIs in a 14-0 victory over Allen County, then she went 3-for-4 with three more RBIs in a 12-4 verdict over Three Rivers.

McCormick raised her batting average from .167 to a much healthier .323 with her performance. She hit .368 with 11 homers and 54 RBIs as a freshman at Iowa Central last season.

Monika Bevans went 5-for-7 Saturday with four doubles and six RBIs.

Rachel Stewart was 2-for-2 and scored three runs in the victory over Allen County. Bri Smith was also 2-for-2. Lauren Kuch and Miranda Kaste scored two runs.

The Eagles exploded for nine runs in the second inning and added four more runs in the fourth.

DoniRae Mayhew was the winning pitcher in Game 1. Kaste made her first pitching appearance of the season in relief and faced three batters.

Kuch went 2-for-3 with a two-run homer and four RBIs in the 12-4 victory over Three Rivers. Audra Bridenstine drove in two runs and scored twice. Kaste had two hits and Hannah Mausser drove in two runs. Kenady Waugh was hit by a pitch on three occasions and scored twice.

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Natalie Halvorson pitched six innings for the win.

Kirkwood (13-1) has a 4-0 record at the Crowder Bash so far with two more games Sunday.