

Tatge, Logemann star as No.6 Eagles sweep

Written by Jim Ecker

Wednesday, 27 March 2013 19:38 - Last Updated Sunday, 31 March 2013 23:05

Kayla Tatge and Haylee Krack insist they do not have any side bets on who hits the most home runs for the Kirkwood Eagles this season.

No steak dinners, no free pizza, no ice cream sundaes.

"No, not at all," Tatge said Wednesday. "We're just doing our thing out here and helping the team as best we can."

Tatge socked four home runs Wednesday and Krack hit another as the sixth-ranked Eagles swept an ICCAC doubleheader from Ellsworth, 11-0 and 9-0, at the Kirkwood softball field.

Both games lasted only five innings.

Amber Logemann pitched a no-hitter with 12 strikeouts in the opener. Sam Belz followed with a two-hitter in the nightcap as Kirkwood (14-3, 2-0) cruised in both contests.

Tatge, a sophomore from Milan, Ill., took over the team lead with 10 round-trippers this season in 17 games. Krack, a sophomore from Silvis, Ill., is a notch behind with nine homers.

Earlier in the season, Krack was batting third in the lineup and Tatge was hitting fourth. Coach Joe Yegge switched that a few games ago, so now Tatge is third and Krack fourth.

They've been protecting each other and getting good pitches to hit.

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"It didn't really change much," said Tatge, who hit two homers in both games. "We're both good hitters, right after each other. If I don't get it, she'll get it."

Tatge slugged 20 homers last year for Kirkwood Community College. She hit five homers in a doubleheader against NIACC in 2012, including four homers in one game. "Her having multiple homers is nothing new," said Yegge.

Krack hit five homers in two games at a tournament in Missouri earlier this season. She hit 17 homers for the Eagles last season and has 26 in her career. Tatge has 30 homers in two seasons.

The race is on, but Yegge isn't worried about his two sluggers getting distracted by their personal numbers or any kind of simmering rivalry. "They're pretty modest about it," he said.

Kirkwood overwhelmed Ellsworth in the doubleheader.

"That was good pitching, good defense and good hitting," said Yegge. "And pretty good base-running today, too."

Logemann struck out 12 of the 16 batters she faced. She fanned the first six hitters and struck out the side in the first, second and fifth innings.

"I thought I did really good," said Logemann, a freshman from Earlham. "My arm's been bothering me, but I just went through it and gave it my all."

Logemann nearly pitched a perfect game, but she hit a batter in the third inning. Ellsworth (3-2) never got the ball out of the infield in the first game with 12 strikeouts and three ground balls accounting for the 15 outs.

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Krack walloped a three-run homer to give Kirkwood a 3-0 lead in the first inning of the opener. Tatge hit a solo homer in the third inning and ripped a three-run shot in the fourth.

Tatge hit a pair of two-run homers in the second game to finish the day with four home runs and eight RBIs.

Logemann enjoyed all the fireworks as she cruised to victory. "It's awesome. I love it," she said. "It's really, really cool. It's very comforting."

Kristen Winter made a pair of sparkling defensive plays for Kirkwood at second base and Leah Duffe excelled at shortstop.

Kirkwood is scheduled to host Iowa Central in a doubleheader Friday at 2 p.m. and host Southwestern in a twinbill Saturday at noon.

GAME 1

ELLSWORTH (0): Wilson, lf, 2 0 0 0, Muller, 2b, 2 0 0 0, Lehman, dp, 2 0 0 0, Sykes, ss, 2 0 0 0, Eisenbraun, 1b, 2 0 0 0, Madrid, p, 2 0 0 0, Ness, p, 0 0 0 0, Wenger, 3b, 1 0 0 0, Bantz, rf, 1 0 0 0, Cairns, cf, 0 0 0 0, Mercer, c, 0 0 0 0. Totals 14 0 0 0.

KIRKWOOD (11): Duffe, ss, 2 2 1 0, Winter, 2b, 1 1 0 0, Tatge, rf, 2 3 2 4, Krack, 3b, 1 2 1 3, Smith, dp, 3 1 0 0, Tutsch, c, 2 0 1 1, Sales, lf, 2 1 1 1, Campbell, 1b, 2 1 1 0, Weber, ph, 1 0 0 0, Crist, cf, 2 0 1 1, Listenbee, ph, 1 0 0 0, Logemann, p, 0 0 0 0.
Totals 19 11 8 11.

Ellsworth 000 00 - 0 0 5

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Kirkwood 301 7x - 11 8 0

Madrid, Ness (4) and Mercer. Logemann and Tutsch. W - Logemann. L - Madrid. HR - Krack, Tatge (2). SB - Sales (2), Crist, Krack.

GAME 2

ELLSWORTH (0): Wilson, lf, 2 0 0 0, Madrid, 2b, 2 0 0 0, Lehman, 1b, 2 0 0 0, Sykes, ss, 2 0 1 0, Eisenbraun, dp, 1 0 0 0, Wenger, 3b, 2 0 1 0, Apfel, c, 2 0 0 0, Bantz, rf, 2 0 0 0, Cairns, cf, 2 0 0 0, Festge, p, 2 0 0 0, Ness, p, 0 0 0 0. Totals 17 0 2 0.

KIRKWOOD (9): Duffe, ss, 3 1 1 1, Winter, 2b, 3 1 1 0, Tatge, rf, 3 2 2 4, Krack, 3b, 2 2 2 0, Smith, dp, 2 1 0 0, Saladino, ph, 1 1 1 0, Tutsch, c, 3 0 0 1, Sales, lf, 3 0 2 1, Campbell, 1b, 2 0 1 0, Compton, ph, 1 0 0 0, Crist, cf, 2 1 1 0, Belz, p, 0 0 0 0. Totals 25 9 11 5.

Festge, Ness (4) and Apfel. Belz and Tutsch. W - Belz. L - Festge. HR - Tatge (2). SB - Duffe, Krack, Sales, Crist.