

Kirkwood men shoot down Lincoln, 102-76

Written by Don Taylor
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Led by sophomore guards J.C. Fuller and Taylor Olson, Kirkwood avenged one its two losses with a 102-76 thumping of Lincoln (Ill.) College Friday night at Johnson Hall.

Fuller scored a game-high 21 points while Olson added 18. Nine of Fuller's points came from the charity stripe in 10 attempts and Olson hit on 7 of 8 free throws. There were 49 fouls called and 72 free throws shot in the game.

"We just attacked on offense and took advantage of what they gave us," said Fuller. "If we are aggressive on offense and concentrate on our defense we gain a big advantage at the free throw line."

"We played really good defense tonight," said Kirkwood Coach Bryan Petersen. "That really set the tone for our offense."

The Eagles (6-2) were outscored at the stripe, 29-26, but made 12 more field goals than Lincoln. Kirkwood knocked down 10 3-pointers and Olson, the former Jefferson prep, had three.

"The coach has a lot of confidence in me and wants me to run the offense," said Olson. "We have a lot of good players to get involved with the offense. The whole team did well tonight."

"We've got good guards," said Petersen. "If we play smart and take care of the ball, good things happen on the other end."

The Eagles weren't lacking an inside game either. Joe Tagarelli scored 16 points and picked up a game-high eight rebounds. Jalen Currie had 10 points and 6 boards.

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Kirkwood shot 55 percent from the field and outrebounded the Linx 40-26. The Eagles played 14 players.

“We played a lot kids and had a lot of quality minutes tonight,” said Petersen. “We still have a long way to go, but this was a quality game for us and we needed to put a game like this together.”

Lincoln beat Kirkwood, 85-71, on Nov. 9.

Kirkwood's next game is Tuesday night at home against Black Hawk.

LINCOLN (76): Simpson 5 7-8 18, Anderson 1 6-6 9, Jordan 2 6-9 11, Gaines 6 6-8 19, Davis 3 0-0 6, Perry 0 0-2 0, Hicks 0 0-0 0, Allen 0 1-3 1, Davidson 2 3-4 8, McCaskill 1 0-0 2, Stephens 1 0-0 2, Harris 0 0-0 0. Totals 21 29-40 76.

KIRKWOOD (102): Lawson 2 0-0 4, Fuller 5 9-10 21, Currie 4 2-3 10, Olson 4 7-8 18, Tagarelli 5 6-7 16, Gibson 1 2-4 4, Lassen 2 0-0 5, Swank 1 0-0 3, Weeks 0 0-0 0, Bussell 2 0-0 6, Batie-Gaddy 4 0-0 9, Ward 1 0-0 2, Bennett 0 0-0 0, Uwadiae 2 0-0 4. Totals 33 26-32 102.

Halftime – Kirkwood 49, Lincoln 35. 3-point goals – Kirkwood 10 (Fuller 2, Olson 3, Lassen 1, Swank 1, Bussell 2, Batie-Gaddy 1), Lincoln 5 (Simpson 1, Anderson 1, Jordan 1, Gaines 1, Davidson 1). Fouled out – none.