Merced powers Kirkwood to split

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Angel Merced went 3-for-4 with two doubles, a home run and six RBIs Sunday as Kirkwood Community College belted Ellsworth, 14-1, in five innings in the second game of an ICCAC doubleheader at the Kirkwood field in Cedar Rapids.

Ellsworth won the first game, 4-2.

The Eagles got their offense going in the second game to make life easier on the mound for Jeffrey Castillo, who pitched a one-hitter with three strikeouts.

Sulliam Rios Reyes went 3-for-4 and scored three runs. Milton Croes was 2-for-3 with two RBIs, Zach Patterson went 2-for-3 and scored twice, Randy Perez drove in two runs and Eric Schenck-Joblinske scored three times.

Merced also hit a home run in the first game, and Rios Reyes was 2-for-3. Will Ross pitched 8.1 innings for the Eagles and allowed four runs in the opener. He struck out eight batters.

The split left Kirkwood at 13-9 overall and 2-6 in the conference. Ellsworth is 12-17 overall and 6-4 in the league.