

No. 8 Eagles near regional title

Written by Metro Sports Report

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The Kirkwood Eagles cruised to a pair of easy victories in the regional softball tournament Sunday and need only more victory to capture the regional title.

The eighth-ranked Eagles defeated Ellsworth, 10-0, and stopped Southwestern, 10-2, on the opening day of the tournament at Kirkwood.

Kirkwood (42-8) will face Southwestern (26-18) again at 2 p.m. on Monday in the championship round. If the Eagles win that game, they'll take the regional title. If the Eagles lose that game, the two teams will play again at 4 p.m. for the title in the double-elimination tournament.

Chasney Jenkins belted her eighth home run of the season and drove in three runs for Kirkwood against Ellsworth. Brooke Prior was 2-for-3 with two doubles and two RBIs. Alicia Crivaro also drove in two runs. Prior (12-0) pitched a two-hitter with seven strikeouts for the victory.

Crivaro went 3-for-4 against Southwestern. Jenkins, Tara Walls, Jasmine Ragusi and Erin Weno had two hits. Walls had three RBIs and Riley Ogden had two RBIs. Nicky Simpson (17-5) was the winning pitcher.