Written by Metro Sports Report Saturday, 01 April 2017 07:00 -

MADISON, Wis. - Taylor Nearad belted three home runs and drove in seven runs Friday as the second-ranked Kirkwood softball team swept a doubleheader from Madison College, 12-0 and 9-0.

Nearad, the 2016 National Player of the Year, hit two home runs and drove in five runs in the first game. Maddie Hansen also hit a home run and went 3-for-4 in the opener.

Lexi Ferrari went 3-for-3 and scored three runs in the opener. Audra Bridenstine drove in three runs. DoniRae Mayhew, Monika Bevans and Bridenstine had two hits.

Lexi Kinnaird (12-1, 1.45 ERA) pitched a two-hitter with seven strikeouts in the first game. She leads NJCAA Division II with 122 strikeouts in 77 innings.

Angie McBeain belted a grand slam in the 9-0 victory in the second game. Ferrari, Nearad, Mayhew, Morgan Frost and Bridenstine all had two hits. Nearad hit a homer and drove in two runs. Frost also had two RBIs.

McBeain (9-0, 1.94 ERA) tossed a four-hitter with five strikeouts.

Kirkwood raised its record to 24-1 heading into weekend doubleheaders at NIACC Saturday and at Iowa Lakes Sunday.

GAME 1

Kirkwood 0 0100 506 - 12 16 0 Madison 0 000 - 0 2 0

Nearad socks 3 homers as Eagles sweep

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GAME 2

Kirkwood 0 0530 01 - 9 11 0 Madison 0 000 00 - 0 4 2