

PEORIA, Ill. - Tay Wilson popped in 20 points Friday afternoon to help the eighth-ranked Kirkwood women's basketball team defeat 10th-ranked Owens, 77-63, in the semifinals of the Illinois Central holiday tournament.

Kirkwood (12-3) plays for the championship Saturday.

Olivia Usher scored 17 points and collected seven assists against Owens. Megan Axcell contributed 14 points and 10 rebounds for a double-double. Awal Ajak added 13 points.

Kirkwood made twelve 3-pointers in the ballgame. Axcell hit four triples, while Wilson and Ajak had three apiece.

Kirkwood led 37-34 at halftime, but the Eagles outscored Owens 21-10 in the third quarter to open a 14-point advantage.

KIRKWOOD (77): Wilson 5 7-10 20, Puok 0 2-2 2, Axcell 5 0-0 14, Hurst 0 0-0 0, Ajak 4 2-2 13, Taylor 0 0-0 0, Robinson 1 0-0 2, Mullinix 0 0-0 0, Mensen 0 0-0 0, Coleman 0 0-0 0, Usher 7 2-3 17, Wooldridge 2 4-5 9. Totals 24 17-22 77.

OWENS (63): Shelton 2 1-2 6, Hatcher 2 0-0 4, Cowan 3 0-0 9, Boston 0 0-0 0, Pennington 3 1-1 7, Nichols 0 0-0 0, Washington-Polk 6 1-2 16, Ivey 2 3-3 7, Frost 4 2-2 14. Totals 22 8-10 63.

Halftime - Kirkwood 37, Owens 34. 3-point goals - Kirkwood 12 (Axcell 4, Wilson 3, Ajak 3, Usher 1, Wooldridge 1), Owens 11 (Frost 4, Washington-Polk 3, Cowan 3, Shelton 1).