Mount Mercy softball sweeps Clarke

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DUBUQUE - The Mount Mercy softball team displayed some effective pitching and timely hitting and swept a Heart of America Conference doubleheader from Clarke, 4-1 and 4-2 in eight innings, Tuesday in Dubuque.

The twin-killing lifted the Mustangs to 26-18 overall and 17-13 in the conference. Clarke fell to 9-26 overall and 7-23 in the league.

Anna Stenberg and Jessica Miller had two hits for Mount Mercy in the 4-1 victory in the opener. Payton Bruner hit a solo home run. Tawny Menster (10-3) pitched a complete game, allowing one run on seven hits.

Stenberg, Jolona Shield and Emily Oler had two hits in the 4-2 triumph in the nightcap. Menster and Oler socked solo homers. Jayna Witzany (10-7) picked up the victory in relief of Madelyn Irwin.

The second game was tied, 1-1, after seven innings. Mount Mercy scored three runs in the top of the eighth, then held off Clarke after the home team scored one run in the bottom of the eighth.

GAME 1

Mount Mercy 0 200 101 0 - 4 9 0 Clarke 0 0 0 000 001 0 - 1 7 2

Menster and Miller. L.Gratz and E.Gratz, Tigges. W - Menster (10-3). L - Gratz (3-8). 2B - Heick, Braughton. HR - Bruner. SB - Bruner, Menster.

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GAME 2

Mount Mercy | | 001 000 03 - 4 10 2 Clarke | | | | | 000 001 01 - 2 7 0

Irwin, Witzany (6) and Miller. Didier, Schwartzhoff (8) and Tigges. W - Witzany (10-7). L - Didier (2-5). HR - Menster, Oler. SB - Bruner, Miller.