

BOONE - Devonte Thedford celebrated his return to the starting lineup with an impressive performance for the Kirkwood Eagles Thursday night.

Thedford poured in a career-high 28 points to help the eighth-ranked Eagles defeat DMACC, 94-78, in an ICCAC conference game in Boone.

The victory lifted Kirkwood to 22-4 overall and 10-2 in the conference. The Eagles trail seventh-ranked NIACC (11-1) by one game in the league standings with two games left in the regular season.

Kirkwood All-American Doug Wilson contributed 22 points, 11 rebounds and four assists. Jamal Stephenson sparked the Eagles off the bench with four 3-pointers and 16 points.

Allante Pickens scored 10 points for Kirkwood. Luke Appel collected 11 rebounds.

Tray Buchanan scored 27 points for DMACC (18-9, 5-6).

KIRKWOOD (94): Sims 0 0-0 0, Pickens 2 4-4 10, Thedford 8 10-11 28, Kasperbauer 0 1-1 1, Wilson 9 4-6 22, Sartorius 2 2-2 7, Stephenson 5 2-3 16, Gosnell 2 0-1 4, Appel 3 0-0 6. Totals 31 23-29 94.

DMACC (78): Davidson 7 5-7 19, Buchanan 7 12-13 27, Prince 0 0-0 0, Robinson 5 5-11 15, Swaby 2 0-0 4, Tarello 1 0-0 3, Miller 0 2-3 2, Taylor 2 0-0 5, Lester 1 0-0 3. Totals 25 24-34 78.

Thedford powers No. 8 Eagles

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Halftime - Kirkwood 46, DMACC 33. 3-point goals - Kirkwood 9 (Stephenson 4, Pickens 2, Thedford 2, Sartorius 1), DMACC 4 (Buchanan 1, Tarello 1, Taylor 1, Lester 1).