

MILWAUKEE - The top-ranked Kirkwood women's basketball team rallied from a 13-point deficit Saturday and topped 13th-ranked Briggs & Stratton, 78-71, in the final round of the Bobcast Classic.

The Eagles (13-0) trailed 22-9 after the first quarter, but they outscored Briggs & Stratton 27-12 in the second period to take a 36-34 edge at halftime.

Kirkwood hit 10 of 12 free throws in the final 2:18 to secure the victory.

Ju Gaston led the Eagles with 16 points, 7 assists, 4 rebounds and 3 steals. Tatiana Hodges-Johnson collected a double-double with 14 points and 14 rebounds.

Kemara Watson provided 13 points and six rebounds. Natalie Tomaszewski grabbed 11 rebounds and scored nine points.

La'Janique Perry-Ellis scored 24 points for Briggs & Stratton (7-4).

KIRKWOOD (78): Paige Bradford 1-6 0-0 2, Tatiana Hodges-Johnson 2-9 10-14 14, Ju Gaston 4-8 6-8 16, Amara Lipsey 2-7 0-0 6, Marissa Metz 2-4 0-0 6, Delani Harris 2-5 1-1 5, Jheda Kennedy 1-6 0-0 3, Kortney Drake 1-2 2-2 4, Natalie Tomaszewski 3-7 2-2 9, Kemara Watson 5-8 3-6 13. Totals 23-62 24-33 78.

BRIGGS & STRATTON (71): Kiarra Otto 3-11 0-4 6, Kiyanna Rodgers 4-11 2-2 14, La'Janique Perry-Ellis 8-19 7-8 24, Kiara Hortman 0-3 0-0 0, Marleah Drake 7-18 3-6 18, Nelida Colon-Rodriguez 2-2 0-0 5, Makenzie Vann 0-0 0-0 0, Faith Watkins 0-3 1-4 1, Ashley Moses 1-5 0-2 2, Sole Johnson 0-3 1-2 1. Totals 25-75 14-28 71.

Halftime - Kirkwood 36, Briggs & Stratton 34. 3-point goals - Kirkwood 8-25 (Gaston 2-4, Metz 2-4, Lipsey 2-7, Kennedy 1-3, Tomaszewski 1-4, Harris 0-1, Hodges-Johnson 0-2), Briggs & Stratton 7-33 (Rodgers 4-9, Colon-Rodriguez 1-1, Perry-Ellis 1-6, Drake 1-8, Johnson 0-1, Moses 0-2, Otto 0-3, Hortman 0-3).