Kirkwood baseball team sweeps NIACC

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The surging Kirkwood Eagles swept a doubleheader from NIACC Friday at the Kirkwood diamond, 7-5 and 12-1.

The Eagles began the ICCAC campaign with four straight losses, but they have rallied and are now 10-8 in the conference and 25-12 overall.

Zach Patterson and Nick Jones had two hits for Kirkwood in the opener. Sulliam Rios Reyes drove in two runs and Milton Croes slugged a home run. Cale Henke pitched seven innings for the victory.

The Eagles unleashed an 18-hit attack in the second game despite batting only four times in the five-inning game. The Eagles scored five runs in the third inning and five more runs in the fourth and won the game by the mercy rule.

Patterson went 3-for-4 with two RBIs in the second game. Rios Reyes was 2-for-4. Eric Schenck-Joblinske went 2-for-4 with two RBIs.

Matt Paciello was 3-for-3 with three RBIs and Randy Perez was 2-for-3 with three RBIs. Jones had two more hits. Jamison Steege pitched a complete, allowing three hits with five strikeouts and no walks.

NIACC fell to 19-26 overall and 7-15 in the league.