

Kirkwood Eagles land 6-foot-10 center

Written by Derek Martin, KMA Sports
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COUNCIL BLUFFS - Council Bluffs Lewis Central senior Kyle Arrington has a dream to play Division I basketball, and he believes Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids can help him achieve that dream.

The 6-foot-10 Titan star went between dominant and unstoppable during the course of his senior season when he averaged 15.3 points, grabbed 12.2 boards and blocked 58 shots, helping the team to a 16-6 record.

However, he was under-recruited by four-year schools possibly due to a pair of knee injuries sustained during his junior and senior seasons. In order to build his profile and game, he recently committed to Kirkwood Coach Bryan Petersen.

The Eagles won the NJCAA Division II national championship in 2016 and finished 25-7 last season, losing to eventual national champ Southwestern, 98-90, in Region XI title game.

"I worked out with one of their assistant coaches," Arrington told KMA Sports, "and I just liked the way he knew how to work out a big. He actually knew what he was talking about. That obviously intrigued me to want to get better with him."

Arrington said he was also impressed with the school.

"Usually community colleges are one or two buildings," he said. "Kirkwood has a four-year feel to it. The facilities and the team and everybody on campus is second to none. It's going to be a fun experience."

Arrington said he looked at Iowa Central, Iowa Lakes and other community colleges and turned

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down opportunities to walk on at Creighton, Nebraska and North Dakota. It's all in the name of improving enough to reach his goal.

"It's been my dream ever since I was a kid to play Division I basketball," Arrington said, "and see where I can go from there. I feel like I can compete at that level and a lot of people think I can as well. It's not going to be handed to me. I'll still work hard over the summer to try and achieve that goal."

Arrington is an academic qualifier, so he could accept a Division I scholarship as soon as next year.