

MASON CITY - The Kirkwood women's basketball team committed 31 turnovers Saturday afternoon and lost its conference showdown with NIACC, 68-62, in Mason City.

The outcome left the second-ranked Eagles and the fifth-ranked Trojans with identical 10-1 records in the ICCAC Conference with five games left in the regular season.

Kirkwood topped NIACC by six points when they met in Cedar Rapids on Jan. 19, and now NIACC has topped Kirkwood by six points in the rematch between two of the premier teams in the country.

NIACC launched 48 3-pointers on Saturday and hit 14 of them for 42 of its 68 points. Kirkwood made just three 3-pointers.

Natalie Tomaszewski led Kirkwood in scoring for the first time this season with 12 points and seven rebounds. Ju Gaston scored 11 points for the Eagles. Leah Robinson collected a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds. Haley Mullinnix also scored 10 points.

Jada Buford and Tahya Campbell scored 16 points for NIACC.

Kirkwood is 20-6 overall and NIACC is 19-5. Kirkwood never led in the contest. The Eagles had 60 rebounds.

KIRKWOOD (62): Bradford 4 0-0 8, Jenkins 1 1-2 3, Gaston 4 2-2 11, Lipsey 1 0-0 2, Kennedy 0 0-0 0, Myers 0 0-2 0, Hurst 0 6-10 6, Tomaszewski 6 0-0 12, Robinson 4 2-3 10, Mullinnix 3 2-2 10, Mensen 0 0-0 0. Totals 23 13-21 62.

NIACC (68): Willems 2 4-4 9, Longs 0 1-2 1, Hale 4 0-0 12, Walker 0 1-2 1, Mendez 3 0-0 9, Buford 6 2-2 16, Loftus 1 2-4 4, Campbell 4 4-6 16, Jones 0 0-0 0, Reese 0 0-0 0. Totals 20 14-20 68.

Halftime - NIACC 34, Kirkwood 32. 3-point goals - Kirkwood 3 (Mullinnix 2, Gaston 1), NIACC 14 (Hale 4, Campbell 4, Mendez 3, Buford 2, Willems 1).