

FRIDAY GIRLS ROUNDUP: Redbird return, rout Hazelwood West



The Alton Redbirds went 15 days without a girls basketball game before the Hazelwood West Wildcats crossed the Clark Bridge to play Friday night.

Two weeks away did nothing to dull the Redbirds.

Alton broke fast with a 34-point lead by halftime and rolled past the Wildcats from Missouri 70-26 in a game before Alton's boys played Edwardsville in a girls-boys doubleheader at Alton High in Godfrey.

The Redbirds, who open as the No. 3 seed in the Highland Tourney on Saturday night against the host Bulldogs, move to 13-3. Alton had not played since losing to Okawville 65-58 in the title game of the Mascoutah Tourney on Dec. 29.

Four Redbirds scored in double figures against the outgunned Wildcats, who trailed 42-8 at the half. Freshman Kiyoko Proctor had 17 points, six assists and five steals, freshman Jarius Powers went double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds, sophomore Alyssa Lewis had 12 points and six steals, and freshman Talia Norman had 10 points for Alton, which picked up eight points from junior Khaliyah Goree.