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Area Colleges: UIS' Oruche named men's hoops conference player of week

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University of Illinois Springfield senior guard Richard Oruche has been named Great Lakes Valley Conference Player of the Week after leading the Prairie Stars to a pair of wins, including a victory Saturday over previously unbeaten Central State.

In the Prairie Stars' 105-58 win over Robert Morris last Monday, Oruche scored a game-high 24 points on 8-for-14 shooting from the field, including a 3-for-5 performance from 3-point range. He also contributed eight rebounds, two assists and a steal.

In the 80-62 win over Central State, he netted a game-high 25 points on 9-for-14 shooting and made 3-of-7 3-point field goals. Oruche added seven rebounds, two assists and a steal for UIS (4-2 overall).

Oruche averaged 24.5 points and 7.5 rebounds per game while shooting 60.7 percent from the field and 50 percent from the 3-point line. He also converted 9-of-12 free throw attempts.

Oruche is ranked second in the GLVC in scoring through the Prairie Stars' first six games, averaging 22.7 points per game. He is also among league-leaders in free throw percentage (.794) and 3-point field goals made per game (2.17).

Tucker gets league honor

JACKSONVILLE — Illinois College's Jacob Tucker has been named Midwest Conference Player of the Week.

The junior guard scored 20 points, grabbed six rebounds, handed out five assists and made two steals in the Blueboys' 89-88 win over Monmouth on Dec. 10. He's the Blueboys' leading scorer (19.4 points per game) and is third on the team in rebounding (6.1 per game).

Women's basketball

MWC salutes Walberg

JACKSONVILLE — Carrie Walberg, an Illinois College junior, has been named Midwest Conference Player of the Week.

Walberg totaled 38 points in leading the Lady Blues to wins over Monmouth (70-65), Millikin (72-60) and Fontbonne (74-56). Walberg added 24 rebounds, 10 assists, two blocked shots and five steals and made 14-of-16 free throw attempts.

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