

# Redbirds start strong, but drop decision to East St. Louis

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**ALTON** – **Alton** came out rolling in the first quarter of a **Southwestern Conference** boys' basketball game at home against **East St. Louis** Friday night, leading 16-14 at the end of one period. However, the Flyers rebounded in the second quarter to outscore the Redbirds 19-9 and take the lead of the game at 31-25 at the half.

East St. Louis outscored Alton 18-13 in the third and 18-14 in the fourth for the final tally of 69-52.

East St. Louis improved to 5-2, while Alton fell to 4-2 with the defeat.

The Flyers' Zachery Forest had 19 points to lead all scorers, Arthur Carter and Revondous Estes both had 14 points each for East St. Louis. **Dereaun Clay** paced Alton with 16 points, while **Darrell Smith** had 11 points. Ty'ohn Trimble had 9 points.

"East St. Louis is always tough," said **Alton head coach Eric Smith**. "We came out with a lot of energy the first four or five minutes and we did some things pretty well. As the game wore on their depth and athleticism wore us down a little bit. We did a nice job against Tillman of East St. Louis while he was in there. We have some kids who can do some things. We have to be a little more stubborn with our shots. We took a lot of bad shots and that led to run outs and easy points for East St. Louis."





