Goodwin Scores 7 Of 20 In 21-0 Run; Saint Louis Beats BC

BOSTON (AP) -- Saint Louis coach Travis Ford finally found something that worked in the second half. He simply made a lineup tweak and the Billikens took over from there.

Jordan Goodwin scored seven of his 20 points during a game-breaking 21-0 run midway into the second half, and Saint Louis posted a 64-54 victory over Boston College in the Showcase Game of the Gotham Classic on Wednesday.

"I changed lineups for the first and second half because I thought I had something that might work," Ford said. "We had something that was really working for us, and we just kept going to it."

Ford didn't substitute for a long time, either.

"When you're playing offense as poorly as we are and there's no rhythm, when you find a rhythm you've to stick with it," he said. "I just stuck with it."

Gibson Jimerson added 11 points for the Billikens (6-1), who played their first road game of the season after an opening six-game homestand. Goodwin added 14 rebounds.

Derryck Thornton led BC (4-3) with 18 points, and Nik Popovic had 15 with eight rebounds. The Eagles have dropped three of four.

"What's more concerning is the stretch in the second half where it's a one-point game, two-point game and it goes to 15 because we become disconnected," BC coach Jim Christian said. "I don't know why for one stretch per night we do that and why the beginning of the game doesn't carry for 40 minutes."

Saint Louis took charge with their 21 unanswered points over nearly an eight-minute stretch midway into the second half, turning a three-point deficit to a 53-35 edge on Jimerson's 3-pointer from the right wing with 8:15 to play.

BC made a late charge, closing it to six points in the final minute.

Saint Louis forward Hasahn French, the Atlantic 10's reigning player of the week after grabbing 24 rebounds and scoring 21 points with seven blocks in the last game, had early foul trouble and scored 11 points with 11 boards in 24 minutes.

BC guard Jay Heath, the team's second leading scorer at 12.7 points per game, was out because of sickness and forward Jairus Hamilton, who missed the last five games after injuring his knee in the season opener, returned but took a hard fall in the first half going for a rebound.

Hamilton went to the locker room with a bruised right hip, but came back into the game late in the half. Neither team shot over 31 percent (BC 30.8, Saint Louis 26.7) in a sloppy first half. The Eagles led 26-24 at intermission.

It was the teams' final game of the Gotham Classic, which features five schools from across the country (along with Belmont, Eastern Washington and High Point).