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Eastern Michigan University

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EMU Baseball Kicks Off 2014 at First Pitch Banquet

Former Eagle and current Los Angeles Angels pitcher Matt Shoemaker was the evening's keynote speaker



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[Photo Gallery](#)

YPSILANTI, Mich. (EMUEagles.com) — The Eastern Michigan University baseball team held its fifth annual First Pitch Banquet inside the EMU Student Center ballroom Saturday evening, Jan. 18. The event featured EMU alumnus and current pitcher in the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim organization **Matt Shoemaker**.

Shoemaker spoke about his journey through college and professional baseball, while offering words of wisdom to the current EMU baseball student-athletes. Head Coach [Jay Alexander](#) also spoke at the occasion along with 2014 senior outfielder [Sam Ott](#).

"I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard in putting this event together, as well as

those who were in attendance," mentioned Coach Alexander. "With the generosity from friends and family of EMU Baseball, we can accomplish great things."

Proceeds and donations from the dinner will help the EMU baseball team fund its spring trips as well as other projects to help enhance the team's performance throughout the season.

The Eagles begin the 2014 regular season Feb. 14 at Clemson University in Clemson, S.C. for a three-game series. EMU is not scheduled to open up the home portion of the schedule until March 14, when Northern Kentucky comes to Ypsilanti.