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Eastern Michigan University

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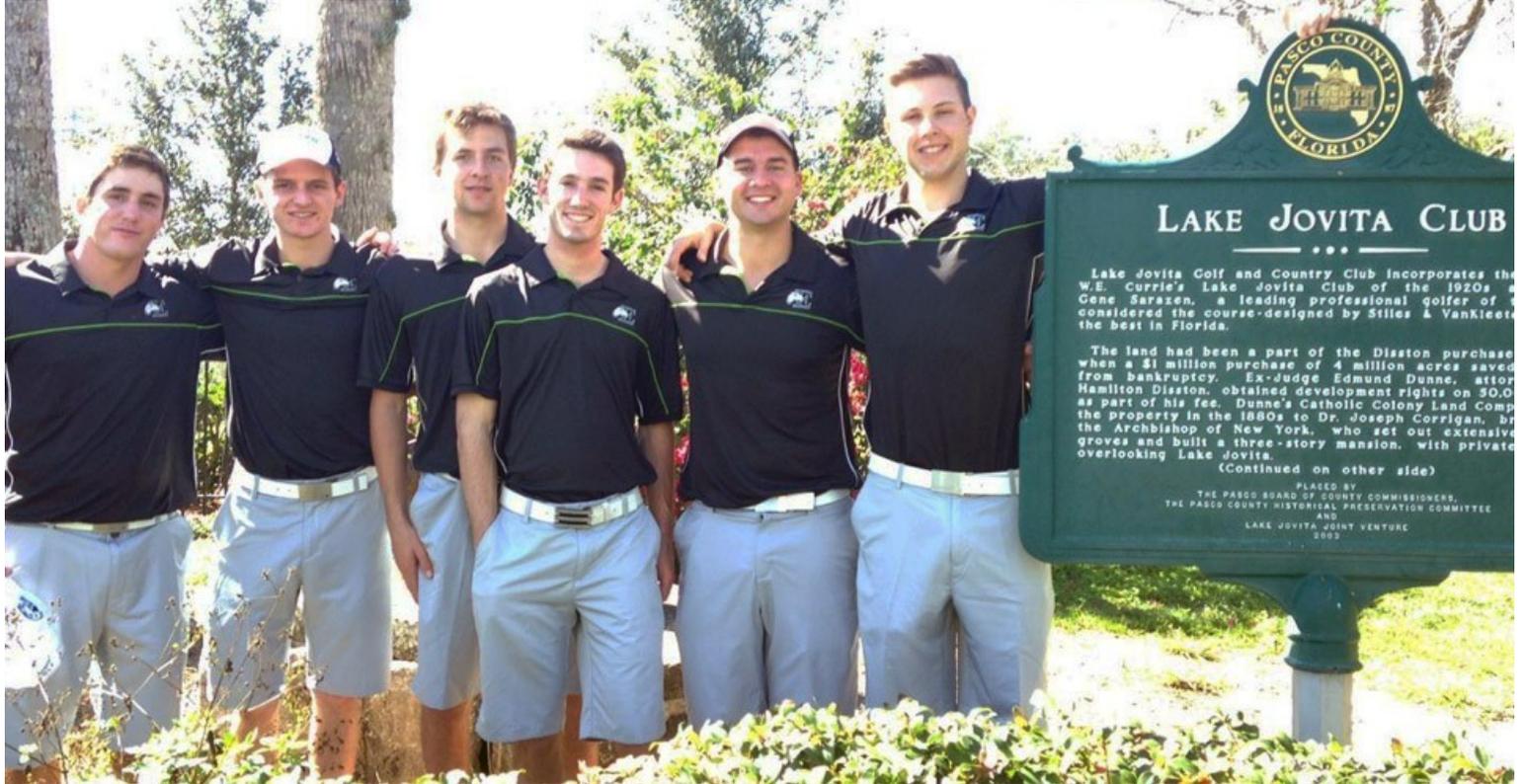
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Top-Seeded Eagles Advance to MAC Match Play Tournament Finals

No. 1 EMU downed No. 8 Ohio, 4-2, before ousting to No. 4 Eastern Kentucky, 4.5-1.5



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DADE CITY, Fla. (EMUEagles.com) — Could the first day of the Eastern Michigan University men's golf team spring season get any better? Competing in the Mid-American Match Play Tournament Monday, Feb. 10, the Eagles went 2-0 on the day to advance to tomorrow's championship match versus either No. 2 Ball State University or No. 6-seeded Xavier University on the par 72, 7,153 yard Lake Jovita Golf Course.

The top-seeded Eagles, who finished second at the 2012 event and third last season, defeated No. 8 Ohio University, 4-2, in the opening round. They then rallied past No. 4 seeded Eastern Kentucky University, 4.5-1.5, in the champions bracket in the afternoon.

Five of the six Eagles contributed points in the two matches, with junior [Michael Blair](#) (Ancaster, Ontario, Canada-Nelson-Pfeiffer) and sophomore [Brett White](#) (Caledonia, Mich.-East Kentwood) each coming away with a 2-0 record on the day.

In the first round, White won his match, 3 up, over Ohio's Phil Giesecker, while freshman [Joey Kremer](#) (Toronto, Ontario, Canada-Senator O'Connor) closed out Brad Burgess, 3 up to give the Eagles an early 2-0 lead.

Blair continued to momentum with a 2 up victory over Andrew Mlynarski. Freshman [Kyle Rodes \(Plymouth, Mich.-Plymouth\)](#) halved his match with Bradley Lucas, while Peyton White rallied from three down with six holes to play to pick up a half point against senior [Brian Churchill-Smith \(Oakville, Ontario, Canada-Oakville Trafalgar\)](#).

The lone Bobcat victory of the morning came when Ohio's Ty Herriott notched a 2 up decision over sophomore [Josh Heinze \(Canton, Mich.-Plymouth\)](#).

In other first round action, Ball State defeated Bowling Green, 4-2, Xavier bested Miami, 4.5-1.5, and Eastern Kentucky downed Toledo, 3-3, via tiebreakers.

In the nightcap against the Colonels, White got the Eagles on the board first with a 3 up victory over Taylor Riggs. Rhodes expanded the advantage with a 3 up decision over Travis Rose before Churchill-Smith and Blair sealed the victory with a pair of 1 up wins.

EKU kept fighting, as Danial Deluca posted a 1 up win over Kremer, while Heinze shared the point with Patric Sundlof.

Meanwhile the Eagles will get either the Cardinals or the Musketeers which still have two unfinished matches that need to be completed Tuesday morning. Once those matches are complete, the other team for the Championship Bracket will be determined. Other second round action saw Miami cruised past Bowling Green, 5.5-0.5, and Toledo rolled past Ohio, 5.5-0.5.

Live scoring for Tuesday's rounds are available at [BirdieFire.com](#).

A total of six Mid-American Conference teams are participating in the tournament, including EMU, Ohio, Miami, Toledo, Bowling Green and host Ball State. Eastern Kentucky and Xavier are a part of the event.

Schools are competing in teams of six with the seeds determined by their current GolfStat rankings. Each of the six matches is worth one point to the winner. If the competitors end up all-square after 18 holes, each school received ½ point. The school with the most points after the six matches wins.

Unlike stroke play, in which the unit of scoring is the total number of strokes taken over one or more rounds of golf, match play scoring consists of individual holes won, halved or lost. On each hole, the most that can be gained is one point. Golfers play as normal, counting the strokes taken on a given hole. The golfer with the lowest score on a given hole receives one point. If the golfers tie, then the hole is halved. Also, once a player is "up" more holes than there are holes remaining to play the match is over.

2014 MAC Match Play Championship

Round 1:

#1 Eastern Michigan 4, #8 Ohio 2

[Brian Churchill-Smith](#) (EMU) halved with Peyton White (Ohio)

[Michael Blair](#) (EMU) def. Andrew Mlynarski, (Ohio), 2 up

[Brett White](#) (EMU) def. Phil Giesecker (Ohio), 3 up

Ty Herriott (Ohio) def. [Josh Heinze](#) (EMU), 2 up

[Kyle Rodes](#) (EMU) halved with Brad Lucas (Ohio)

[Joey Kremer](#) (EMU) def. Brad Burgess (Ohio), 3 up

Round 2:

#1 Eastern Michigan 4.5, #4 Eastern Kentucky 1.5

[Brian Churchill-Smith](#) (EMU) def. Garrett Hinton (EKU), 1 up

[Michael Blair](#) (EMU) def. Stuart Witt (EKU), 1 up

[Brett White](#) (EMU) def. Taylor Riggs (EKU), 3 up

[Josh Heinze](#) (EMU) halved with Patric Sundlof (EKU)

[Kyle Rodes](#) (EMU) def. Travis Rose (EKU), 3 up

Danial Deluca (EKU) def. [Joey Kremer](#) (EMU) , 1 up

Championship Match:

#1 Eastern Michigan vs. #6 Xavier/ #2 Ball State

[Brian Churchill-Smith](#) (EMU) vs. _____

[Michael Blair](#) (EMU) vs. _____

[Brett White](#) (EMU) vs. _____

[Josh Heinze](#) (EMU) vs. _____

[Kyle Rodes](#) (EMU) vs. _____

[Joey Kremer](#) (EMU) vs. _____

Third-Place Match:

#6 Xavier/ #2 Ball State vs. #4 Eastern Kentucky

Fifth-Place Match:

#3 Miami vs. #5 Toledo

Seventh-Place Match:

#7 Bowling Green vs. #8 Ohio

Tiebreaker System:

Team Matches Tied: Team matches that are tied will be decided by using the following procedure:

If a team match is tied after the completion of the six singles matches, the tie will be broken by comparing the margin of victory of each individual match won for their team.

If a team tie still exists, the team winner will be determined by comparing the number of holes remaining in each match won:

If a team tie still exists, the team winner will be determined by comparing the halved match or matches. These results will be determined by a "scorecard playoff" (scores will be compared by the #1 handicap hole) provided all tied matches have played that hole. Handicap holes will be used until the tie is broken with total scores.