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EMU Women's Softball: Eastern Shut Out on Day One of FGCU Tournament

Eastern Michigan University

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Eastern Shut Out on Day One of FGCU Tournament

Eastern softball fell to Harvard 3-0 before dropping a 13-0 decision to Arkansas in game two.
batters of the inning with back-to-back strikeouts, halting the EMU offense.

The Crimson scored what would be the game-winning run in the bottom of the second inning when Emily Gusses was issued a leadoff walk and scored on a single through the left side of the field. Harvard tacked on two security runs in the bottom of the fifth inning when Zoe Galindo was hit by a pitch to start the inning and came around to score on a Katherine Lantz single up the middle. With runners on first and second and two outs, Head Coach Melissa Gentile called a timeout and replaced starting pitcher Lauren Wells (Lowell, Ind.-Lowell) with freshman hurler Alyssa Huntley (Sterling Heights, Mich.-Stevenson). A passed ball allowed Lange to touch home before the Eagles closed out the inning.

Trailing 3-0, Hostetler led off the top of the sixth with a single through the right side of the field but the Green and White was unable to bring the New Haven, Ind. native home, allowing Harvard to go on to a 3-0 win and earn its first ever victory over EMU.

Wells (0-1) suffered the loss in the circle, tossing 4.2 innings with two strikeouts, while Huntley pitched 1.1 innings of relief with one strikeout and did not surrender a hit to the Crimson, while the Eastern offense stranded eight runners on the base path. Junior Laure Ricciardone grabbed the win for Harvard, pitching all seven innings and earning her first decision of the 2014 campaign.

**Game Two: Arkansas 13, Eastern Michigan 0**

Arkansas got out to the early lead over Eastern in the top of the first inning when Stephanie Canfield reached on a fielder's choice and Kasey Fagan was walked before Clarisa Navarro lined a two out double through the left side of the field, scoring both Canfield and Fagan.

The Eagles were unable to get anything going on offense through the first two innings as they were sat down in order while the Razorbacks tacked on three runs on four hits in the top of the third, extending their lead to 5-0 over EMU.

A leadoff walk to Abby Davidson (Westerville, Ohio-Olentangy Orange) in the bottom of the third broke up Moll's perfect game but a double play and strikeout would close out the inning before Davidson was able to advance.

Arkansas continued its offensive strike in the top of the fourth inning when it added four runs on a leadoff home run and then a three-run round tripper to take a 9-0 advantage over the Eagles. Arkansas tacked on a final four runs in the top of the fifth inning on two hits to put the mercy rule into effect and take the 13-0 victory over Eastern.

Junior Lindsay Rich (Perrysburg, Ohio-Perrysburg) went 3.1 innings for EMU with two strikeouts, suffering her first loss of the season (1-1), while Wells threw one complete inning and Huntley came in for 0.2 innings of relief. Moll went the distance for the Razorbacks tossing five innings of no-hit softball with six strikeouts, issuing only one walk.

Eastern will be back in action for day two of the FGCU Tournament Saturday, Feb. 22, when it takes on Villanova University at 11:15 a.m. before playing its first night game of the season against North Dakota at 6 p.m.