Winter 2-23-2014

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Eastern Michigan University

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Recommended Citation

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Softball Falls to Florida Gulf Coast in Final Day of FGCU Tournament

Myranda Barnes tallied two hits to lead the EMU offense

2/23/2014 6:52:00 PM

FORT MYERS, Fla. (EMUNews.com) – The Eastern Michigan University softball team fell to Florida Gulf Coast, 12-0, in five innings in its final contest of the FGCU Tournament Sunday, Feb. 23. With the loss, EMU falls to 4-5 overall on the season, while Florida Gulf Coast improves to 9-6-1.

Florida Gulf Coast proved it had a powerful offense in the bottom of the first inning when a home run from Chelsea Zgrabik knocked in three runs and a triple down the right field line scored two more to hand the Eagles the early 5-0 lead over Eastern.

The Green and White threatened in the top of the second inning loading the bases with three singles and only one out, but the Florida Gulf Coast defense was able to shut the door on the Eagles, sitting down the final two batters in order.

FGCU continued its scoring in the bottom of the second inning when Zgrabik grabbed her fourth RBI of the contest with a walk before Florida Gulf Coast used three hits to add another two runs to its tally, extending its lead to 8-0 over EMU.
With runners on first and second, Kelsey Carpenter ripped a double into the left center gap adding two to the FGCU tally in the bottom of the third. Eastern found itself an opportunity to score in the top of the fourth inning when Katy Wagner reached on an error and Myranda Barnes had a two out single up the middle, but were unable to capitalize leaving runners stranded for the third inning.

Florida Gulf Coast tacked on two final runs on two hits and one Eagle error in the bottom of the fourth to secure the 12-0 five-inning mercy over Eastern Michigan as EMU was sat down in order in the top of fifth.

Senior Lauren Wells (2-1) suffered the loss in the circle, throwing 0.1 innings, while Alyssa Huntley threw 0.2 innings for EMU and Lindsay Rich closed the game hurling three full innings for the Eagles. Barnes led the Eagle offense with her first multi-hit game of the season, while Amanda Stanton, Abby Davidson and Lindsay Smith all tallied one hit.

Stranded base runners proved to be detrimental to the EMU offense with the Eagles leaving seven left on base in five innings, including leaving bases loaded once.

Amanda Josie grabbed the win for Florida Gulf Coast pitching all five innings with four strikeouts.

EMU will be back in action Tuesday, Feb. 25 when it travels to Miami, Fla. to take on Florida International in a doubleheader event. First pitch of game one is slated for 3 p.m.