EMU Women's Softball: Softball Falls Twice on Day Two of FGCU Tournament

Eastern Michigan University

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Softball Falls Twice on Day Two of FGCU Tournament

The Eagles were unable to capture a victory on day two of the tournament

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FORT MYERS, Fla. (EMUEagles.com) – The Eastern Michigan University softball team dropped its fourth-straight contest, falling to LIU Brooklyn 2-1 before Hofstra University defeated the Eagles 8-0 in five innings in the nightcap.

Eastern falls to 6-12 overall on the season, while LIU Brooklyn improves to 5-12 overall and Hofstra moves to 8-1.

Game One: LIU Brooklyn 2, Eastern Michigan 1

The Blackbirds busted out the bats in the top of the first inning when Lauren Morizi knocked a leadoff double to left field before a hit batter and a fielder’s choice moved her to third. A single to left field drove in LIU Brooklyn’s first run and a sacrifice fly brought in a second run to hand the Blackbirds the 2-0 lead over Eastern. LIU Brooklyn used three hits and one error to score two runs while stranding three on the base path.

The Eagle offense got things going in the bottom of the fifth inning with a two out rally when Katy Wyman drew a walk before Mady Hostetler singled deep in the second base hole and Lindsay Smith drew the second walk of the inning.

Working ahead in the count (2-1), junior Jenn Lucas singled to left field, plating Wyman to bring EMU within one of the Blackbirds.
The Eagles were unable to push a run across the plate in the final two innings of the contest, suffering their third-straight loss.

Eastern managed only three hits in the contest, two of which came in the fifth inning before a final single from Lauren Wells in the bottom of the seventh inning. Junior Lindsay Rich (2-5) took the loss for EMU, hurling all seven innings with two strikeouts.

LIU Brooklyn posted six hits on the afternoon from six different players with an RBI apiece from Sara Shier and Whitney West. Shelley Procter pitched 6.2 innings for the Blackbirds while Cassie Vondrak came on in relief to record the final out of the contest.

**Game Two: Hofstra 8, Eastern Michigan 0 (5 innings)**

The Pride offense picked up where it left off in yesterday's contest when the first three batters loaded the bases before an out was recorded for the Green and White. A deep fly ball to center field scored Hofstra's first run while a single up the middle of the field knocked in an unearned run to give the Pride a 2-0 lead.

A one out walk loaded the bases for the second time in the inning, forcing Head Coach Melissa Gentile to replace Lauren Wells with Abbie Minsker in the circle. Following the pitching change, the Eagles committed their second error in the field to allow a third run to cross the plate.

In the next at-bat, Kim Smith cleared the bases with a triple to left field extending the Hofstra lead to 6-0.

Abi Clark looked to start a two out rally in the top of the second with a single up the middle, while Amanda Stanton reached on an error but the Pride were able to close out the innings before EMU could do any damage.

Three-straight singles in the bottom half of the inning put a seventh run on the scoreboard for Hofstra before EMU was able to record the outs it needed to end the inning.

Eastern continued to struggle on defense in the bottom of the fourth inning when the Eagles third error of the contest cost an eighth run to touch home.

The Green and White tried to avoid the mercy in the top of the inning when a walk and a hit batter put runners on base but the EMU offense was unable to drive in a run, allowing the Pride to take the 8-0 five inning mercy.

Clark and Lindsay Smith grabbed the only hits for Eastern, while Wells (1-5) suffered the loss in the circle pitching 0.2 innings. Minsker and Lindsay Rich combined for the final 3.1 innings of work with Rich fanning two batters.

Hofstra used seven hits, six RBI and three EMU errors to earn the victory. Smith and Becca Bigler notched two RBI apiece, while Morgan Lashley remained undefeated, striking out 10 Eastern batters.

The Eagles will conclude its spring break trip Sunday, March 2 when they go up against LIU Brooklyn at 10 a.m.