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Eastern Michigan University

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Softball Unable to Hold onto Lead in First Game of Dayton Tournament

Eastern fell to the University of Dayton 9-5 in the first game of the tournament.

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DAYTON, Ohio (EMUEagles.com) – The Eastern Michigan University softball team fell to the University of Dayton, 9-5, in its first contest of the Dayton Tournament at the UD Softball Stadium.

With the loss, the Eagles fall to 6-14 overall on the season, while the Flyers improve to 7-13 overall.

After a scoreless first inning, Dayton put its first two runs on the scoreboard in the bottom of the second. The Flyers first run crossed the plate when Dana Trotta doubled to the left center wall before Rachel Archer forced an Eagle miscue to bring in the second run of the inning.

A single to right center put one runner on base with two outs for Kasi Vasquez, who dug into the box and ripped a homer over the left field fence to extend the Dayton lead to 4-0.

The Green and White used three hits in the top of the fourth inning to take its first lead of the game. Two-straight walks put runners on first and second for senior Amanda Stanton, who lined a double to the center field gap to score the Eagles’ first run of the contest. A second-straight double from Mady Hostetler brought Eastern within one of the Flyers before Michelle Kriegshauser launched her first career homerun over the left center fence to hand Eastern the
5-4 advantage.

Dayton answered back in the bottom half of the inning when Archer caused her second EMU blunder of the afternoon, bringing in the tying run. The Flyers retired the Eagles in order in the top of the fifth before taking the lead for the second time in the game off a leadoff round tripper.

A leadoff single in the top of the sixth forced Head Coach Melissa Gentile to make a second pitching change before the runner moved into scoring position on a wild pitch. A walk issued to Hannah DeSalvo put two runners on base for the Flyers. Dayton took the two-run advantage over Eastern when it scored on a Jordan Jennings single to left field, while a third Eagle error scored UD's eighth run of the contest. Dayton tacked on one final security run in the bottom of the sixth a wild pitch allowed Jennings to give the Flyers the 9-5 lead heading into the top of the seventh.

A two out double to center field from Abby Davidson looked to start a rally for EMU, but the Eagles were unable to push a run across the plate in the final inning, allowing Dayton to take the 9-5 victory.

Hostetler and Kriegshauser led the Green and White at the dish going 1-for-3 with two RBI, while Davidson notched two doubles. Junior Lindsay Rich (2-7) suffered the loss in the circle, throwing 4.1 innings with two strikeouts, while Abbie Minsker pitched 0.2 innings of relief and Alyssa Huntley closed out the game, hurling one inning for the Eagles.

Vasquez propelled the Dayton offense with one hit and two RBI, while Ricks and Katie Ryan tabbed two hits and scored two runs for UD. Kayla English (2-5) earned the win in the circle for the Flyers in 3.0 innings of relief work.

Eastern will be back in action Saturday, March 15, when it concludes the Dayton Tournament. The Eagles will take on Oakland University at noon before capping off the tournament against IUPUI at 2:30 p.m.