EMU Women's Softball: Softball Travels to South Bend for Single Game

Eastern Michigan University

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One Final Road Contest: The Eastern Michigan University softball team concludes its 26-game road stint Wednesday, March 26 when it plays one single game against the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame at Melissa Cook Stadium in South Bend, Ind. The Eagles are set to take on the Fighting Irish in a single game at 4 p.m.

Eagles Split Twinball in Youngstown: The Green and White split a pair of contests in Youngstown, Ohio Tuesday, March 18. The Eagles were shut out 7-0 in game one before coming back with a 6-3 victory in game two.

Sophomore Abby Davidson grabbed the Eagles’ lone hit in game one before driving in two RBI on two hits in game two as well as scoring once for EMU. Freshman Michelle Kriegshauser also had a big game for Eastern, lacing a double to the right center wall to score two runs for the Eagles.

Freshman hurler Alyssa Huntley picked up her second career victory, going 6.0 innings in the circle with three strikeouts and only two walks, while Lindsay Rich picked up her first save of the season throwing one inning of relief.

Huntley Named MAC West Co-Pitcher of the Week: Eastern Michigan University freshman Alyssa Huntley was named Mid-American Conference West Co-Pitcher of the Week for the period ending March 24. This marks the first time in her career she has collected the weekly award.

Huntley picked up her second collegiate win, going six innings against the Penguins of Youngstown State Tuesday, March 18. The true freshman went six full innings with three strikeouts. The Sterling Heights, Mich. native also threw 0.1 inning of relief in game one with one strikeout for the Eagles.

Doubles All Around: Eastern Michigan tied its season-high four doubles against Youngstown State Tuesday,
March 18. Four different Eagles laced doubles to the wall in the contest for Eastern, while sophomore Abby Davidson found her fifth two-bagger of the season, ranking first on the team. Two of the four doubles against the Penguins drove in runs for EMU, while the other two led to scoring plays for the Green and White offense.

The Eagles have tallied multiple doubles in six games this season and have hit at least one double in 15 of their first 24 games. Furthermore, the Green and White ranks ninth in the Mid-American Conference with 26 season doubles and need just one more to pass Kent State.

SCORING LATE RUNS: The Eagles have struggled getting on the board in the first inning, scoring only two runs in the first 24 contests. The Green and White have been the comeback kids in the second inning, scoring 14 runs when behind and also tallying double-digit scoring in the fourth and fifth innings with 12 and 13 runs, respectively.

EMU is outscoring its opponents in the eighth inning, 4-2, coming away with two extra inning victories this season and falling only once. Furthermore, the two times the Eagles scored in the first inning, they came away with the win and are 4-1 on the season when they are the first to light up the scoreboard.

FACING A LEFTY: Eastern has yet to face a left-handed pitcher this season, but after 24 contests it may see its first southpaw in the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame. Allie Rhodes has made 11 appearances and 10 starts for the Fighting Irish and holds a 2.20 ERA on the season with 37 strikeouts.

Eastern should have no trouble facing a lefty since starting senior pitcher Lauren Wells has given the Eagle bats plenty of practice in the offseason. Wells has made 13 appearances for the Green and White this season with five starts and ranks seconds on the team with 31 strikeouts.

TWO-OUT RALLIES: Multiple Eagles have been successful pushing the run across the plate with two outs as senior shortstop Amanda Stanton leads the team with five two-out RBI. The Homer Glen, Ill. native is hitting at a .676 clip, advancing 25 runners on 37 attempts, while freshman Katy Wyman has knocked in four runs with two outs this season.

Junior Jenn Lucas has stepped up with two outs and runners on base this season, driving in three runs and hitting .414 with runners on, while senior outfielder Lindsay Smith has also notched three RBI with two outs.

Sophomore Abby Davidson has brought in two runs with two outs this season, and six other Eagles have tallied one two-out RBI in this first 24 games of the season.

EAGLES MAKE SCHEDULE CHANGES: The Eastern Michigan University softball team has moved its weekend contests from Varsity Field to the Wilpon Complex on the campus of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Mich., due to inclement weather that led to poor field conditions. Admission to the games is free.

The Eagles open up Mid-American Conference competition against Ohio on Friday, March 28, with first pitch of game one slated for 1 p.m. Eastern will take on Akron Saturday, March 29, at 2 p.m. at the Wilpon Complex before going up against the Zips in a second MAC contest Sunday, March 30, at 1 p.m.

For the latest in all schedule changes, stay tuned to EMUEagles.com.

SCOUTING NOTRE DAME: The Fighting Irish come into the mid-week contest with a 19-7 overall record with its latest victory coming over Virginia Tech., March 16.

Notre Dame is led by junior outfielder Jenna Simon who is hitting at a .403 clip for in the first 26 games on the season with 25 hits in 62 at-bats, while scoring 13 runs. Eight of the nine starters boast .300 or better batting averages so far this season, while junior outfielder Emilee Koerner has laced a team-high 11 doubles, two triples and six home runs along with a team-best 26 runs. Koerner has also stolen four bases on four attempts, while freshman Karley Wester has stolen a team-high 11 bases on 14 attempts.

As a team, the Notre Dame offense holds a .325 batting average and seven of the ND batters are left-handed. The team has tallied 54 doubles, five triples and 18 home runs in its first 26 games. Along with powerful bats, the Fighting Irish are no slouches on the base path, swiping 32 bases on 41 attempts with two players stealing double-digit bases.
this season.

The Notre Dame pitching is led by senior right-hander Laura Winter who boasts a 13-3 record coming into
Wednesday's contest. The senior hurler holds a 1.87 ERA with a team-high 124 strikeouts in 105.0 innings pitched
and 12 complete games. Winter has surrendered just 18 walks in her 105.0 innings and allowed only 28 earned runs
to cross the plate. Lefty Allie Rhodes (4-3) has had quality time in the circle, making 11 appearances and throwing
47.2 innings with 37 strikeouts.

**SERIES HISTORY:** Wednesday's contest will mark the 18th time the two teams have met on the field with Notre
Dame holding a 15-2 advantage over the Eagles.

Last season, the Green and White fell to the Fighting Irish, 5-3, in South Bend Ind with then-senior Katy
Blaharski going 2-for-4 at the plate to continue her 14-game hit streak. Winter picked up her 24th win of the season,
pitching all seven innings allowing only one run on four hits.

**ON DECK:** The Eagles open up Mid-American Conference competition against Ohio on Friday, March 28, with first
pitch of game one slated for 1 p.m. on the campus of the University of Michigan. Eastern will take on Akron Saturday,
March 29, at 2 p.m. at the Wilpon Complex before going up against the Zips in a second MAC contest Sunday, March
30, at 1 p.m.