EMU Women's Softball: EMU Softball Swept by Ohio in MAC Opener

Eastern Michigan University

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ANN ARBOR, Mich. (EMUEagles.com) – The Eastern Michigan University softball team suffered a doubleheader sweep in its 2014 Mid-American Conference opener at the hands of Ohio University, March 28. The Eagles were defeated 14-4 in game one before falling 12-4 in a six inning mercy rule contest in game two.

The Green and White were led by freshman Michelle Kriegshauser who went a perfect 5-for-5 at the dish between the two contests with one RBI and two runs, while Abby Davidson grabbed three hits and three RBI for the EMU offense.

Game One: Ohio University 14, Eastern Michigan 4

After a leadoff looking strikeout, Lex Cortez laced a double to right field before a passed ball moved her 60 feet ahead to third base. A single to the same side of the field from Casie Hutchinson knocked in the Bobcats first run of the contest. Rich grabbed her second strikeout of the inning, but a second single put runners in scoring position again for OU as a shallow hit to left field extended the Ohio lead to 2-0. The Eagles got out of the inning when Lindsay Smith tracked down a deep fly ball to center field to stop any further Bobcat damage.

The Green and White looked to get something going in the bottom half of the inning when Jenn Lucas roped a single through the left side of the field and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt from Smith but a fly out to center and a looking strikeout left Lucas stranded on the base path.
Ohio used back-to-back singles in the top half of the second inning to score three runs and get out to the 5-0 advantage over the Eagles, forcing EMU Head Coach Melissa Gentile to bring lefty Lauren Wells on in relief of Rich.

A single to the left center gap from Kriegshauser and a wild pitch brought runners within 60 ft of pushing a run across the plate, but a clutch strikeout from Savannah Jo Dorsey left the Eagle offense empty.

Wells silenced the Bobcat bats for two innings, but pinch hitter Chelsea Hortman launched a two-run home run off the scoreboard in left field to take the 7-0 advantage over EMU.

Kriegshauser tallied her second hit of the contest in the bottom half of the fifth inning and advanced to third on a two-out double to shallow left center field. Clutch hitter, Davidson tapped a shallow single to right field bringing in the Eagles first run of the afternoon, while senior Amanda Stanton followed up the hitting trend with a double that caused a diving center fielder and plated Smith. EMU came within four of Ohio when a wild pitch scored Davidson, but the Green and White were unable to push any further runs across the plate.

Back-to-back hits off of opposite walls gave Ohio the 8-3 lead over Eastern in the top of the sixth inning, while back-to-back walks by the Eagles' second relief pitcher, Abbie Minsker, loaded the bases with no outs. An infield hit to second base and a perfectly placed slap to left field brought in two more runs to take the 10-3 advantage before the final two outs of the inning were retired in order.

Kriegshauser continued to dominate Dorsey at the plate crushing her first career home run and fifth of the season for EMU over the right center fence before a rattled Dorsey issued four straight balls to Myranda Barnes as the Eagles attempted to rally in the bottom of the sixth. Dorsey composed herself before grabbing a ground ball back at her to tally the final out of the inning.

Ohio extended its lead to 13-4 in the top of the seventh inning when Madison Claytor blasted a three-run homer over the center field wall, while an error and a center field single tacked on the Bobcats' final run of the contest.

The Eagles were unable to start a rally in the bottom of the seventh inning as Rich suffered her ninth loss of the season, while Dorsey secured her 12th win of the 2014 campaign. Kriegshauser went 3-for-3 at the plate with one RBI for the Green and White, while Davidson and Stanton each brought in one run for EMU.

**Game Two: Ohio University 12, Eastern Michigan 4 (6 inn.)**

Four-consecutive singles in the top of the first inning scored Ohio's first run of game two before Gentile brought Rich on in relief of freshman Alyssa Huntley. The Bobcats added on five more hits in the top of the inning to take a quick 7-0 lead over the Eagles.

Eastern's first hit of the contest game by way of a Lucas round tripper to left center, bringing the Eagles within six of Ohio in the bottom of the second inning.

Ohio answered back in the top of the third with a double to the left center gap to take back its seven run advantage over EMU. With the wind blowing out, Davidson added a second run for the Green and White in the bottom of the third with her first collegiate home run over the right field wall.

EMU continued to battle its way back into the contest in the bottom of the fourth inning when Stanton singled up the middle and moved into scoring position on a Lucas walk. Katy Wyman notched her first hit of the afternoon when she doubled to right center bringing in one run before Davison laced a single to the shortstop, plating Lucas.
The Eagle defense was unable to shut down the Ohio offense in the top of the six inning as the Bobcats tacked on four runs to secure the 12-4 mercy over Eastern after retiring the final three outs in the bottom half of the inning.

Davidson led the Green and White offense in game two with two RBI, while Kreigshauser posted her second perfect game at the plate going 2-for-2. Huntley suffered the loss in the circle after allowing four runs on four hits in the top of the first inning.

Eastern will be back in action Saturday, March 29 when it takes on Akron at 2 p.m. at the Wilpon Complex on the campus of the University of Michigan before going up against the Zips in a second MAC contest Sunday, March 30, at 1 p.m. Admission to the games is free.