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Eastern Michigan University

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EMU Softball Falls to Akron in Cross-Divisional Showdown

Despite outhitting the Zips, Eastern was unable to come away with a victory in its third conference contest of the season.

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ANN ARBOR, Mich. (EMUEagles.com) – The Eastern Michigan University softball team dropped a single game to Mid-American Conference foe the University of Akron, March 29. After knotting the score at 1-1 the Eagles were unable to produce any further offense, falling 2-1 to the Zips in their third conference contest of the 2014 campaign.

With the loss, the Green and White fall to 8-20 overall and 0-3 in the MAC. Meanwhile, UA improves to 14-6 overall and 1-0 in conference competition.

Senior Lauren Wells silenced the Akron bats through the first two innings, but a leadoff home run to right center put the Zips on the scoreboard first in the top of the third. Wells did not let the homer rattle her as the EMU defense settled in and retired the next three batters in order including a looking strikeout to cap off the inning.

Junior Jenn Lucas got the offense rolling for the Green and White in the bottom of the fourth inning when she drove a single through the left side of the infield, before Aoife Duffy followed suite with a single up the middle. A quick turf outfield at the Wilpon Complex caused an Akron error by the center fielder, allowing Lucas to cross home and tie the score at 1-1.

The Zips took their second lead of the contest in the top of the sixth inning when Erin Pond notched a leadoff single to shallow right center, advancing to second on a sacrifice bunt before a single through the left side of the field moved her to third. With runners on first and third and two outs, Duffy threw to second trying to catch a stealing Kellie Roudabush which in turn allowed Pond to steal home and handed Akron the 2-1 advantage over EMU.
The Eagle defense retired the Zips in order in the top of the seventh, sending the top of the lineup to the dish to start a rally in the final half inning. Just like the Eastern defense, Akron retired three-straight batters to hold on to its one run advantage and secure its first MAC victory of the 2014 season.

The Green and White tallied five hits from five different players, while Wells (1-8) threw her second complete game with a season-high eight strikeouts and only four hits.

Erin Seiler grabbed her eighth win of the season, giving up five EMU hits while fanning two batters. Alyssa Nicholas led the Zips offense with one hit and one RBI for the contest.
Eastern Michigan will conclude its two-game series with Akron Sunday, March 30. The Eagles are set to take on the Zips at 1 p.m. in a single game showing at the Wilpon Complex on the campus of the University of Michigan.