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EMU Women's Softball: Softball Suffers MAC Road Loss to Ball State

Eastern Michigan University

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Softball Suffers MAC Road Loss to Ball State

The Eagles were shutout by the Cardinals in the five inning contest

MUNCIE, Ind. (EMUEagles.com) – The Eastern Michigan University softball team (13-36, 4-15 MAC) fell in an 8-0 five-inning contest to Mid-American Conference West Division leaders Ball State University (31-17, 11-4 MAC) Saturday, May 3.

The Cardinals out-hit the Eagles, 9-4, with EMU's four hits coming from four different athletes. Senior Lindsay Smith extended her hitting streak to four games while Myranda Barnes, Lindsay Rich and Aoife Duffy each had one hit for the Green and White. Rich (5-15) suffered the loss in the circle, tossing three innings and giving up four earned runs, while Abbie Minsker closed out the contest, allowing three earned runs to cross the plate.

Sophomore Selena Reyna led the Ball State offense with three hits and four RBI, while Briana Evans had two hits for the Cardinals and both Jennifer Gilbert and Audrey Bickel drove in two runs for BSU. Nicole Steinbach (14-10) threw all five innings for the Cardinals with four strikeouts and one walk.

Ball State showed its powerful offense in the bottom of the third inning using four hits to score four runs to take the early lead over Eastern Michigan. The Eagles looked to cut the Cardinal lead in the top of the fifth inning when Duffy led off with a single and advanced to second on an Abby Davidson groundout. After a walk issued by Steinbach, the Green and White loaded the bases with a Barnes single up the middle with two outs. Eastern was unable to push a run across the plate as Smith lined out to close out the inning.
In the bottom half of the fifth inning, Ball State loaded the bases with a leadoff double, an Eagle error and a single to left field before Reyna launched a grand slam over the left center wall to secure the 8-0 mercy over Eastern Michigan.

The Eagles and the Cardinals conclude their two game series Sunday, May 4. First pitch of EMU’s final regular season contest is slated for 1 p.m.