

First Pitch for Softball Home Opener Pushed Back to 2 p.m.



Complete Release

[Click Here](#) for Live Scoring.

SOFTBALL SET FOR HOME OPENER: After posting a 3-1 record in the opening weekend of Mid-American Conference play, the Eastern Michigan University softball team returns to non-conference action Wednesday, April 4, with a doubleheader versus the University of Detroit Mercy. First pitch is set for 2:30 p.m. at Buysse Ballpark. The Eagles will return home to host a twin bill with the University at Buffalo Friday, April 6, in the 2007 home opener at 1 p.m. at Varsity Field. The Green and White will host Kent State University for back-to-back single games, April 7-8, starting at 2 p.m. and 1 p.m., respectively.

EAGLES NEST: Last season, the EMU softball team posted a stellar 11-3 record at Varsity Field. The Eagles sport a combined record of 24-6 at home over the past two seasons. The 2007 home opener, a doubleheader with Buffalo, is slated for Friday, April 6, with first pitch scheduled for 1 p.m. From April 6 through April 25 the Eagles will play 13 of 15 games at the friendly confines of Varsity Field.

SCOUTING THE OPPONENTS: UDM is currently 6-14 on the season. The Titans are led by Sarah Dickey who sports a .466 batting average with 34 hits. UB is 2-29 overall and 0-4 in league action. EMU defeated the Bulls 8-6 during the Indiana Classic, March 24. KSU boasts an 18-11 record and is the MAC's lone perfect team with a 4-0 mark.

CLARK SETS ALL-TIME HOME RUN: Senior **Lauren Clark** blasted her 20th career home run against Northern Illinois, March 30, to give her sole possession of the EMU career home run record. Clark entered the season in a three-way tie atop the list with **Melissa Drouillard** and **Nikki Denman** who each cranked out 19 career homers. Senior **Lindsay Schmid** blasted her 11th career home run against South Alabama, March 2, a two-run shot that sent the game into extra-innings. Schmid sits at fifth on the all-time list, six behind **Liz Flack** who hit 17 in her Green and White career.

SOFTBALL SWEEPS WMU: The EMU softball team completed the season sweep of Western Michigan University. The Eagles downed the preseason MAC West Division favorite Broncos 10-0 and 9-2, March 30-April 1. The sweep marks just the fourth time in EMU's 25 year history that the Eagles posted a perfect regular season against WMU. Eastern also swept the Broncos in 1987, 1988 and 1999.

WOODRUM AT HOME: Senior **Aimee Woodrum** has excelled at Varsity Field, posting an 11-1 record with a 1.48 ERA over three seasons. Last year, she was a perfect 3-0 with a 1.25 ERA, two complete game shutouts and a save while pitching at home.

EXTRA-BASES: Along with becoming EMU's career home run leader, senior **Lauren Clark** had a stellar week for the Eagles. She batted .533 (8-for-15), helping the Eagles to a 3-1 record in the opening weekend of MAC play. Of Clark's eight hits, seven went for extra-bases, including six doubles. The 2006 MAC Player of the Year totaled 17 bases and registered a 1.133 slugging percentage. She also posted six RBI and scored six runs from her lead-off position.

THERE'S NO E IN SABO: Junior outfielder **Stephanie Sabo** has been perfect in the field since earning an every day starter role in 2006. In 73 games, Sabo has registered a perfect 1.000 fielding percentage. In 2006, she totaled 36 putouts and one assist. Thus far in the 2007 campaign, she has 24 putouts with two assists and is the lone Eagle starter who has not recorded an error.

HAN NAMED MAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK: **Heather Han**, the only sophomore on the EMU roster, was named MAC West Division Player of the Week, for the period ending March 25. Han registered a stellar week helping the Eagles win the IU Classic tournament, recording victories over host Indiana, Buffalo and Illinois-Chicago. Han batted .417 (5-for-12) over the week with three extra base hits. She belted a three-run home run in the championship game and registered six RBI in the tournament. She also posted two doubles and scored four runs.

EAGLES WIN IU CLASSIC: After pool play, the Green and White earned the No. 3 seed to start bracket play at the IU Classic. In the opening round, the Eagles downed the No. 1 seed host Hoosiers in a 3-2 nail bitter to

advance to the championship game. In the finals, EMU beat the No. 2 seed University of Illinois-Chicago, 8-5, powered by clutch hitting. Every Eagle starter recorded at least one hit in the championship game.

CENTURY MARK: Senior **Lauren Clark** has drove in 10 runs this year, giving her 87 career RBI, leaving her 13 shy of 100. Only two players in EMU history have drove in more than 100 runs, **Melissa Drouillard** who holds the record with 124 and **Kristie Berry** knocked in 118.

THREE IN A DAY: The EMU softball team played a tripleheader on the second day of competition at the IU Classic, March 24. The Eagles posted a 2-1 record on the day with wins over the University at Buffalo and host Indiana University. The tripleheader marked the first time that EMU played three games in one day since the 2001 season, but the trifecta is not new to the program. The Eagles played a trio in one day at least once a year spanning from 1982-1999, with the exception of 1985. EMU actually played four games on the same day during the 1983 season, April 15. The then-Hurons posted a 1-3 in the four games.

SEASON'S BEST: In the championship game of the IU Classic, EMU belted out a season best 15 hits. Every each starter one-through-nine notched at least one hit, with four Eagles recording a multi-hit game. Senior **Lindsay Schmid** and freshman **Jenny Scherer** each had three hits, while senior **Lauren Clark** and junior **Heather Giroux** posted two hits. Sophomore **Heather Han** hit a three-run homer, her first of the season.

PITCHING UP THE CAREER LISTS: Seniors **Aimee Woodrum** and **Michelle Lloyd** continue to log innings and strikeouts, moving up the EMU career pitching record list in each category. Woodrum (333 and 1/3) became the eighth player in school history to log over 300 innings, while Lloyd (317 and 1/3) became the ninth. The tandem currently ranks fifth and sixth on the EMU career strikeout list with Lloyd leading with 247, while Woodrum has 234. The EMU career leader in each category is **Marci Kelly** who threw 780 innings and registered 484 strikeouts from 1994-96.

THE COACHING STAFF: Head coach **Karen Baird** returns for her fifth season at the helm for the Eagles. She holds a 70-120 all-time record at Eastern Michigan. **Jennifer Teague** returns for her second season as an assistant coach, with **Eric Oakley** joining the coaching ranks for the first time this season.