



CONTACT INFORMATION

Tyler Wall
Strategic Communications Graduate Assistant
e: tlw4g5@mail.umkc.edu
o: 816.235.1053 | c: 573.268.5162
UMKCKangaroos.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Roos Pick Up First 2018 Wins on Final Day of UNI-Dome Classic

CEDAR FALLS, Iowa – The UMKC softball team (2-3) notched their first victories of the 2018 season with a 2-1 win over Drake (4-1) before taking down Northern Iowa (4-1) by a 4-3 count on the final day of the UNI-Dome Classic.

Lynsey Conner (Peggs, Okla.) made the start for the Roos in game one against Drake and put on a dazzling performance in the circle. Conner pitched a complete game, allowing one run on four hits while surrendering four walks, improving her record to 1-0 on the year.

The bats were slow to get going against the Bulldogs, picking up just one hit through the first three innings of play. In the bottom of the third, Drake came through with a two-out RBI single to open the scoring.

Following the score, Conner completely dialed in and allowed just one hit the rest of the way. The Roos left a runner stranded in the fourth and two more in the fifth, where they had two runners in scoring position with just one out.

UMKC finally broke through in the sixth as back to back RBI singles from **Lia Lombardini** (Chesterton, Ind.) and **Olivia Fluehr** (Loves Park, Ill.) put the team on top 2-1. Conner shut down the Bulldogs in their final two at-bats to seal the victory.

In the UNI-Dome Classic finale, the Roos got off to a quick start against host Northern Iowa. **Sydney Garcia** (Kansas City, Mo.) led off the game with a single, one of two hits in the game, and consecutive walks to the next two batters loaded the bases. Following a fielder's choice, **Morgan Byrn** (Lawrence, Kan.) drove in a run with a sacrifice fly to right field for her fourth RBI of the season.

The UMKC bats stayed hot in the second inning, where a pair of two-out RBI singles to right from **Ashlin O'Brien** (Fond du Lac, Wis.) and **Kelsey Goodwin** (Broken Arrow, Okla.) extended the lead to 4-0. O'Brien was the only player to record more than one RBI in the contest.

Sara Miller (Marietta, Ga.) was given the start for the Roos and battled through 3.1 innings, allowing three runs (two earned runs) on five hits in moving her record to 1-0 on the season.

Northern Iowa clawed back in a three-run fourth inning to trim the UMKC lead. A sacrifice fly and RBI single ended Miller's day on the rubber and sent in Olivia Fluehr in relief. Fluehr obtained the final two outs of the frame keeping the 4-3 lead in tact.

The Roos were unable to tack on any insurance runs the rest of the way but it they would prove to be unnecessary. Fluehr worked Northern Iowa hitless in the final three innings to secure the win, finishing her day with 3.2 innings of no-hit work, allowing just two walks in route to the team's 4-3 win.

UMKC will head to the Sunshine State next weekend to compete in the Madeira Beach Invitational on Feb. 16-18. The Roos have scheduled games against Eastern Michigan, Abilene Christian, UNC Greensboro, Georgia Southern and Massachusetts in the event.

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