



COLLEGE GYMNASTICS ASSOCIATION BIG TEN CONFERENCE

CGA Weekly Report
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By Jerry Wright



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The No. 4-ranked University of Michigan collected a season-best total to knock off No. 3 Illinois, 359.650-358.650, on Saturday (March 13) inside Huff Hall.

Chris Cameron the still rings crown and recorded top-five finishes on the floor exercise (t-4th), pommel horse (2nd) and the parallel bars (2nd), with his 15.000 score on the parallel bars sealing Michigan's upset victory.



CAMERON

U-M got off to a smoking start, posting a season-best 59.600 on the pommel horse behind career-best efforts of Cameron, who returned to the horse lineup after missing three competitions, and Ben Baldus-Strauss. David Chan and Mel Anton Santander added scores of 15.000 and 14.750, respectively, as Michigan jumped out to an early 59.600-59.100 lead.

The Maize and Blue moved to the floor in the second rotation, where Baldus-Strauss and Ian Makowske placed second and third, respectively, to lead the Wolverines to a 59.150 on the event.

Kent Caldwell posted Michigan's highest score on the vault with a 15.800 for his difficult one-and-a-half twisting vault. Baldus-Strauss continued to excel, adding his second career best of the day (15.750) to Michigan's 62.650 total. After three events, the leader switched again as the Wolverines moved to the rings ahead, 181.400-178.400.

Cameron continued to roll, taking the rings title with his second career high of the competition, 15.400, while Phillip Goldberg showed his trademark strength and capped off his routine with a stuck stretch double flip for a 15.300 and second place. The Wolverines maintained their advantage after four events, 241.900-240.800.

Kelley swung his way to a season best-best 15.450 on the high bar. Makowske added a

career-best 15.100 to boost Michigan to a 59.750 total on the event, expanding U-M's lead to 1.850 with just one rotation to go.

The Wolverines started strong on the parallel bars in the final rotation, led off by Devan Cote, who posted a 14.450. Santander and Kelley added 14.500 and 14.050 marks, respectively. With one routine left, Cameron needed just a 14.000 to cap off the Wolverines' upset over their fellow 2009 Big Ten co-champions. After a near-perfect routine, Cameron received a season-best 15.000 to lift the Wolverines to a 58.000 on the event and a final score of 359.650, beating the Illini by 1.000.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

The third-ranked Illini men's gymnastics team suffered its first loss of the season Saturday afternoon, falling just one point short against No. 4 Michigan 359.650-358.650 at Huff Hall.

Despite the loss, Illinois came away with five of six individual titles and its team score was a new season high. Additionally, the Illini also posted season highs on pommel horse (60.100), rings (59.200) and high bar (58.850).

This outstanding competition took place before what may have been a record crowd at Huff Hall.

Illini standout Paul Ruggeri landed awkwardly at the end of his second FX run and was unable to finish his FX routine. However, he was able to come back and compete in all events except PH.

Chad Wiest won his second event title of the season on floor (15.250), while Luke Stannard captured his third straight title on pommel horse with a career-high score of

15.800 and freshman Yoshi Mori (maybe the best meet of his college career) claimed his second title on vault (15.850). Tyler Mizoguchi tied his career high on parallel bars (15.050) to place first on the event and also beat out Mori for top honors in the all-around (87.800) and Paul Ruggeri, who battled the knee injury throughout the meet, closed out the day with a first-place finish on high bar (15.550).

Also placing in the top three were Mori on pommel horse with a career-high score of 15.100, good for third place, while Tyler Williamson led the team with a third-place finish on rings (15.150), Mizoguchi tied for second place on vault (15.800) and Brian Liscovitz took third place on parallel bars (14.750).

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Competing in its final home meet of the season, No. 5 Ohio State hit a season-high 354.900 on senior day but fell to No. 2 Oklahoma (359.250) Saturday afternoon in front of 1,009 fans in St. John Arena.

In all, the Buckeyes had four individual event winners in Steven Spencer on pommel horse (15.45), Brandon Wynn on rings (16.3) and parallel bars (14.95) and Tai Lee on high



WYNN

bar (14.85).

On floor, Justin Myers led the team with a 15.150 - the third time this season he has scored a 15.0 or higher on the event. Wynn added a 14.950, freshman Blaize Monks a 14.2 and Mike Behles a 14.1.

Spencer, a redshirt sophomore, took charge on pommel horse, winning the event with a 15.45, a new season best. Close behind was sophomore Ty Echard taking second with a 15.3 as the Buckeyes won the rotation, 58.55-57.8. Rounding out the team's tally was freshman John Laing who tied for fourth with a 14.6 while Behles had a 13.2.



MIZOGUCHI

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The Scarlet and Gray took the Top 3 spots on rings. Wynn, the nation's top gymnast on the event, set a new Ohio State program record with a career-high 16.3. Wynn is the only gymnast in the nation to score above a 16.0 on the event for the last two seasons. This is the third time this season he has accomplished this feat. Next was Behles reaching a career high with a 15.35 for second while Lee finished third with a 15.05.

In the fourth rotation, Ohio State scored a 62.75 on vault. Freshman Elliott Hardy hit a career-high 15.75 to tie Wynn for the team lead and fifth in the competition. Behles was right behind them with a 15.7 and Myers added a 15.55.

Moving on to parallel bars, Wynn took first with a 14.95 and Sean Regan placed fifth with a 14.1. The team score of 56.85 was rounded out by Lee (14.0) and Spencer (13.8). Lee placed sixth while Spencer took ninth place.

Finishing the meet on high bar, Lee won the event with a 14.85 and Wynn placed third with a 14.7 as the Buckeyes recorded a 57.3 event total. Myers ended his senior day meet with a 14.4 for fourth while Echard, in his second meet on the event, posted a 13.35. The Sooners just squeezed above the Buckeyes, 57.55-57.3, for the win.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The University of Minnesota sent its seniors out with a bang Saturday night. In the Gophers' final home meet of the season and the final appearance at the Sports Pavilion for six seniors, Minnesota recorded a team-record score of 353.900, easily defeating Iowa (346.75) and Illinois-Chicago (346.20).

Senior Aaron Fortunato won the parallel bars and the high bar and also took the all-around title.



FORTUNATO

The Gophers opened on the pommel horse with a 56.850 score, which was their best tally

on the event so far this season. Minnesota freshman Harris Coleman paced the Gophers with a 14.900, while Andre Berry was third at 14.200.

But the Gophers stumbled a bit on the still rings. Minnesota posted its lowest score in two months, with a score of 56.850 on the apparatus.

Minnesota moved to the vault, where they threw up a score of 63.500, which was a season-high mark. Adam Reichow tied for the top spot individually on the vault with a personal-best 16.050 score. Colin McGuire also turned in a personal high with a 15.950 to take third.

Minnesota maintained its momentum on the parallel bars. Michael Paulus' personal-best score of 14.600 was tied with Aaron Fortunato for the top spot in the on the bars.

Fortunato had a personal best on the high bar with a 15.050 and won the event, while he and his teammates took four of the top five spots.

But Minnesota was still trailing Iowa in the overall score as the meet headed into the sixth and final rotation. Fortunately, Minnesota was on the floor exercise to finish the meet, while Iowa was on the parallel bars. The Gophers scored another season-high mark on the floor, recording a 61.600 to easily out-distance the Hawkeyes and Flames.

Minnesota swept the top three spots on the floor. McGuire and Adam Reichow each tallied 15.550 scores, while Andre Berry came in third with a 15.450.

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

The University of Iowa placed second at Minnesota Saturday night at the Sports Pavilion. The Hawkeyes fell to the Golden Gophers (353.900) but beat the UIC Flames (346.200) for the third time this season. Iowa scored a 346.750, a season-high.

Senior Jonathan Buese led the Hawkeyes. Buese tied for first on vault with a team-best (16.050). He also tied for third on pommel horse (14.200).

On floor exercise Ben Ketelsen placed fourth, however, earned a new team sea-



BUESE

son-high (15.350). Freshman Matt McGrath also performed well in the event, recording a 15.100, a new personal best.

Reid Urbain won rings (14.60) and freshman Anton Gryshayev placed second in the event. (14.500) This is the second straight meet with strong performances on the rings for Iowa.

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY

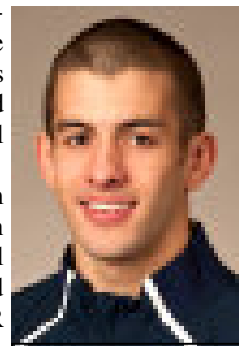
Penn State suffered a 354.650-344.300 setback to No. 9 Cal on Saturday evening at the Golden Bears' Haas Pavilion in Berkeley, Calif. Eighth-ranked Nebraska was originally scheduled to participate in the meet but could not make the trip from Lincoln due to travel issues.

The Nittany Lions won the floor exercise with a season-high score of 60.250 but struggled on the parallel bars, posting a season-low score of 53.550, and had below average totals in the other four events.

Individually, freshman Nick Grant led Penn State by capturing titles in the floor exercise, winning with a season best score of 15.400, and the vault, tying for the top spot by equalizing his season high mark of 15.850. Fellow freshman Felix Aronovich claimed first place in the still rings (14.650) and finished second in the pommel horse (14.800).

Noam Shaham (14.500) and freshman Scott Rosenthal (14.450), placed second and third in the SR event, respectively.

Freshman Parker Raque matched his season high in the vault, scoring a 15.600 for the second consecutive week to place in a tie for third. Nick Virbitsky secured his eighth top-three finish in the last four meets, placing in a tie for third in the floor exercise (15.200).



GRANT

NATIONAL TEAM SCORES FOR THE PAST WEEK

Michigan	359.65	Illinois-Chicago	346.20
Oklahoma	359.25	Penn State	344.30
Illinois	358.65	Air Force	342.95
Ohio State	354.90	Temple	338.10
California	354.65	William/Mary	337.80
Minnesota	353.90	Springfield	336.65
Iowa	346.75	Navy	331.85
		Army	330.20