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Eastern Michigan University

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## Da'Shonte Riley Named Co-MAC West Player of the Week

This is the first time Riley has earned the weekly conference distinction



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**CLEVELAND, Ohio (EMUEagles.com)** -- Eastern Michigan University senior center [Da'Shonte Riley \(Detroit, Mich.-Detroit Country Day \(Syracuse\)\)](#) was named the Co-Mid-American Conference West Division Player of the Week, the league office announced Monday, Feb. 17. It was the first time the Detroit, Mich. native has garnered the award in his career, as he shares the award with Western Michigan's Shayne Whittington.

Riley led EMU to a 2-0 record versus a pair of MAC West Division opponents last week. First, in a 73-62 victory at Ball State, Feb. 12, the Detroit, Mich. native pulled down five rebounds, but it was his effort on the defensive end that helped the Eagles to an 11-point victory. Riley had three steals, while swatting six Cardinal shot attempts.

Riley showed up on the defensive side of the floor again in a convincing 65-44 win versus the No. 4-ranked team in the [CollegelInsider.com](#) Mid-Major poll, and the conference-leading Rockets of Toledo, Feb. 15. The 7-foot center had six points on 3-of-6 shooting, while recording a steal, to go along with eight rebounds and another seven blocks. Those seven blocks are tied for the second-most in a single game in school history. Riley has accomplished this feat on three occasions during the 2013-14 campaign, as well as four times throughout his career.

Overall on the week, despite averaging just three points per contest, Riley pulled down 6.5 rebounds per game, while posting an assist and a pair of steals per game. Most impressive was his work in the paint defensively. The senior averaged 6.5 blocks per game, which is more than twice as many as any season average within MAC play as well as nearly two blocks better than the NCAA leader averages on the season.

EMU will take its winning ways on the road for a pair of MAC West contests this week, heading to DeKalb, Ill., Feb. 20, to battle the Northern Illinois University Huskies before taking on the Western Michigan University Broncos, Feb. 23, in Kalamazoo, Mich. The Eagles and Huskies will tip off at 7 p.m. ET. Meanwhile, the Sunday matinee between the two in-state rivals will begin at 2 p.m.