

Winter 3-7-2014

## EMU Men's Swimming and Diving: Eagles Fall One Point Behind Buffalo March 7, 2014

Eastern Michigan University

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### Recommended Citation

Eastern Michigan University, "EMU Men's Swimming and Diving: Eagles Fall One Point Behind Buffalo March 7, 2014" (2014).  
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## Eagles Fall One Point Behind Buffalo

Men's swimming and diving in third after second day of 2014 MAC Championships



3/7/2014 9:49:00 PM

**BUFFALO, N.Y. (EMUEagles.com)**—As the second day of the 2014 Mid-American Conference Swimming and Diving Championships has come to a close, the Eastern Michigan University men's swimming and diving team has fallen to third, trailing host school the University of Buffalo by just one point. Despite a back-and-forth tussle for the second spot between UB (431) and EMU (430), both squads fall behind current leader Missouri State University by a considerable deficit, as the Bears have amassed 549 points in the first two days of the conference meet.

The Eagles began the evening's finals round with another neck-and-neck race, the 200 medley relay. The team of [Cole Bateman](#) (Hutchinson, Minn.-Hutchinson), [Mike Fisher](#) (Saline, Mich.-Saline), [Erik Gissen](#) (Karlstad, Sweden-Alvkullegymnasiet), and [Brian Moore](#) (Anthem, Ariz.-Boulder Creek) took fifth with a time of 1:29.35.

Buffalo was able to slip into the second spot in the standings following the 400 IM, in which the Green and White had just one representative in the championship heat while the other seven competitors were from either Missouri State or UB. [Andrew Henry](#) (Garner, N.C.-West Johnston) took third in the race with an NCAA B cut time of 3:54.32, while the pair of [Kyle Lichtenberg](#) (Clarkston, Mich.) and [Sean Tendo](#) (Seattle, Wash.-O'Dea) took fourth and fifth in the consolation round, respectively.

EMU's swimmers continued to rattle off NCAA Championship consideration marks and top-three finishes, as [Krzysztof Gilski](#) (**Dywity, Poland-Adam Mickiewicz Secondary**) was the next Eagle to earn a podium finish. Gilski finished runner-up behind the home crowd favorite, Mike Dugan of Buffalo, but his 48.05 time is not only an NCAA B cut but also writes the sophomore into EMU record books as the fastest mark in program history. Fellow sophomores [Blake Howe](#) (**Lansing, Mich.-Everett**) and Gissen also touched in to the wall with times that put them in the all-time top-10 list for the 100 fly. Howe's time of 48.86, for which he took sixth in the heat, is the fifth-fastest time, followed closely by Gissen's preliminary round mark of 48.87 for the seventh spot.

Moore went from anchoring the 200 medley relay team with a 50-yard freestyle sprint to competing in the championship round in the 200 free, which the junior completed in 1:37.59. The NCAA B cut time put Moore in third for the race, continuing the trend of upper-podium finishes for the Green and White.

After finishing just .01 seconds behind the all-time EMU record for the 100 breast in the preliminary round, Fisher burst off the blocks to not only break the 13-year old record set by **Bryson Tan**, but also set the MAC championship record at 53.94. Freshman [Kyle Aerne](#) (**Lake Villa, Ill.-Lakes Community**) also earned his rightful spot in the record books when he won the consolation heat in 55.76, good for the fifth-best time on the all-time list.

In the final individual swimming event of the evening, Bateman finished runner-up in the 100 back with an NCAA consideration mark of 48.11. The time stands as the second-fastest time in program history behind recently-graduated All-American [Jacob Hanson](#). Howe made his way into EMU laurels for the second time in one day, notching a 49.52 for the sixth-best time on the list, while freshman [Chris Cutter](#) (**Fishers, Ind.-Fishers**)'s 50.22 finish earned him the ninth spot.

Following the 100 back, the Eagles sat in third just three points behind Buffalo. However, despite finishing nearly six seconds ahead of the Bulls in the 800 free relay, the Green and White remained in third at the close of the evening's events by a diminutive margin of one point. Henry, Gilski, Moore, and [Franco Petrone](#) (**Etobicoke, Ontario-Silverthorne Collegiate Institute**) finished less than a second behind the MAC record-breaking performance from Missouri State in 6:31.43.

The consolation round for the 3-meter dive was also completed in the evening's schedule. [Sage Stephens](#) (**Warren, Ill.-Warren**) led the way with a mark of 331.50 for second in the round and 10<sup>th</sup> overall. During tomorrow's championship round, the freshman pair of [Alex Chan](#) (**Toronto, Ontario-Neil McNeil Catholic**) and [Dan Gironza](#) (**New Hudson, Mich.-South Lyon**) will compete to take the crown on the 3-meter springboard, as Chan leads all divers going into the final round after scoring a preliminary tally of 408.75 points.

The 2014 MAC Championships will conclude tomorrow, March 8, with preliminary heats beginning at 11 a.m. Finals rounds are slated for 7 p.m., while the 1650 free will be swum at 5:30 p.m. Live results and video streaming are available through [mac-sports.com](http://mac-sports.com).

**EMU Individual Results (CONS denotes NCAA B cut, # signifies EMU record, \$ represents MAC Championship record)**

|                                   | <b>Finals Mark</b> | <b>Prelims Mark</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>200-yard Medley Relay</b>      |                    |                     |
| 4. Bateman, Fisher, Gissen, Moore | 1:29.35            |                     |

**400-yard Individual Medley**

|                       |              |         |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------|
| 3. Henry, Andrew      | 3:54.32 CONS | 3:52.49 |
| 12. Lichtenberg, Kyle | 4:00.80      | 4:03.51 |
| 13. Tento, Sean       | 4:02.28      | 4:00.45 |

**100-yard Butterfly**

|                      |             |       |
|----------------------|-------------|-------|
| 2. Gilski, Krzysztof | 48.05# CONS | 48.53 |
| 6. Howe, Blake       | 48.86       | 49.31 |
| 7. Gissen, Erik      | 49.01       | 48.87 |

**200-yard Freestyle**

|                    |              |         |
|--------------------|--------------|---------|
| 3. Moore, Brian    | 1:37.59 CONS | 1:37.41 |
| 9. Petrone, Franco | 1:39.30      | 1:39.60 |
| 16. Everson, Gus   | 1:41.78      | 1:41.12 |

**100-yard Breaststroke**

|                 |                 |       |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| 1. Fisher, Mike | 53.94 # \$ CONS | 54.34 |
| 9. Aerne, Kyle  | 55.76           | 56.23 |

**100-yard Backstroke**

|                   |            |       |
|-------------------|------------|-------|
| 2. Bateman, Cole  | 48.11 CONS | 48.53 |
| 5. Gissen, Erik   | 49.15      | 49.35 |
| 6. Howe, Blake    | 49.52      | 49.88 |
| 14. Cutter, Chris | 50.71      | 50.22 |

**3-meter Diving**

Chan, Gironza to dive tomorrow in

championship round

|                      |        |        |
|----------------------|--------|--------|
| 10. Stephens, Sage   | 331.50 | 277.55 |
| 12. Ventura, Matthew | 323.15 | 299.40 |
| 14. Johnson, Dakota  | 293.45 | 286.70 |

**800-yard Freestyle Relay**

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| 2. Henry, Gilski, Petrone, Moore | 6:31.43 |
|----------------------------------|---------|