EMU Women's Gymnastics: Eagles Flock to Ball State for Battle of the Birds

Eastern Michigan University

Follow this and additional works at: http://commons.emich.edu/sports_scr

Recommended Citation
Eastern Michigan University, "EMU Women's Gymnastics: Eagles Flock to Ball State for Battle of the Birds" (2014). Eastern Michigan University, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. EMU Archives, Digital Commons @ EMU (http://commons.emich.edu/sports_scr/572)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at DigitalCommons@EMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Sports Scores by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@EMU. For more information, please contact lib-ir@emich.edu.
Eagles Flock to Ball State for Battle of the Birds

EMU will compete, March 14, in the final meet before the MAC Championships

YPSILANTI, Mich. (EMUEagles.com) -- The Eastern Michigan University gymnastics team will compete in one last meet before hosting the Mid-American Conference Championships, March 22. The Eagles (5-9, 1-4 MAC) will head to Muncie, Ind. to face off against Ball State University (2-11, 0-5 MAC) in a Friday night dual, March 14. The battle of the birds will take place at 7 p.m. in Irving Gymnasium.

One to Remember: As hosts of the Eagle Invitational, March 8, the Green and White tallied a new season-high 194.900, while also achieving campaign bests in two events. EMU began the quad meet on vault, getting off to a great start with a new season-high 48.750. While the vault score was impressive, it was not the highest score of the night for Head Coach Steve Wilce's squad. EMU recorded another season best in the third rotation with a 49.025 on beam, just 0.050 away from tying a school record.

Checking Out the Cardinals: Ball State is 2-11 on the 2014 campaign, still looking for its first win in conference action with an 0-5 mark. The Cardinals fell to No. 24 Ohio State, 196.600-192.350, in their last meet, March 8. Denasia Christian finished in a tie for runner-up with a solid 9.900 on the floor, while Leah Wilson's 9.850 on beam earned her the same place in the event. BSU has recorded a season-high mark of 193.950, twice, in a loss to Kent State, Feb. 21, as well as a setback to Illinois-Chicago, March 1.

Sister Act: When the Eastern Michigan and Ball State compete Friday night, it will be a special meet for one Eagle
and one Cardinal. EMU sophomore Kimberly Ebeyer will see her younger sister, Sarah, on the opposing side. Both have been in their team's respective starting lineups throughout the year, competing on vault, beam and floor. The elder Ebeyer has slightly edged her freshman sister, recording season-highs of 9.775 on vault and floor while Sarah boasts personal-bests of 9.700 and 9.725, respectively. On beam, Kimberly has a career-high of 9.825 as a 9.575 is the season-best for Sarah in the event.

**Career-Bests at Eagle Invite:** In the final home meet in Bowen Field House for the 2014 campaign, several EMU gymnasts notched career highs en route to a runner-up team finish as hosts of the Eagle Invitational, March 8. Junior Anna Willette recorded the highest EMU score of the evening with a personal-best 9.850 on beam to place third. Kimberly Ebeyer and Kaylee Meyers also reached career highs in the event as both earned 9.825 from the judges, while senior Shawna Ciaramella kept the trend going with a career-mark of 9.800. Sophomore gymnast Ashlin Chambliss and freshman Kelsie Brooks tallied personal bests as well. Chambliss recorded a 9.750 on vault while Brooks claimed an identical score of bars.

**Catching Them at the Wrong Time:** Head Coach Steve Wilce and his team have been unfortunate to catch opponents in their peak form during the season. In seven of the Eagles' nine losses throughout the 2014 campaign, seven of the setbacks have been due to the opposition notching season-high marks in meets against the Green and White. One of the two foes who did not record a season-best when taking on the EMU was Central Michigan, and that was because the Chippewas already tallied their high mark in a previous meet against the Eagles.

**#MACtion Ahead:** All seven Mid-American Conference gymnastics teams will converge on the Convocation Center in Ypsilanti as Eastern Michigan will host the 2014 MAC Gymnastics Championships, March 22. EMU will be the site of the conference championship meet for the first time since 2007. That year, the Eagles protected their territory by claiming the program’s first conference crown in 26 years. The Green and White was led by all around champion and All-MAC First Team honoree Jolene Worley, edging second-place finisher Kent State University by less then three-tenths of a point. EMU posted a season-high team score of 194.525.