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Eastern Michigan University

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Hudson Shines in Season Debut at Kent State Quad

EMU sophomore claims the floor title with a 9.875 as the Eagles finish fourth in the quad meet

KENT, Ohio (EMUeagles.com) – Sophomore Khadijah Hudson (Hebron, Ky.-Conner) won the floor exercise while placing third in the vault as the Eastern Michigan University gymnastics team opened up the 2014 campaign with a fourth place showing at a quadrangular meet hosted by Kent State University, Jan. 17. No. 16-ranked Rutgers University won the meet with a team total of 195.250. No. 21-ranked Kent State tallied 194.475 for runner-up honors while George Washington and EMU finished with scores of 193.400 and 192.750, respectively.

After qualifying on the floor for the NCAA Regionals a season ago as a freshman, Hudson didn’t skip a beat in the 2014 season opener. Her score of 9.875 tied a personal-best and was enough to claim the floor title. The Hebron, Ky. native also led the Eagles on the vault, recording a career-high 9.850 to take third.

While Hudson put together a strong individual performance, EMU Head Coach Steve Wilce was not pleased with the overall team performance. "We are disappointed with today. We expected more from some of our upperclassmen," commented Wilce. "We feel this is the best team we have had, and our expectations are higher this year. Due to our team’s potential and those high expectations, we will not settle for underachieving performances."

Following Hudson on the floor was sophomore Kimberly Ebeyer (Greenwood, Ind.-Whiteland Community), who received a solid 9.775 from the judges in her first collegiate appearance in the event. Chantelle Loehner (Cary, Ill.-
Cary-Grove) eclipsed the goal of 9.700 on the floor with a 9.725 of her own. Ebeyer also scored a career-high 9.700 on the beam for ninth place overall as well as a 9.675 on the vault. The beam mark was second-best on the team, just behind a fifth-place 9.725 by Carrina Lo Bello (Oshawa, Ontario-Mclaughlin Collegiate), who tied her career best by pacing the Green and White. Aside from Hudson, Ashlin Chambliss (Buford, Ga.-Mill Creek) finished ahead of Ebeyer on vault with a 9.700, tying her top collegiate mark as a specialist in the event.

On the uneven parallel bars, 2013 All-MAC Second Team honoree Anna Willette (Pylesville, Md.-North Harford) led the Eagles with a 9.750 while team co-captain Ashley Quinton (Calgary, Alberta-Bishop McNally) finished closely behind with a 9.725. Junior Nikki Paterson (Oakville, Ontario-Iroquois Ridge) earned a 9.700 on the bars as well.

Three gymnasts began their EMU careers Friday night. Junior Ariyanna Smith (Gahanna, Ohio-Lincoln) tallied a 9.575 on bars while a pair of freshmen made their collegiate debuts alongside the upperclassman. Bianca Jordaan (Oakville, Ontario-Abbey Park) recorded a 9.600 on vault and a 9.450 on bars while Natalie Gervais (Winnipeg, Manitoba-Sturgeon Heights) tallied a 9.625 on beam in her first meet as an Eagle.

No Eagles competed in all four events as Rutgers’ Luisa Leal conquered the all-around crown with an impressive 39.125, highlighted by a 9.900 on the vault.

The Green and White returns to action Saturday, Jan. 25, heading south to Bowling Green State University for a Mid-American Conference dual meet set to begin at 4 p.m.

**Team Results**
1. Rutgers 195.250
2. Kent State 194.475
3. George Washington 193.400
4. Eastern Michigan 192.750

**Vault**
3. Hudson, Khadijah 9.850
8. Chambliss, Ashlin 9.700
13. Ebeyer, Kimberly 9.675
16. Jordaan, Bianca 9.600
16. Willette, Anna 9.600
20. Miller, Paulina 9.325

**Bars**
12. Willette, Anna 9.750
15. Quinton, Ashley 9.725
18. Paterson, Nikki 9.700
19. Lo Bello, Carrina 9.675
20. Smith, Ariyanna 9.575

**Beam**
5. Lo Bello, Carrina 9.725
6. Ebeyer, Kimberly 9.700
8. Gervais, Natalie 9.625
8. Willette, Anna 9.625
20. Meyers, Kaylee 9.100
23. Ciaramella, Shawna 8.900

Floor
1. Hudson, Khadijah 9.875
9. Ebeyer, Kimberly 9.775
17. Loehner, Chantelle 9.725
20. Miller, Paulina 9.525
23. Ciaramella, Shawna 9.175
23. Meyers, Kaylee 9.175