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Eagles Drop Dual to Falcons, 194.600-192.525

EMU gymnasts record eight scores of 9.700 or higher

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio (EMUagles.com) – In its second meet of the 2014 season, the Eastern Michigan University gymnastics team fell to the Bowling Green State University Falcons, 194.600-192.525, Saturday evening, Jan. 25. With the Mid-American Conference loss inside Anderson Arena, the Eagles drop to 0-4, 0-2 MAC on the season while BGSU improves to 2-2 overall and remains perfect in conference play at 2-0.

"We competed well, but Bowling Green competed great," noted EMU Head Coach Steve Wilce. "We just need to get better. We are practicing at a high level and not doing the same when we get in meets."

The Eagles began the meet on the bars, tallying a 47.800 led by a third-place 9.725 by Carrina Lo Bello (Oshawa, Ontario-McLaughlin Collegiate). Ariyanna Smith (Gahanna, Ohio-Lincoln) continued to improve, posting a new personal-best 9.650 on bars in just her second career meet at EMU. Bowling Green countered with a 48.600 on vault to lead after the first rotation. The Falcons’ Lauren Feely received a 9.825 from the judges, a mark that ended up being the highest score in the event.

Both teams switched events for the second rotation. BGSU recorded a team score of 48.325 on bars as Rachel Reis tallied a 9.750 to win the event. Meanwhile, the Green and White improved its score with a 48.275 on vault. Reigning MAC Co-Specialist of the Week Khadijah Hudson (Hebron, Ky.-Conner) finished runner-up in the event with a 9.800 on vault to lead after the first rotation. The Falcons’ Lauren Feely received a 9.825 from the judges, a mark that ended up being the highest score in the event.

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EMU's deficit increased in the third rotation as the Falcons notched a 48.750 on the balance beam compared to the Eagles' 48.350 in the floor exercise. Team co-captain Paulina Miller (Halifax, Nova Scotia-Citadel) led Eastern in the event by earning a 9.725, two-tenths better than her score in the season-opening meet at Kent State, Jan. 17. Following closely behind was sophomore Kimberly Ebeyer (Greenwood, Ind.-Whiteland Community) with a 9.700, a mark that Coach Wilce's gymnasts strive for at every meet. Also, senior Shawna Ciaramella (Hamilton, Ontario-St. Mary CSS) bounced back from last week's meet with a 9.650 in EMU's third event. On beam, a pair of 9.800's by Megan Harrington and Alyssa Nocella led the way for the Orange and Brown to claim the top scores.

The Eagles recorded a 48.100 on beam, their final event of the evening. Willette totaled a season-high 9.775 to lead the Eagles and place third; Ciaramella finished fifth with a 9.700. Bowling Green tallied a meet-high 48.925 on the floor in its final event. Harrington's 9.875 was enough for the victory while Nocella's 9.850 was second and gave her a total score of 39.150 to earn the all around title.

EMU will return to the mats, Feb. 1, partnering with Central Michigan University in the Michigan/Illinois Challenge. CMU will host the quad meet against Illinois State and Illinois-Chicago, and the action will begin at 2 p.m. All four teams will compete against each other, but the two schools from each state will combine their scores to see which state wins the annual competition.

**Vault**
2. Hudson, Khadijah 9.800
5. Willette, Anna 9.700
6. Chambliss, Ashlin 9.675
9. Miller, Paulina 9.600
10. Ebeyer, Kimberly 9.500
11. Jarvis, Miranda 9.400

**Bars**
3. Lo Bello, Carrina 9.725
4. Smith, Ariyanna 9.650
6. Quinton, Ashley 9.625
8. Willette, Anna 9.600
11. Paterson, Nikki 9.050

**Beam**
3. Willette, Anna 9.775
5. Ciaramella, Shawna 9.700
8. Ebeyer, Kimberly 9.625
10. Gervais, Natalie 9.500
10. Meyers, Kaylee 9.500
12. Lo Bello, Carrina 9.250

**Floor**
4. Miller, Paulina 9.725
6. Ebeyer, Kimberly 9.700
8. Ciaramella, Shawna 9.650
8. Hudson, Khadijah 9.650
10. Loehner, Chantelle 9.625
12. Meyers, Kaylee 9.550