



COLLEGE GYMNASTICS ASSOCIATION BIG TEN CONFERENCE

WEEKLY REPORT
WEEK ENDING Jan. 19, 2009
By Jerry Wright



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The University of Michigan won four out of six events to earn first place with a score of 346.10 in the 39th Windy City Invitational on Saturday night (Jan. 17), held at the UIC Physical Education Building. U-M surged past a tough field of host No. 12 UIC, No. 3 Ohio State, No. 4 Illinois, No. 8 Minnesota and No. 9 Iowa in the fifth rotation to claim the tournament crown for the second time in three years; the other win came in 2007.

Chris Cameron fueled the victory, capturing



CAMERON

the evening's all-around and pommel horse titles, scoring 88.10 and 15.10, respectively, and a share of the still rings crown with 14.80.

The Wolverines found themselves in fourth place after the first rotation. Thomas Kelley earned Michigan's top score on the event, recording 14.20.

Michigan moved to the floor exercise for the second rotation, which was highlighted by sophomore Ian Makowske's career-best performance of 15.30. As a team, the Maize and Blue garnered a 59.65 on the event, moving into third place, while Ohio State took the overall lead.

Cameron then claimed the pommel horse crown, earning a personal-best 15.10. Ralph Rosso also registered his best score to date on the apparatus with a 14.05. Despite the slew of solid performances, the team remained in third place with a 170.65 total through three rotations.

Cameron paced the Maize and Blue once again, earning another career best on still rings with a 14.80 to give him a share of the event's title during the team's fourth rotation. A total of four Wolverines garnered scores above 14.00 on the apparatus, pushing the squad into a tie for second place with the Buckeyes, heading into the fifth event. Illinois

retook the field's lead, tallying a 229.85 -- 1.250 ahead of U-M and OSU.

With the scores tightening, Michigan took to vault and collected a 59.40 on the event. The high marks pushed U-M into sole possession of first place, creating a 2.20-point advantage over second-place Ohio State. Kelley led the pack, recording a 15.20, and freshman Syque Caesar tallied an impressive 14.90 in his career debut.

Holding the lead, the first-place Wolverines moved to parallel bars for its sixth and final rotation of the night, earning a 58.10 to give themselves enough to hold on to the top spot and claim victory with a total of 346.10 points. Junior David Chan earned a 14.70 on the event to place second overall on parallel bars.

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY

Penn State reigned again as champions of the West Point Open, compiling a score of 345.20 to capture its 11th consecutive title on Friday night at host Army's Christl Arena in West Point, N.Y.

The Nittany Lions continued their dominance of east region teams, topping Temple (329.50), Navy (329.15), Springfield College (326.20), Army (317.75), and M.I.T. (312.90) to gain the 2009 West Point Open crown. Penn State won all six events as a team while four Nittany Lions secured event titles.

Freshman Miguel Pineda highlighted Penn State's showing, placing first in the still rings



PINEDA

(14.50) en route to winning the all-around title (84.70), the first of his collegiate career. He also finished third in the pommel horse (14.70), 11th in the floor exercise (14.15) and parallel bars (13.50), 18th in the vault (14.90), and 27th in the high bar (12.90).

Competing in just four events, defending NCAA All-Around champion Casey Sandy won the parallel bars with a score of 14.95. He also placed second in the pommel horse (14.85), third in the rings (14.25), and fourth in the high bar (14.50).

Nick Virbitsky made it two-for-two in the floor exercise in 2009, winning the event with a score of 15.15 after placing first in the season opener versus Army last weekend (14.95).

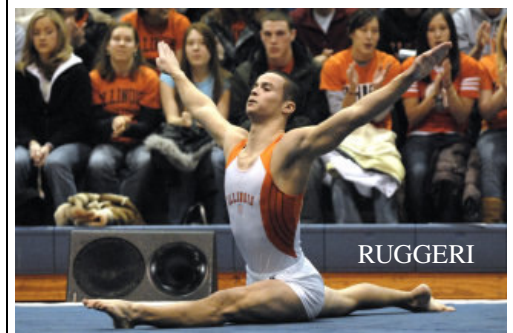
Freshman Matt Albrecht continued his torrid start to his college career on Friday evening, winning the vault (15.90) while advancing to the individual event finals in the parallel bars (5th, 14.00) and floor exercise (7th, 14.25).

Noam Shaham placed third in the all-around (82.40). His top performance came on the high bar, as he placed sixth with a score of 14.40. Classmate Allen Harris advanced to the individual event finals in three of the four events in which he competed during the team finals, placing second in the floor exercise (14.95), sixth in the parallel bars (13.80), and seventh in the vault (15.60).

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

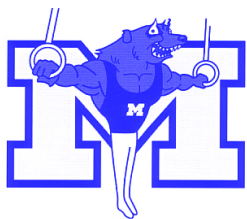
Illinois started off the 2009 season with a solid second place finish at the Windy City Invite Saturday night in Chicago. The Orange and Blue posted a team score of 342.250 to finish behind only No. 6 Michigan (346.100) and ahead of No.8 Minnesota (341.400), No. 3 Ohio State (337.650), No.12 UIC (327.700) and No. 9 Iowa (325.900).

Paul Ruggeri took home the floor title for the Orange and Blue posting an impressive 15.60 on the event. The Manlius, N.Y., native



RUGGERI

Continued next page



posted a 14.70 on parallel bars to finish in a tie for second place. Ruggeri also had a solid performance in the all-around competition finishing fourth with a score of 83.300.

Another top performer for the Illini was sophomore Roger Pasek who finished second on pommel horse with a 14.150 and sixth on floor with a 14.900.

Freshman Anthony Sacramento gave the Illini another top-three finish, placing third on rings with a score of 14.600. Right behind him was senior Tyler Williamson who took fourth with a 14.550.

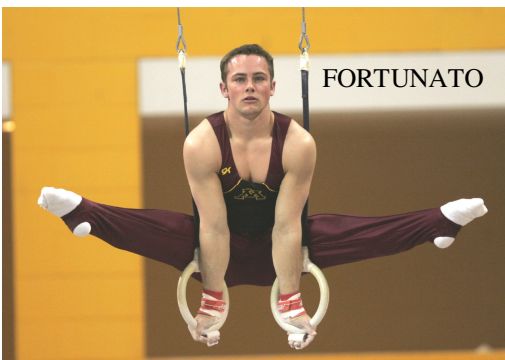
Illinois posted the second best team score of the night on floor (59.600), pommel horse (55.400), and parallel bars (56.700). The Illini were third on rings with a 57.000 and fourth on high bar (54.100) and also tied for fourth on vault with a 59.450.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The University of Minnesota opened its 2009 season with a third-place finish Saturday at the Windy City Invitational, hosted by the University of Illinois-Chicago. The Gophers put together a score of 341.400, finishing behind Michigan (346.100) and Illinois (342.250). Minnesota's total was better than those of Ohio State (337.650), Illinois-Chicago (327.700) and Iowa (325.900).

"It's been a lot of years since we made it to the awards stand as a team at the Windy City," Minnesota head coach Mike Burns said. "This is a big hurdle for this program to jump over and I'm excited for these guys."

Aaron Fortunato turned in the one of the Gophers' top performances in the season opener, winning the parallel bars with a score of 14.90. Fortunato also took a fourth-place finish on the high bar with a 14.15. Mean-



FORTUNATO

while, freshman DJ Repp was the top all-around performer for Minnesota. Repp finished sixth in the all-around with a tally of 80.35.

Other first-time competitors for the Gophers

included a pair of sophomores in Travis Heaver and Michael Paulus who posted scores of 13.50 on still rings and 13.85 on parallel bars, respectively. Freshmen DJ Repp, Russell Dabritz and Ross Cameratta all made their Gopher debuts with solid performances all the way around. Dabritz finished with the team's highest score on the still rings with a 14.45.

Minnesota's strongest event in the competition was the vault. The Gophers compiled a total of 60.50 in the event, led by junior Adam Reichow (Eden Prairie, Minn.) with a score of 15.50. Reichow's tally was good enough for third in the competition. Reichow also tallied Minnesota's top score in the floor exercise with a 14.90.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Ohio State placed fourth with a team total of 337.65 at the 39th-annual Windy City Invitational Saturday. Jake Bateman and Tai Lee nabbed second and third, respectively, in the all-around. Bateman tallied an 87.55 in the all-around, scoring a first-place finish on vault with a 15.6. Lee, a native of Orlando, Fla., tied for first on rings with a 14.8 en- route to



LEE

his 84.15 score in the all-around.

With only four gymnasts competing on parallel bars and high bar, all four scores counted for the Buckeyes on those events. The team began the evening on rings. Lee paced the squad with his tie for first while Bateman did the same for Ohio State on vault with his first-place mark. Making his debut for the Scarlet and Gray on vault was Philip Onorato. The freshman had Ohio State's second-best score on the event, tallying a 15.3 to help the Buckeyes outscore all four meet competitors with a team total of 60.6 on vault.

On parallel bars, Bateman posted a team-best 14.65, good for fourth at the meet, before the team received 1-2 marks on high bar. Justin Myers captured the meet's top mark on high bar with a 14.35. Bateman placed second

with a 14.25 and Lee added a 14.15 for fourth.

Moving on to floor, Eddie posted a Buckeye-high 15.25 to place third and was followed by Bateman with a fourth-place 15.0. On pommel horse, Mike Behles and Steven Spencer made their Ohio State debuts. Bateman and Lee paced the team, scoring a 13.65 and 13.6, respectively. Making his debut after sitting out in 2008 because of injury was Pejman Ebrahimi; Ebrahimi tallied a 14.2 on rings.

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

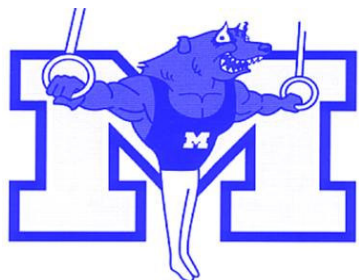
The University of Iowa men's gymnastics team placed sixth at the Windy City Invitational Saturday, hosted by the University of Illinois-Chicago. The Hawkeyes scored a team total of 325.90.

The Windy City Invitational opened the spring season for the Hawkeye squad. Freshman Zach Cazabon had an outstanding collegiate debut for his first meet with the Hawkeyes, placing fifth in the all-around competition with an 80.85, also leading the Hawkeyes on pommel horse and parallel bars scoring 13.10 and 14.00 respectively. Ben Ketelsen placed tenth on vault with a 15.10 while Reid Urbain eleventh on rings with a 14.20.



CAZABON

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR COMPLETE RESULTS OF THE WINDY CITY INV.



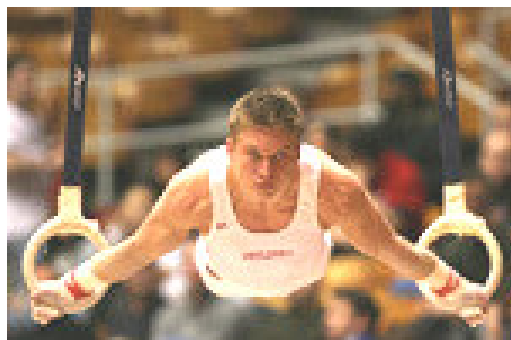
COLLEGE GYMNASTICS ASSOCIATION
 SPECIAL REPORT
 WINDY CITY INVITATIONAL
 January 17, 2009
 UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-CHICAGO



CAMERON



RUGGERI



BATEMAN



MYERS

TEAM SCORING

1 Michigan	346.10
2 Illinois	342.25
3 Minnesota	341.40
4 Ohio State	337.65
5 UIC	327.70
6 Iowa	325.70

ALL AROUND

1 Chris Cameron, Mich	88.10
2 Jake Bateman, OSU	87.55
3 Tai Lee, OSU	84.15
4 Paul Ruggeri, ILL	83.30
5 Zach Cazabon, Iowa	80.85
6 DJ Repp, Minn	80.35

FLOOR EXERCISE

1 Paul Ruggeri, ILL	15.60
2 Ian Makowske, Mich	15.40
3 Eddie Hay, OSU	15.25
4 Jake Bateman, OSU	15.00
5 Chris Cameron, Mich	14.95
6 Adam Reichow, Minn	14.90
6 Roger Pasek, ILL	14.90
8 Edward Campbell, Minn	14.85

POMMEL HORSE

1 Chris Cameron, Mich	15.10
2 Roger Pasek, ILL	14.15
3 Ralph Rosso, Mich	14.05
4 Ryan McCarthy, Mich	13.95
5 Neal Thompson, UIC	13.90
5 Luke Stannard, ILL	13.90
7 Thomas O'Brien, Minn	13.85
8 David Mohr, UIC	13.80
8 Daniel Ribeiro, ILL	13.80

STILL RINGS

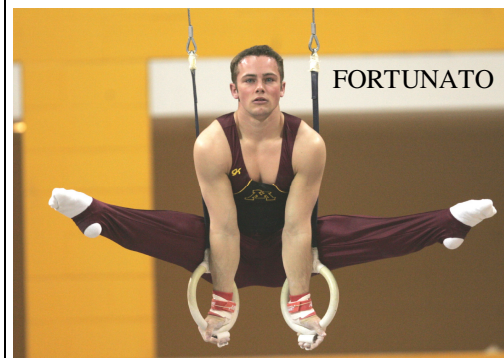
1 Chris Cameron, Mich	14.80
1 Tai Lee, OSU	14.80
3 Anthony Sacramento, ILL	14.60
4 Tyler Williamson, ILL	14.55
5 Phil Goldberg, Mich	14.50
6 Russell Dabritz, Minn	14.45
7 Thomas Kelley, Mich	14.40
7 Jake Bateman, OSU	14.40

VAULT

1 Jake Bateman, OSU	15.60
2 Nick Persino, UIC	15.55
3 Adam Reichow, Minn	15.50
4 Paul Ruggeri, ILL	15.45
5 Alex Kadar, UIC	15.40
6 Phil Onorato, OSU	15.45
7 Thomas Kelley, Mich	15.20
8 Ali Aleiou, Minn	15.15
8 Colin McGuire, Minn	15.15

PARALLEL BARS

1 Aaron Fortunato, Minn	14.90
2 David Chan, Mich	14.70
2 Paul Ruggeri, ILL	14.70
4 Chris Cameron, MICH	14.65
4 Jake Bateman, OSU	14.65
6 Tyler Mizoguchi, ILL	14.60
7 Paul Woodward, MICH	14.40



FORTUNATO



LEE

8 Ralph Rosso, MICH	14.35
8 C.J. Padera, ILL	14.35

HORIZONTAL BAR

1 Justin Myers, OSU	14.35
2 Jake Bateman, OSU	14.25
3 Thomas Kelley, MICH	14.20
4 Aaron Fortunato, MINN	14.15
4 Tai Lee, OSU	14.15
6 Ali Aleiou, MINN	14.05
7 Austin Phillips, ILL	13.95
8 Nikolai Korepanov, UIC	13.90