



COLLEGE GYMNASTICS ASSOCIATION ECAC CONFERENCE

CGA Weekly Report
March 14, 2010
By Jerry Wright



ILLINOIS-CHICAGO

Despite strong performances from Neal Thompson and Andrew Stover, the UIC men's gymnastics team was unable to defeat Iowa or host Minnesota on Saturday evening at the Minnesota Sports Pavilion.

Minnesota won the meet with a 353.900, followed by Iowa (346.750) and the Flames (342.900).

Top finishers for UIC include Thompson's second place finish on the pommels (14.500) and a runner-up showing by Stover on the high bar (14.850). The senior

was barely eeked out in the all-around results, placing second with an 85.150 finish, trailing Minnesota's Aaron Fortunato (86.300).

Nikolai Korepanov tied for second place on the rings with a 14.500 effort.



TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

Freshman Allan Malone scored a season-high 83.450 all-around to lead the Temple men's gymnastics team to a 338.100-331.850 victory over Navy, Saturday afternoon in Annapolis, Md.

Malone and Blake Collins placed two-three all-around, only being outdone by Navy's Andrew Faulk (84.100). Collins took second place finishes on high bar (14.550) and rings (13.950), while Malone matched the effort on both parallel bars (14.100) and floor (14.600).



Jesse Kitzen-Abelson took top honors on pommel horse, scoring an average of 14.400. Chris Mooney claimed the Owls other first place finish, scoring a meet high 14.150 on rings.

The vault team soared to a squad total of 61.400, led by Scott Bloomfield's second place finish (15.600).

On floor Tyler Croteau tallied a score of 14.500 to place third. Taylor Brana earned a pair of third places finishes, scoring 14.000 on parallel bars and 14.500 on rings. Also making a third place showing was Evan Burke, scoring 15.550 on vault.

WILLIAM AND MARY

The College of William and Mary entered the last event of Sunday afternoon's tri-meet at Springfield College holding a slight lead on the hosting Pride. Needing a strong finish, the Tribe received five-straight personal best efforts on the parallel bars to record the upset of Springfield.

The Tribe finished with a team-season best score of 337.80, which edged out Springfield (336.60) for second place overall at the event. Number 12 Air Force captured the team title with a score of 342.95.

Individually, the Tribe scored two event titles on the afternoon, as Josh Fried took top honors on the floor exercise with a personal-best score of 14.70. Derek Gygax posted the meet's best effort on the high bars, flowing to a season best mark of 14.30. Overall, Gygax was his usual solid-self, as he counted towards the team's score in all six-events for the fourth-consecutive meet. He also posted a third-place overall finishes in the all-around and on the pommel horse, with a team-season best scores of 84.00 and 14.2, respectively.



Gygax also led the charge on the team's amazing performance on the parallel bars, his mark of 14.5 was both a personal, and team-season best. His score was the pinnacle performance, as Andy Hunter 14.45, Alex Egerter 14.20, and Vince Smurro 14.0 all also set personal bests on the event.

Smurro, a freshman also cracked the team's all-time Top 10 in the high bar event, where he scored a personal-best 13.85, which placed him sixth overall at the event.

Fellow freshman Futa Ikeda finished just behind Gygax on the pommel horse, recording a score of 14.00 (which ties him for fifth in the Tribe's all-time listing).

Dave Ellis had a career-best performance on the rings, as he finished third overall with a team-season best mark of 14.25. Stephen Deutsch finished close on his heels, placing fourth with a mark of 14.15. Both scores cracked the team's all-time top 10, as Ellis' placed him third and Deutsch currently is in fifth.

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE

A total team effort lead Springfield College to a season high score of 336.650 in a tri-meet against Air Force and William and Mary. Despite the strong showing, the Pride fell short of both Air Force (342.950) and William & Mary (337.800).

Entering the final apparatus, Springfield was in first place by about a point over both Air Force and William & Mary. But Air Force scored 62.350 points in the vault, while William & Mary tallied a 57.150 on parallel bars, and Springfield a 54.700 on high bar.

Springfield's Ty Evans placed second in the all-around with an 84.250. Evans also placed first in the parallel bars (14.550) and fifth on vault (15.400). Junior Josh Fox recorded an 82.200, placing fourth in the meet. He also finished second on the floor (14.600) and tied for second on high bar (14.250).



Several other individuals also had notable performances on the day. Matt Tocchio finished second on pommel horse with a 14.250. Jimmy Pezzino tied for third on the vault (15.550) and tied for fourth on floor (14.400). Josh Spencer tied for fourth on the rings (14.150), while also finishing fifth on high bar



(13.900). Mike Licari performed well on pommel horse, scoring a 13.700 for fifth place.

Springfield College continues to build momentum despite the third place finish in today's competition. USAG Championships are next on the schedule, a rematch against both Air Force and William and Mary. With several returning All-Americans, the Pride is positioned to peak during the upcoming championship competitions.

U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

Ty Smith was first on parallel bars and runner-up on vault and all-around, and freshman



Garrek Hojan-Clark set a team high winning pommel horse as the Army gymnastics team closed out its regular season Friday evening against service-academy rival Air Force. The No. 12 ranked Falcons defeated the No. 15 Black Knights 330.2-340.4.

Clark earned medalist honors on parallel bars with a 13.4 and scored a 15.25 in taking second on vault en route to compiling a career-high 81.80 in the all-around scoring. Justin Sappington turned in a season high 14.15 in finishing third on pommel horse as Army claimed two of the top three spots on that apparatus.

Hojan-Clark earned medalist honors on pommel horse with a 14.9 in outpointing the Falcons' Chase Nobels by .35 in winning that event for the second straight meet and third time this season. He shattered his previous

team high of 14.35 set at the West Point Open in early January.

Freshmen Jared Breeden, Kip Webber and Nick Fettinger turned in strong performances finishing among the top scorers in their events. Breeden tied for third on still rings registering a personal best 14.05 with Webber and Fettinger taking fourth on floor exercise (14.1) and parallel bars (13.25), respectively.

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

Dylan Parrott won three events to highlight Navy's performance against Temple to close out the gymnastics regular season on Saturday afternoon in Macdonough Hall. The Midshipmen scored a home season-high 331.85 points, more than 12 points above its previous home mark, while the Owls accumulated 338.1 points.

Keying Navy's best home score of the season was its event title on the pommel horse with 53.4 points. The Midshipmen also registered a season-high mark of 60.35 points on the vault.

Parrott, the reigning USAG Division National Gymnast of the Week, began his afternoon with a 14.75-point routine on the floor exercise and concluded with scores of 14.3 and 15.1 points on the parallel bars and high bar, respectively. The Navy junior's performance on the high bar was just 0.15-shy of his season-best performance, which currently stands as the eighth-highest score in the country.



Andrew Faulk won the all-around for the second-straight week and fourth time this season with an 84.4-point tally. Highlighting his performance on Saturday was a stellar 15.75-point, first-place showing on the vault. He also placed third on the pommel horse and high bar with scores of 13.4 and 14.45 points,

respectively.

Joseph Kramer paced the Mids on the pommel horse and landed second overall with his 13.45-point effort. Brandon Tinkham earned a 13.65-point score from the judges on the still rings to lead Navy and finish fourth overall in the event.

NATIONAL TEAM SCORES FOR THE PAST WEEK

Michigan	359.65
Oklahoma	359.25
Illinois	358.65
Ohio State	354.90
California	354.65
Minnesota	353.90
Iowa	346.75
Illinois-Chicago	346.20
Penn State	344.30
Air Force	342.95
Temple	338.10
William/Mary	337.80
Springfield	336.65
Navy	331.85
Army	330.20