



COLLEGE GYMNASTICS ASSOCIATION

BIG TEN CONFERENCE

CGA Weekly Report

Jan. 22, 2012

Compiled by Jerry Wright



NATIONAL SCORES THIS PAST WEEK

Oklahoma	353.15
Illinois	352.30
Ohio State	347.75
Stanford	345.60
California	340.45
Michigan	340.30
Minnesota	339.40
Penn State	338.45
Nebraska	336.55
Air Force	331.75
Temple	330.80
Iowa	326.20
ILL-Chicago	321.30
Navy	309.40
Springfield	308.00
William/Mary	307.90

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

The University of Illinois took down Iowa, 352.300-326.200, to open the dual season Saturday night at the Carver-Hawkeye Arena. The Orange and Blue finished first on all six events both as a team and individually and captured the top three spots in the all-around en-route to their first victory of the season.

Freshman C.J. Maestas, last week's NCAA Gymnast of the Week, led the Illini once again in his second competition with the Orange and Blue. The Corrales, N.M., native captured his second straight all-around (86.800) and rings (15.600) titles, improving



MAESTAS

his scores in both. The Illini newcomer also won on pommel horse (15.000) and floor (15.600) and finished third on vault (14.600).

Meanwhile, redshirt senior Paul Ruggeri posted a solid night of his own, taking his second consecutive crown on high bar

(15.800) and his first of the season on vault (15.400). Ruggeri, who boasts 58 individual titles in his career, is now one win away from tying Spring for fifth-most in school history. The Manlius, N.Y. native also finished second on floor (14.500) and in the all-around (86.200).

Fellow senior Tyler Mizoguchi collected his first title of the season, placing first on parallel bars (15.200) to round out the Illini event-winners. The Houston, Texas, native also took second on vault (14.900) and third both on floor (14.300) and in the all-around (85.400).

Several other Illini finished in the top three, as newcomer Michael Wilner took second on rings (15.200), just edging senior Kyle Moe, who finished third with a career-high 15.100. Senior C. J. Padera finished second on pommel horse (14.400) and parallel bars (15.100), while junior Austin Phillips placed second on high bar (14.900), and classmate Yoshi Mori tied for third with Mizoguchi on floor (14.300).

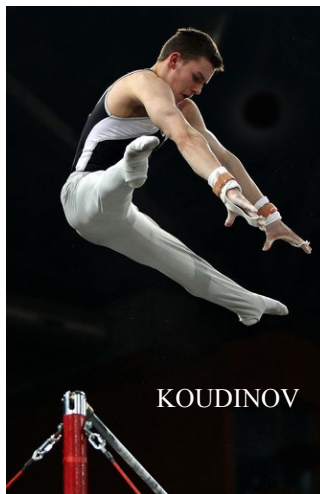
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

In its regular season home opener, Ohio State fell to Oklahoma 353.150-347.750 Saturday afternoon at St. John Arena.

The Scarlet and Gray began the meet on floor exercise, posting a season-high 60.300 team score. Misha Koudinov led the Buckeyes after collecting a career-high 15.6, while junior co-captain Blaize Monks and freshman Danny Steiner notched 15.2 and 15.0, respectively.

Oklahoma scored a 61.600 team score guided by Jacob Dalton, who was rewarded with a meet-high 16.25 on floor exercise. Dalton won the all-around competition with an 89.000.

On pommel horse, senior co-captain and two-time All-American Ty Echard posted a team-high 15.05 for first overall in the competition.



KOUDINOV

Next on rings, freshman Drew Moling highlighted the event for the Buckeyes with a 15.1. Senior Philip Onorato followed Moling with a 14.7.

Freshman Larry Mayer soared his way to a 15.0 to tie for first place overall in the competition with Oklahoma's Dalton.

On the fifth event of the afternoon, Ohio State was guided by two underclassmen on parallel bars. Freshman Alex Nork notched a team-high 14.75, while Koudinov collected a 14.8 to give the Buckeyes a 56.400 team score.

The Scarlet and Gray concluded their first home meet with one of their strongest events of the competition on high bar. Monks led the squad with an impressive 15.05, while Moling received a big round of applause with his score of 14.8.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The No. 6-ranked University of Michigan knocked off top-ranked Penn State, 340.300-338.450, on Saturday (Jan. 21) at Cliff Keen Arena.



DE LOS ANGELES

Freshman Adrian de los Angeles led the team with wins in the vault and his first career all-around title (83.700).

Michigan began the night on floor, where freshman Stacey Ervin paced the Maize and Blue with a third-place 14.90. Caesar and de los Angeles followed by registering scores of 14.8 to aid in giving Michigan a 58.70 in the opening event of the night.

In the second rotation, U-M took to the pommel horse, improving on its Windy City score of last week by 2.1 points, scoring a 54.00. James led the way with the first event title of his career, a career-high 14.00 on the

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U-M then moved to rings, where sophomore Matt Freeman led Michigan with a career-best 14.75 and placed third, while junior Rohan Sabastian used a Nakayama cross and Yamawaki piked tuck to notch a career-best 14.45.

The Wolverines dominated the vault competition, taking the top four spots. Rookie de los Angeles led the way with a 14.90, while Caesar hit a 14.70 for second place. Sebastian collected third with a 14.40.

Caesar earned the fourth parallel bar title of his career with a 15.40; de los Angeles took second (14.40).

Penn State closed the gap in the final rotation with a 56.15 on parallel bars, but Michigan collected a 54.80 on high bar, the Achilles heel of the Windy City Invite, to hold on for the win. Caesar led the Wolverines on high bar with a 14.70, which was good enough for second. Freshman Taylor Harrower, the second Wolverine on the night to make his collegiate debut, scored a third-place 13.95 in front of the home crowd.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

The Gophers won their first home meet of the 2012 season over the UIC Flames by a final score of 339.4-321.3.

It was a bit of a rocky start on the first two events, the floor and pommel horse. But the team rebounded with some solid performances and finished the meet strong.

Senior Russell Dabritz earned the Cooke Award for his outstanding performances. He won the pommel horse event with a 13.8, the still rings with a 14.7, and came in third on the parallel bars.



Freshman Kyle Banks excelled today as well. The walk-on from Perris, California finished second on the floor exercise with a score of 15.0 and second on the high bar with a 14.3.

The Gophers swept the top three spots on the pommel horse, still rings, vault, and high bar.

Zack Chase finished first on the vault with a 15.1. Ross Cameratta won the parallel bars event with a 14.9. And freshman Ellis Manon was the high bar champion with a score of 14.5.

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY

Penn State dropped its 2012 road opener on Saturday evening, falling to Big Ten rival Michigan, 340.300-338.450, at Cliff Keen Arena in Ann Arbor.

Penn State was dominant once again in the still rings, outscoring the Wolverines by nearly three points (59.650-56.750). Senior Miguel Pineda competing for the first time in 2012 after sitting out last weekend's season opener, won the event with a score of 15.300. Reigning Big Ten Gymnast of the Week junior Scott Rosenthal placed second (15.250) while sophomore Nestor Rodriguez finished in fourth with a career-high score of 14.650.

Penn State scored a 59.200 in the floor exercise with junior Parker Raque taking top individual honors (15.300) and junior Matt Chelberg placing second (15.000).



Mackenzie Dow was Penn State's third individual winner, claiming his third title through the first two weeks of the season. The junior captured the high bar with a career-best mark of 14.750.

Seeing action for the first time since qualifying for the 2012 Olympics earlier this month, junior Felix Aronovich competed in four events. His top effort was a third place finish in the parallel bars (14.200).

Freshman Craig Hernandez made his Nittany Lion debut on Saturday. A former Junior Olympic national champion in the pommel horse, he placed third in the event with Penn State's top score (13.400).

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

Nebraska upended Air Force 336.55-331.75 at the Bob Devaney Sports Center on Sunday. The victory came just one week after the Falcons edged the Huskers at the Rocky Mountain Open.

Nebraska captured five event titles on the day, led by senior all-arounder Andreas Hofer. Hofer posted a total score of 82.20, including a 14.75 on vault and a 14.00 on still rings. NU



was also powered by strong performances from several freshmen. Gabriel Jolley exploded for a 14.85 on vault, the highest mark by any athlete on the day and the best vault mark for the Huskers so far this season. Freshman Grant Perdue added his first event title with a 14.15 on vault, while sophomore Eric Schryver picked up the pommel horse event title with a mark of 14.70. Senior David Jacobs snagged NU's final event title on the day, posting a 14.45 on high bar.

The Huskers started the afternoon on floor, led by Perdue's mark of 14.15. Senior Will Eastman contributed a 13.55.

Nebraska moved to pommel horse, tallying a team score of 56.95 that included Schryver's 14.70. Sophomore Wyatt Aycock garnered a career-high mark on horse, picking up a score of 14.65.

The Huskers moved to rings, where Wyatt Baier led the Big Red with a career-high score of 14.15. Hofer added a 14.00 as the Huskers totaled 54.75 on the event.

The Huskers had a strong team performance on vault, posting a score of 58.90. Jolley's top mark of 14.85 was the highest vault score by Nebraska this season. Junior Wyatt Baier (14.80) and senior Andreas Hofer (14.75) recorded the second and third place performances, respectively.

Nebraska moved to parallel bars, where Aycock led the Huskers with a mark of 14.25, good for second overall.

Nebraska wrapped up its victory on high bar, powered by Jacobs' performance. Eastman also contributed a 14.25.

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UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

The University of Iowa fell short against Illinois on Saturday inside Carver-Hawkeye Arena. The Hawkeyes were defeated by a final score of 352.300-326.200.

The Hawkeyes improved their team score by nearly ten points since their last competition one week ago. Iowa was competing in Carver-Hawkeye Arena for the first time in almost two seasons after renovations forced Iowa to compete inside the Field House last year.

The Hawkeyes got a great performance out of junior Javier Balboa. After finishing outside the top-six in his first three events, Balboa strung three consecutive top-three finishes together to close out the dual and finish fourth on all-around (84.200).

Balboa finished in third place on parallel bars (14.800) and high bar (14.000) and tied for third on vault (14.600).



Senior Zach Cazabon led the Hawkeyes on pommel horse with a third place finish, scoring a 13.800 on the event. The score was a personal best for the Brentwood, Mo., native. Freshman Mitchell Landau placed tied for sixth (13.200).

Junior Matt McGrath placed tied for fifth on rings to pace Iowa. The reigning All-American scored a 14.500 on the event. McGrath competed on rings and parallel bars, but was unable to compete on floor and vault - his two best events - due to a knee injury. Iowa was without their leader on rings as well as junior Anton Gryshayev who was injured on floor exercise and did not return.

Junior Todd Becker led the Hawkeyes on floor exercise with a 14.000 to place sixth.

Junior Broderick Shemansky (14.100) and Landau (14.000) paced the Hawkeyes on vault with a sixth and seventh place finish to compliment Balboa's top-three score. Landau also placed tied for fourth on parallel bars (14.300), while McGrath finished tied for sixth place (14.200).