

Gymnasts of the Week – Jan. 20-22, 2012

Awards are given by conference offices

Big Ten Conference

Co-Gymnasts of the Week

Lora Evenstad - Nebraska

- Took first place in the all-around and placed in the top three in all four events against Iowa State, leading No. 1 Nebraska to a road victory
- Earned the floor exercise title with a score of 9.900, placed second on bars (9.875) and took third place on vault (9.850) and balance beam (9.825)
- Totaled an all-around score of 39.450 to claim first place
- Picks up her first Big Ten weekly award
- Last Nebraska Gymnast of the Week: Jessie DeZiel (Jan. 16, 2012)

Sharaya Musser - Penn State

- Took the all-around, balance beam and bars titles in No. 9 Penn State's second-place finish in a quad meet with No. 5 Alabama, Cornell and Michigan State
- Scored 9.900 marks on bars and balance beam en route to first-place finishes, adding a third-place score on vault (9.875) and taking 10th in the floor exercise (9.750)
- Recorded an all-around score of 39.425 en route to the title
- Collects her seventh career Big Ten weekly award and second this season
- Last Penn State Gymnast of the Week: Sharaya Musser (Jan. 9, 2012)

Freshman of the Week

Jessie DeZiel - Nebraska

- Won the vault and balance beam crowns in top-ranked Nebraska's win at Iowa State
 - Scored a 9.900 on the balance beam and 9.875 on the vault, adding a 9.825 in the floor exercise and a 9.800 on the bars to claim fourth place in both events
 - Recorded an all-around score of 39.400 to place second overall
 - Earns her second consecutive Freshman of the Week award
 - Last Nebraska Freshman of the Week: Jessie DeZiel (Jan. 16, 2012)
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Big 12 Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Taylor Spears - Oklahoma

In her first career all-around appearance, Spears captured the title at the TWU quad meet on Saturday to lead the Sooners to the highest road score in the NCAA this season (197.540). The sophomore posted a career-high 9.900 on vault to finish second, as well as boasted a career-high-tying 9.875 on floor. Spears rounded out her evening scoring a 9.800 on bars and 9.625 on beam. The native of Plano, Texas, has earned a 9.8 or higher in six of her last seven routines. Spears is the first Sooner to compete in the all-around this season, and only the third OU gymnast to compete on all four apparatuses in the past three seasons.

Specialist of the Week

Sara Stone - Oklahoma

Stone claimed the event title on vault Saturday night with a season-high 9.925. The senior tabbed a 9.925 on floor and a career-high 9.85 on beam to place second in both events. Stone's scores

helped Oklahoma sweep every event in the quad meet. The Dallas-native has scored a 9.9 or higher in three routines this season.

Newcomer of the Week

Rachel Updike - Missouri

In Missouri's upset over then 16th-ranked Denver on Friday, Updike took home titles in all three events for the second time this season. The freshman produced a 9.875 on vault, 9.800 on beam and recorded a 9.925 for her floor routine. The Olathe, Kan.-native has been a frontrunner for the Tigers this year, leading the squad to a 3-0 record for the first time since the 2010 campaign. She joins Sarah Shire as the only Missouri gymnasts to earn three-consecutive weekly league honors.

East Atlantic Gymnastics League

Gymnast of the Week

Brooke Barr – North Carolina State

Barr captured a pair of first place finishes on floor with a season-high 9.875 and vault with a 9.85. Barr's floor routine scored a full tenth of a point higher than any other gymnast in the meet, as UIC's Chantel Turk posted a 9.775 for second. Barr finished second in her only other event of the day, a 9.8 beam routine that fell just short of fellow Wolfpacker Jess Panza.

Specialist of the Week

Kate McGeever – New Hampshire

McGeever recorded a personal-best and meet-leading 9.9 on floor exercise to help guide the Wildcats (2-1, 2-0 EAGL) to a 194.15-193.725 victory against Pittsburgh on Saturday at Lundholm Gymnasium. It is the first career weekly EAGL honor for McGeever, a two-time member of the EAGL All-Academic Team and a 2011 NACGC/W Scholastic All-American.

Rookie of the Week

Stephanie Giameo – Maryland

Giameo placed first on beam with a 9.750 for her first career individual title in the Terps victories against Alaska and Bridgeport. The Roselle Park, N.J., native scored a career-high 9.800 on floor and tied a career high with a 9.650 on vault.

Eastern College Athletic Conference – Division I

Gymnast of the Week

Kacy Catanzaro - Towson University

Catanzaro led the Tigers to a first-place finish in their tri-meet against Alaska Anchorage and William & Mary by winning three events and the all-around competition. One week after falling on the vault at Ursinus, she won the vault competition with a career-best 9.875 score. On the uneven bars, she also took first place with a career-high 9.825 score and won the balance beam with a 9.75. On the floor exercise, she had a 9.45. In the all-around competition, she took first place with a 38.90 score as she won the all-around for the fourth time in her career. It was her first all-around title since her freshman season since she had been limited to three events the last two years due to injuries. Catanzaro also became the 43rd gymnast in school history to score 1,000 career points as the Tigers improved to 6-0 on the season.

Rookie of the Week

Amber Woo - University of Pennsylvania

Woo scored a career high at the dual meet against Rutgers. She also earned the highest all-around by a rookie in the ECAC this week. Woo improved her previous all-around score by 1.6

points. She earned the fourth highest score in the all-around, third highest score on beam, and third highest score on floor in the meet.

Specialist of the Week

Lindsay Andsager - Yale University

Andsager placed second in competition with three other universities in a tightly scored bar rotation.

Coaches Choice

Mia Yabut - Yale University

Yabut is a senior captain of the team and has been hurt all three years prior to her senior year. She participated in a few meets on bars and on vault as Yale did not have enough to compete. She participated in the all-around for the first time in four years. Although she had a few problems on the beam she still scored an all-around score of 36.275. She was determined to compete in the all-around before graduation and she was successful.

Eastern College Athletic Conference – Division II

Gymnast of the Week

Monica Mesalles Sallares - University of Bridgeport

Mesalles Sallares had an outstanding weekend by taking first place in the all-around at the University of Maryland tri-meet on Friday night with a score of 38.950 and at the Brown University triangular on Sunday with a 38.375. After she tied for second place in the vault (9.8) and on the balance beam (9.725) at Maryland, she saved her best performance for Sunday. At Brown, she had first-place showings in the vault (9.875), floor exercise (9.8) and beam (9.9), setting a school record in the latter event.

Rookie of the Week

Lauren Bilenki - West Chester University

Bilenki had strong performances on the vault (9.425) and beam on Saturday against SUNY Cortland. She placed third on the beam with a 9.625, helping the team establish a school record on the apparatus with a 47.400 score. WCU defeated the Red Dragons to move to 5-1 on the season.

Specialist of the Week

Emily Repko - University of Bridgeport

Repko tied for first place on the beam Sunday at Brown, sharing the school record of 9.9 with teammate Mesalles Sallares who recorded that mark on the same day. She also scored a 9.650 on the beam Friday at Maryland.

Coaches' Pick of the Week

Kirby Pallis - Southern Connecticut State University

In a four-team meet that included Springfield, College at Brockport and Division I Yale, Pallis posted a school-record 9.85 score on the uneven bars to capture first place in the event. She boasted a 3.94 grade-point average after the fall semester for a team high. Not only has she worked hard in the classroom, but she's also been tireless in the gym to put herself in a position to set the benchmark on the UB bars over the weekend.

Eastern College Athletic Conference – Division III

Gymnast of the Week

Brittany Baglow, Springfield College

Baglow scored a career-high in the all-around this weekend. She placed third in the all-around with a 37.775 in a field of strong competition against Yale University, Southern Connecticut State University and the College at Brockport. Baglow also placed second on the vault (9.55), seventh on the balance beam (9.5) and ninth on the floor exercise (9.625). Baglow's hard work during her first two collegiate seasons is producing strong performances on all events this year.

Rookie of the Week

Elise Konikoff, SUNY Cortland

Konikoff continues to give strong performances in the vault and balance beam with finishes of third and fifth place, respectively, last week.

Specialist of the Week

Kay Gordon, Ithaca College

Gordon was Ithaca's top performer on two of her three events. She led Ithaca's beam team with a 9.5 and led the floor team with a 9.55. She was the top Division III performer on each event at a tri-meet. Gordon leads NCGA beam rankings. On the floor, she successfully completed her double-back for the first time.

Coaches' Choice

Lauren Pocius, Springfield College

Pocius scored a personal-best on all four events as well as in the all-around. She posted a 9.4 on the vault, a 9.5 on the uneven bars to give her a fifth-place finish in the event, an 8.8 on the beam, a 9.4 on the floor, and a 37.1 to place her fifth in the all-around. Her performances were instrumental in helping Springfield College obtain a season-high team score.

Mid American Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Taylor Zondervan - Western Michigan

Senior Taylor Zondervan competed in three events this week, helping Western Michigan defeat Northern Illinois on the road, 194.575 to 193.350. Zonderavan had a first-place, runner-up and fifth place finish in her events. She totaled a career and team-season high 9.850 to place first on floor exercise, then tied a career-high with a 9.775 on uneven bars to finish second. Zondervan tallied a solid 9.650 on balance beam to place fifth. Zondervan's contributions helped Western Michigan post the highest team score in the MAC this season, as well as the sixth highest total in school history. Western Michigan is off to a 3-0 overall, 2-0 MAC start in 2012.

Specialist of the Week

Rachel Goldenberg - Kent State

In two events for Kent State, Goldenberg won both the vault and floor against Eastern Michigan. In the vault, Goldenberg anchored Kent State's strong performance with a 9.850, the team's best mark on the apparatus this season. Then, with her 9.900 on the floor, Goldenberg posted a career-best score as well as the top score this season in the Mid-American Conference.

Midwest Independent Conference

All-Arounder of the Week

Rashonda Cannie – Texas Woman's

Cannie placed third in the all-around with a score of 38.825 in the quad meet against #10 Oklahoma, Centenary and Utah State on Saturday. She improved her score by .525 from the season opener against Ari Force on Jan. 14th. Cannie recorded a 9.675 on vault, 9.775 on bars, 9.575 on beam and 9.800 on floor.

Specialist of the Week

Chantel Turk – Illinois-Chicago

Junior Chantel Turk (Hazelcrest, Ill./Homewood-Flossmoor) earned the honor after her performance against North Carolina State, which was held Jan. 14 inside the Physical Education Building in Chicago, Ill. The meet was UIC's Homecoming event, and Turk claimed the top spot for the Flames in the vault and the floor exercise, where she posted a 9.775 in both events.

Mountain Pacific Sports Federation

Co-Gymnasts of the Week

Melissa Doucette – Alaska-Anchorage

Alaska sophomore Melissa Doucette (Rochester, NH) posted career and UAA season-high all-arounds (38.375, 38.400) in consecutive meets at No. 23 Maryland and Towson, helping the Seawolves to a win over William & Mary. She set or tied career-highs on bars (9.65 at Towson), floor (9.775 at Maryland) and beam (9.375 at Towson) both days.

Sherah Veron – Seattle Pacific

Seattle Pacific senior Sherah Veron (Broken Arrow, OK), in a dual at No. 19 San Jose State, displayed the top routine for any Falcon (9.875, 1st) and tied for the highest amongst all MPSF Gymnasts on any event since her own 9.90 on floor at the 2010 MPSF Championships. Additionally, Veron's career vault (9.775, 2nd) lifted SPU above 48 on that event, a feat not achieved in the last two years.

Pac-12 Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Samantha Peszek – UCLA

Sophomore standout Samantha Peszek has continued her scintillating start to the season, helping then-No. 7 UCLA record a national best 197.575 in its meet against San Jose State on Sunday. The Indianapolis, Ind., native won the all-around for the third consecutive meet, recording a career high 39.500.

Special Performance of the Week

Leslie Mak – Oregon State

Senior All-American Leslie Mak won the all-around against No. 13 Arizona, scoring a 39.400 for the second time in as many weeks. The Toronto, Ontario, native, also had a near-perfect performance on the beam, matching her career high with a 9.950. Mak is the first Pac-12 gymnast this season to earn both Gymnast and Special Performance of the week.

Southeastern Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Katherine Grable - Arkansas

Grable set a school record with a 39.725 all-around and matched the school record with a 9.95 on floor in leading Arkansas to a school record 197.225 in the win over LSU. She also had a second 9.95, matching the school's second-best mark on vault, a 9.925 on beam, matching the fifth-best score, and a 9.90 on bars, matching the seventh-best score. Grable won vault, beam, floor and all-around titles. She aided the Razorbacks to a No. 1 national ranking for the first time in program history.

Freshman of the Week

Kytra Hunter - Florida

Hunter picked up at least of share of four event titles at Kentucky, including collecting her third consecutive all-around title with a collegiate-best total of 39.475. She joins teammate Ashanée Dickerson (2010) as the only Gators since 1987 to open their collegiate careers by claiming the season's first three all-around titles. Hunter also used collegiate-best marks to take three other event wins – vault (9.925) and balance beam (9.85). She shared the evening's uneven bars win at 9.875 with junior All-American Marissa King. In the current national rankings, Hunter holds the following positions: No. 7 floor (9.883 average), No. 10 vault (9.883) and No. 16 all-around (39.233). She leads the 2012 Gators with eight event titles.

Western Athletic Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Alyssa Click – Utah

Click, a junior from Vancouver, Wash. (Skyview HS) won the all-around title in a meet against Brigham Young last week. Click tied or set new career bests in four of her five events. She captured three individual titles, including bars (9.875), floor (9.875) and in the all-around (39.400). Four of her five scores also marked team-best numbers so far this season.

Specialist of the Week

Kailey Hansen – Sacramento State

Hansen, a sophomore from Ventura, Calif. (Washington) matched her career high with a 9.875 on floor at a dual meet against Boise State last week. The score placed Hansen second overall in the event.

Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

Specialist

Katherine Prouty - UW-Stout

Prouty tied for first on the vault with a score of 9.525 at the Winona State (Minn.) Invitational Jan. 21, improving on her season-opening score of 9.325. Prouty was also second on the uneven bars (9.20) and fifth on the balance beam (9.00). All three scores were collegiate-bests.

All-Around

Katie Thompson - UW-Whitewater

Thompson scored 36.875 in the all-around in a dual meet against UW-La Crosse Jan. 21. She helped UW-Whitewater total 184.825, season best and tied for 24th in the school record book. Thompson also helped the Warhawks in the uneven bars (8.90), with the Warhawks' total team score (45.85) 10th in the school record book; contributed to the combined total of 45.750 on the

balance beam, 24th in UW-Whitewater record book, with her 9.225; and helped the team tie for 10th highest in the school record book in the team floor exercise with 46.950 with her 9.35.