

Gymnasts of the Week – March 10-16, 2014

Awards are given by conference offices

Big Ten Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Emily Wong, Nebraska

- Won the all-around with a score of 39.625 to help No. 9 Nebraska defeat No. 14 Illinois, No. 23 Ohio State and Michigan State and clinch a share of the Big Ten Championship
- Placed first on the floor exercise (9.950) and bars (9.925) and finished fourth on the beam (9.875) and vault (9.875)
- Finished first in the all-around in every meet the Cornhuskers competed in this season

Event Specialist of the Week

Amber See, Illinois

- Placed second on the floor exercise with a score of 9.925 in No. 14 Illinois' Big Ten quad meet versus No. 9 Nebraska, No. 23 Ohio State and Michigan State
- Tied for first on the vault with mark of 9.900 and finished seventh on the beam (9.850)

Freshman of the Week

Nicole Artz, Michigan

- Tied for second in three events in No. 8 Michigan's Big Ten quad meet versus No. 13 Minnesota, No. 15 Penn State and Iowa
- Recorded a score of 9.900 on the bars, beam and floor exercise

Big 12 Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Haley Scaman, Oklahoma

Oklahoma's meet at No. 16 Arkansas was another record-breaking night for sophomore Scaman, who posted her third perfect 10.0 of the season and first ever on vault against the Razorbacks. Scaman's 10.0 anchored OU to a 49.575 on vault, the squad's second-highest score on the event this season. Scaman is now the first Sooner in OU women's gymnastics history to post three perfect 10.0s and the first to post a perfect 10.0 on multiple events. The sophomore also earned a 9.95 on floor to finish in second; the score boosted Scaman to the No. 1 overall spot in the nation on the event. Scaman also captured a 9.825 on uneven bars on the night.

Specialist of the Week

Maile'ana Kanewa, Oklahoma

Kanewa had a standout night for Oklahoma in its win over No. 16 Arkansas. Kanewa tied her career-high of 9.95 on vault, marking the second time in two meets she has picked up a 9.95 on the event. Her efforts gave her a second-place finish on the event overall and aided Oklahoma to its second-highest score on the event this season (49.575). Kanewa added a 9.875 on floor exercise to finish fourth on the event.

Newcomer of the Week

Chayse Capps, Oklahoma

Capps earned two scores of 9.9 or higher in Oklahoma's road win over 16th-ranked Arkansas last weekend. Capps was stellar on all three events, beginning the night with a 9.9 on vault. After following with a 9.825 on floor, Capps then shifted to beam, posting a 9.9 in the No. 4 routine after a fall in the No. 3 slot. Capps is tied for eighth nationally on beam and is the only true

freshman in the country ranked in the top 10 on the event. She notched top-five finishes on two events overall on the evening.

East Atlantic Gymnastics League

Gymnast of the Week

Stephanie Ouellette, N.C. State

Ouellette finished with a career-best score of 39.525 in the all-around competition in her final competition inside Reynolds Coliseum. Her score in the all-around ties for third in school history. In addition, Ouellette also posted a career-best score on the uneven bars with a 9.925, marking the highest score by a Wolfpack gymnast this season on the event. Ouellette won vault (9.900), bars (9.925) and all-around (39.525) in addition to placing second on beam (9.850) and floor (9.850) in Sunday's meet.

Co-Specialists of the Week

Jessie Black, Maryland

Black performed a tremendous routine on bars on Sunday afternoon in Maryland's victory over West Virginia in the team's last regular-season meet on Senior Night. Black tied her career-high score on the event with a 9.875 and won first place. She originally set her career record in the Terps' win over North Carolina earlier this season, also at Comcast Center.

Laura Kummerle, Pittsburgh

Kummerle recorded a career high on the balance beam with a 9.875 and claimed the event title on Saturday night at Pitt's final home meet of the season. The Panthers scored their fourth-highest team score in school history with a 196.125.

Rookie of the Week

Chelsea Raineri, George Washington

The Telford, Pa., native dominated the final weekend of competition, totaling first-place finishes in five of her six routines to lead the Colonials to two victories. On vault she notched a score of 9.875 for the seventh and eighth time this season in a pair of event titles at Towson and at Sunday's Senior Meet, respectively. She also set a season high on uneven bars with a 9.875 on Sunday, tying for first place for her first career event title on bars. Raineri was dominant on floor exercise as well, tying for first in both meets with a 9.875 on Friday and 9.85 on Sunday.

Eastern College Athletic Conference – Division I

Co-Gymnasts of the Week

Brittany Stover, William & Mary

Stover helped the Tribe record its second-best score of the season (193.425) in a quad meet with North Carolina, Brown and Rutgers. She also helped W&M defeat Temple, 193.375 – 189.525. Stover won the all-around title in both meets. Her score at the quad meet (39.100) ranks as the third-best score at W&M. She won the vault title, placed fourth on bars and equaled a season high at the quad meet. In addition to winning the dual meet all-around title, she also placed second on vault, second on bars and third on beam. By winning the vault title in the quad meet, she helped the Tribe post the fourth-best score in school history (48.725). She also helped the team post the program's fifth-best mark on beam (48.725).

Morgan Traina, Yale

Traina recently led Yale to a season-high score against Towson and George Washington, as the Bulldogs posted a 191.750. She also placed first in the all-around with a career-best 38.900. Traina placed third on the beam with a 9.800.

Rookie of the Week

Caroline Morant, Brown

Morant helped the Bears break the school record for team total for the second consecutive week, as they recorded a 194.225. She earned a personal best 39.025 in the all-around as well as a personal best 9.825 on beam. Her all-around was the top all-around score of all ECAC freshmen this week.

Specialist of the Week

Alexandra Chretien, Brown

Chretien had a career-high and earned the school record on bars with a 9.875, as she led the Bears to a new school record for our team total for the second week in a row.

Coaches' Choice

Ashley O'Connor, Yale

O'Connor, a captain of this year's Yale squad, had a career-high on bars. She began her career as an all-around performer prior to a pair of devastating injuries that left her unable to compete. This year, she led off in balance beam and bars. In her final regular season meet, O'Connor scored a personal best 9.675 on the bars.

Eastern College Athletic Conference – Division II

Gymnast of the Week

Nicole Pruchnik, Southern Connecticut State

Pruchnik collected first place finishes on the floor exercise (9.800) and balance beam (9.750) to pace the efforts of Southern Connecticut State University gymnastics team in its meet at the University of Pennsylvania on Saturday.

Rookie of the Week

Majesta Valentine, West Chester

Valentine finished the regular season with a 38.300, good enough for a second place finish in the all-around. She finished first on vault and balance beam, and tied for third on the floor exercise.

Specialist of the Week

Paige Griffin, West Chester

Griffin had her season-high score of a 9.725 on the floor exercise and tied for second place in the event.

Coaches' Choice

Emily Seigel, West Chester

Seigel finished up her final collegiate regular season in superb fashion. She scored a 9.750 on the bars, finishing third in the event. Seigel also garnered a third place finish on the beam with a 9.550.

Mid American Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Kim Gotlund, Northern Illinois

Senior Kim Gotlund recorded the highest all-around score of her career Friday night as the Huskies posted their second consecutive team score of 195 or higher at Arizona State. Her 39.075 all-around total beat her previous high of 39.025 set on Feb. 23, 2013. Gotlund posted a 9.725 on uneven parallel bars on her first event, then earned her highest score of the year, and tied her career high, with a 9.800 vault. It was Gotlund's best vault score since the 2012 season. She added back-to-back 9.775 marks on floor exercise and balance beam. Her scores ranked in the top three on the NIU team on all four events.

Specialist of the Week

Jessi Buis, Western Michigan

Sophomore Jessi Buis won the only outright title for Western Michigan at Central Michigan this weekend, placing first on the vault and tying a career high with a 9.875. It was the fifth time Buis has won vault this season.

Midwest Independent Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Catherine Dion, Illinois-Chicago

Dion is coming off her final meet at the Physical Education Building, where she captured first place on two events and recorded a career high on bars. A native of Gatineau, Quebec, Canada, Dion led the Flames to their best score of the season as they defeated Illinois State, 195.200-191.825, on March 15. Dion took first on bars with a personal-best 9.925 and continued to produce for UIC with a first-place 9.825 on floor, while she additionally came in second on vault with 9.775 and in a tie for third on beam with 9.825. Dion closed out her final home meet as a Flame by scoring 39.350 for first place in the all-around.

Specialist of the Week

Amanda Mohler, Illinois State

Mohler tied her career-best score of 9.850 to win the balance beam competition. Additionally, she contributed a 9.825 to a team season-high on the uneven bars. While this is Mohler's first MIC Specialist of the Week honor, she is the second Redbird to be honored by the conference this season. Junior Sami King was named MIC Specialist of the Week and Gymnast of the Week earlier this season. Joining Mohler as weekly honoree was Catherine Dion, of UIC, who was named MIC Gymnast of the week for her all-around performance against ISU.

Mountain Pacific Sports Federation

Gymnast of the Week

Anna Shumaker, UC Davis

UC Davis senior Anna Shumaker (Alameda, CA) earns her MPSF-High fourth gymnast of the week award in 2014, including the last three weeks in succession. She surpassed 39 all-around for the fifth straight week last Saturday at Cal. Shumaker tied her career-high on bars (9.85), tied her season-high vault (9.825), along with a 9.85 floor. UCD's 194.950 tied for seventh in school history and tied for second all-time in road meets.

Specialist of the Week

Julia Greer, San Jose State

San Jose State senior Julia Greer (San Diego, CA) wins her conference-high fifth award of the year, all as an event-specialist. She won her fourth beam (9.85) and floor (9.925) titles against

Sacramento State, career-highs on each. Greer's 9.925 equaled the highest score earned by an MPSF Gymnast this season. Her marks helped the Spartans to a season-high 195.800, the fifth-highest team total all-time in the MPSF. The Spartans' 49.350 floor total was also the fifth-highest in MPSF history and tops in 2014.

Newcomer of the Week

Kara Witgen, Air Force

Air Force freshman Kara Witgen (Romeo, MI) set her balance beam career-high with a 9.825 at New Hampshire, Mar. 14. The mark contributed to a 49.125 team event score, ranking third in MPSF beam history. Witgen also had a 9.75 floor score in helping the Falcons to their highest overall total since 2004 (195.075).

Mountain Rim Gymnastics Championship

Gymnast of the Week

Nina McGee, Denver

Junior gymnast Nina McGee (Cincinnati, Ohio) scored a 39.275 in the all-around, helping the Pioneers score a 196.725 in a victory over Boise State and Iowa State over the weekend. McGee led DU on bars with a 9.850 and also took an individual title on floor with a 9.950 on the apparatus. She finished her night with a 9.800 on vault and a 9.675 on beam en route to her all-around total of 39.275.

Co-Specialists of the Week

Kaitlin Moorhead, Denver

Moorhead finished second on the Pioneer squad with a 9.875 on vault and a 9.900 on floor, marking one of four 9.900-plus marks for Denver on the floor exercise.

Eliane Kulczyk, BYU

Kulczyk picked up individual titles on vault and bars in a quad meet at the University of Arizona, scoring a 9.900 and 9.875 on each event, respectively. Her 9.850 on floor was also one of the top marks for the Cougars on that event as the team finished with a 49.375, the highest team score of the night for BYU.

Pac-12 Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Sam Peszek, UCLA

Senior Samantha Peszek finished the regular season strong with a career-high score of 39.7 in the all-around to outperform Utah State and Bowling Green. The Bruins finished the tri-meet with 197.05, the best home score of the season. This is the second consecutive week Peszek has won the all-around while posting a career-high. Peszek, a native of Indianapolis, IN, earned victories on vault (9.95), and bars (9.975). Her score of 9.95 on vault tied her career-high. She also took second on beam scoring 9.925 and tied for fourth on floor with a 9.85.

Specialist of the Week

Danusia Francis, UCLA

Kenilworth, England native Danusia Francis scored the first perfect 10 of her career this past weekend to take the event title. This is only the 8th time in UCLA history that a perfect 10 has been achieved on beam. Francis also contributed 9.875 on floor to place third and a 9.85 on bars to tie for fifth. Her efforts helped the Bruins score over 197 as a team for the third consecutive

week. She has scored 9.9 or better on beam in seven of eight meets this year and has four event victories.

Freshman/Newcomer of the Week

Jessica Howe, California

Freshman Jessica Howe led the Golden Bears past UC Davis with a pair of title-winning performances on beam and in the all-around. Despite suffering a broken toe, Howe was able to record a career-best 39.350 in the all-around and finished no lower than fifth on any of her events. She matched her career-high 9.85 on floor to take third and took the crown on beam with a 9.85 to claim her fourth beam title of the season.

Southeastern Conference

Gymnast of the Week

Bridget Sloan, Florida

Sloan turned in a school-record and national-leading all-around total of 39.825 to win the March 14 dual meet at Missouri. Sloan's total is the top regular-season all-around total in road action since LSU's April Burkholder turned in a 39.875 in a 2003 meet at Texas Woman's University. It equals teammate Alaina Johnson's mark set March 7 as the nation's leading all-around total of 2014. The total gave Sloan her eighth consecutive all-around win and the 15th of her career.

The nation's four highest all-around totals have been turned in 12 times in 2014 – and Sloan has posted half of those marks. Sloan also shared the Missouri vault title with teammate Kytra Hunter at 9.95. She also used a season-best 9.975 to win bars and a 9.95 to win beam. She leads the Gators in 2014 with 27 event titles.

Specialist of the Week

Kaitlyn Clark, Alabama

Kaitlyn Clark scored a perfect 10.0 on the balance beam to pace the Crimson Tide to a 49.650 team score, the second highest in school history. Clark's 10.0 is just the sixth in school history on the balance beam and first since NCAA All-Around Champion Jeana Rice posted one in 2003.

Clark's 10.0 also helped push Alabama to a 197.925 overall score, the seventh highest in school history, and followed a then career-best 9.95 on the balance beam the week before.

Co-Freshmen of the Week

Katie Bailey, Alabama

Katie Bailey posted a career-best 39.400 against No. 11 Auburn to help pace the Crimson Tide to a 197.925 team score, the seventh highest in school history and the second highest this season. Bailey also tied her career-best of 9.875 on the floor exercise and was just .025 off her career best scores on the vault and balance beam. Bailey is ranked 20th in the nation in the all-around this week and leads the Crimson Tide in both all-around appearances and routines in the competitive lineup.

Ashleigh Gnat, LSU

Ashleigh Gnat tallied a 9.95 on beam for the second consecutive meet to win the event title against Kentucky. Gnat is the only freshman in the SEC with two scores of 9.95 on beam this season, and she is only the second LSU freshman in school history to score at least a 9.95 on beam in back-to-back meets. April Burkholder earned a 9.95 and a 9.975 on beam in two straight meets as a freshman in 2003. Gnat now has four individual titles this season, including three on beam.

