

at Kent State University *
 Friday, January 30, 2015
 M.A.C. Center
 7 p.m.



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EASTERN MICHIGAN WRESTLING

2014-15 Schedule (7-7, 0-2 MAC)

Date	Opponent/Location	Time/Result
11/2	at MSU Open	NTS
11/15	EMU DUALS	
	NORTHWESTERN	L, 26-6
	SIUE	W, 22-18
	LOCK HAVEN	W, 25-13
11/15	EMU OPEN	NTS
11/21	at Bloomsburg	W, 30-6
11/23	at Keystone Classic (Philadelphia, Pa.)	3rd - 89
12/6	<i>at Northwestern Duals</i>	
	<i>vs. Princeton</i>	<i>L, 26-11</i>
	<i>vs. Cal Poly</i>	<i>W, 30-7</i>
	<i>vs. Drexel</i>	<i>W, 22-19</i>
12/13	at Cleveland State Open (Cleveland, Ohio)	NTS
12/29-30	at Midlands Championships (Evanston, Ill.)	21st - 24
1/4	at Northern Iowa *	L, 24-15
1/10	at Clarion	W, 34-7
1/11	<i>at Pitt Duals</i>	
	<i>vs. Duke</i>	<i>W, 22-13</i>
	<i>vs. N.C. State</i>	<i>L, 36-6</i>
1/15	CLEVELAND STATE	L, 20-15
1/18	OHIO *	L, 20-15
1/23	MICHIGAN STATE	L, 18-16
1/30	at Kent State *	7 p.m.
2/6	at Northern Illinois *	7 p.m.
2/8	MISSOURI *	1 p.m.
2/13	OLD DOMINION	7 p.m.
2/15	at Buffalo *	1 p.m.
2/20	CENTRAL MICHIGAN	7 p.m.
3/7-8	<i>at MAC Championships (Columbia, Mo.)</i>	<i>All Day</i>
3/19-21	<i>at NCAA Championships (St. Louis, Mo.)</i>	<i>All Day</i>

* Mid-American Conference match

All home matches in **BOLD CAPS**

Neutral Site matches in *Italics*

PROBABLE STARTERS

125: Blake Caudill
133: Vincent Pizzuto
141: Michael Shaw
149: Nicholas Barber
157: Brandon Zeerip
165: Devan Marry
174: Kayne MacCallum
184: Mike Curby
197: Anthony Abro
HWT: Gage Hutchison

THE MATCHUPS

After three home duals, the Eastern Michigan University wrestling team will hit the road for a Friday night match up against the Golden Flashes of Kent State University, Jan. 30.

Fans can follow all the action against the Golden Flashes on EMUEagles.com or on Twitter @EMUWrestling. To join in on the conversation, fans can use #KeepBuilding.

2014-15 EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY WRESTLING MATCH NOTES

The Eastern Michigan University wrestling squad hits the road for its third Mid-American Conference dual of the 2014-15 season when it travels to Kent, Ohio to take on the Golden Flashes of Kent State University Friday, Jan. 30.

The dual will be a part of KSU's third annual Beauty & The Beast competition as the 2-in-1 event includes Kent State's gymnastics team taking on Pitt right next to the wrestling match. First bout from the M.A.C. Center is slated for 7 p.m.

THE GOLDEN FLASHES AT A GLANCE: Kent State comes into the Friday night dual with a 6-10 overall record and a 2-2 record in Mid-American Conference competition. Most recently, the Golden Flashes have dropped three-straight road duals to Edinboro (24-12), North Carolina State (26-13), and Old Dominion (25-10). KSU's last win came when the Golden Flashes defeated Ohio, 24-12, at the M.A.C. Center, Jan. 16.

Kent State is ranked as the No. 20 team in the nation according to *Intermat.com* and seven grapplers currently rank in the top-33 spots according to *Wrestling Report*. Junior Nick DePalma leads KSU with 10 extra-point victories on the season, while holding a 16-14 overall record at 149 lbs. The Golden Flashes have proven to be tough competition at 133 lbs. and 141 lbs. with Mack McGuire and Tyler Small combining for a 51-17 record in the 2014-15 season. Three other KSU grapplers have amassed 20 victories this season including: Tyler Buckwalter (21-12, 165 lbs.), Jerald Spohn (20-18, 184 lbs.), and Mimmo Lytle (22-14, HWT).

ALL-TIME AGAINST KENT STATE: Over the past nine seasons, the Eagles have struggled with the Golden Flashes as KSU holds an unblemished 9-0 record against the Green and White. The closest EMU has come to taking down Kent State was in the 2013-14 season when the Eagles fell by just six points, Jan. 30, 2014.

Last season, neither team was able to pick up any extra-point matches, as all 10 bouts were decided by decision. The Eagles grabbed just four bouts of the night with wins at 125 lbs, 133 lbs., 157 lbs., and the heavyweight division. Eastern returns four starters from last year's dual, while the Golden Flashes return seven of its 10 starters from last season's dual against the Eagles.

OUTSCORING OPPONENTS: Despite its recent losses, the Eastern Michigan wrestling team is outscoring its opponents 269-253 on the season. The Eagles have used big wins over Bloomsburg, Cal Poly, and Clarion to outscore their opponents by 16 points through the first 14 duals of the season. The Green and White kept all three teams to just two wins in the dual and did not allow any of the three teams to reach double-digit scoring. Despite their three big wins, the Eagles have suffered some large setbacks of their own this season, falling 26-6 to then-No. 16 Northwestern in their first dual of the season. Most recently, the Eagles have been on the wrong end of the their last four duals and are looking to pick up their first win since the Pitt Duals, Jan. 11.

2014-15 INDIVIDUAL RECORDS

	OVERALL	DUALS	MAC
125 LBS.			
BLAKE CAUDILL	6-13	2-5	0-1
ARMANDO TORRES	10-4	0-0	0-0
SHAYNE WIREMAN	11-3	6-1	0-0
133 LBS.			
ALEX CALANDRINO	0-3	0-1	0-0
BEN CALANDRINO	4-6	0-0	0-0
BEN GRIFFIN	6-6	0-0	0-0
VINCENT PIZZUTO	11-9	8-4	2-0
141 LBS.			
JAKE BYERS	2-8	0-0	0-0
JOSH EVANS	4-6	0-0	0-0
MICHAEL SHAW	11-10	8-6	2-0
KYLE SPRINGER	24-11	0-0	0-0
149 LBS.			
NICHOLAS BARBER	11-8	7-6	0-2
ROCCO BORG	4-6	0-0	0-0
CHAD DECKER	3-5	0-0	0-0
JUSTIN MELICK	5-4	0-0	0-0
157 LBS.			
DEREK DAVISON	11-9	0-2	0-0
LA'RONE MACK	2-8	1-4	0-0
MITCHELL MALOTT	9-6	0-0	0-0
CHRIS RAU	0-2	0-0	0-0
BRANDON ZEERIP	17-9	10-4	1-1
165 LBS.			
DAKOTA JUAREZ	8-5	0-0	0-0
DEVAN MARRY	9-15	4-6	0-2
174 LBS.			
JACOB DAVIS	8-4	0-0	0-0
AUSTIN GEERLINGS	6-12	0-8	0-2
KAYNE MACCALLUM	10-5	2-3	0-0
COLLIN ZEERIP	1-0	1-0	0-0
184 LBS.			
MIKE CURBY	6-17	1-13	0-2
DEREK HILLMAN	4-4	0-0	0-0
197 LBS.			
ANTHONY ABRO	18-8	11-3	1-1
DEREK SCHULTZ	2-6	0-0	0-0
HWT			
COLE DILLMAN	6-5	2-1	0-0
GAGE HUTCHISON	12-11	7-4	1-1

EXTRA-POINT VICTORIES FOR HUTCHISON: In his first season as a full-time starter, redshirt-freshman **Gage Hutchison** has tallied extra-point victories in seven of his 11 bout wins of the year. The Buchanan, Mich. native has notched a team-best six pins on the season, including one pin in Mid-American Conference action, while also grabbing one win by way of major decision in the heavyweight division.

Furthermore, five of Hutchison's seven pins have been in the first period with his fastest pin of the season coming just 18 seconds into the bout against Pitt's Lucas Chestnut at the Keystone Classic, Nov. 23, en route to a sixth-place finish.

FOUR EAGLES RANK IN JANUARY MAC POLL: Redshirt-junior **Vincent Pizzuto** remained in the Mid-American Conference rankings, moving up to the No. 2 wrestler at 133 lbs., while redshirt-senior **Brandon Zeerip** and redshirt-junior **Michael Shaw** make their way back into the rankings after earning a place in their respective weight classes during the month of December. Redshirt-junior **Anthony Abro** is the final EMU grappler to make an appearance on the list, tying for fourth at 197 lbs.

Pizzuto picked up his second conference win with a 4-1 decision over Josh Parrett of Ohio after taking a week break following the Pitt Duals, Jan. 11. The North Jackson, Mich. native holds a 10-9 overall record and is a perfect 2-0 in conference duals.

Zeerip grabbed his first conference victory of the 2014-15 season with a 3-1 decision over Ohio's Spartak Chino Sunday, Jan. 21. The Fremont, Mich. native carries a 16-9 overall record and is 1-1 in conference action this season for the Green and White at 157 lbs.

Shaw improved upon his 1-0 MAC record with 6-0 shutout victory over Joel Shump of Ohio at 141 lbs., ranking him fourth in the conference. The Bangor, Mich. native is 10-10 overall on the season and 7-6 in duals.

Abro is ranked for the first time this season at 197 lbs. after nabbing five-straight victories, including a pin over nationally-ranked N.C. State, Jan. 11. The redshirt-junior has been a catalyst for the EMU lineup with a 17-8 overall record and a 10-3 record in dual action.



2014-15 MAC STANDINGS (AS OF JAN. 29, 2015)

TEAMS	OVERALL	MAC
MISSOURI	17-0	5-0
CENTRAL MICHIGAN	5-5	4-1
NORTHERN IOWA	6-5	3-1
OLD DOMINION	9-3	2-1
OHIO	7-4	3-3
KENT STATE	6-10	2-2
EASTERN MICHIGAN	7-7	0-2
NORTHERN ILLINOIS	8-10	0-4
BUFFALO	5-10	0-5

LAST TIME...

Ypsilanti, Mich. - Jan. 30, 2014 - Bowen Field House

YPSILANTI, Mich. (EMUEagles.com) – The Eastern Michigan University wrestling squad fell to Kent State, 18-12, in a Mid-American Conference dual, Friday, Jan. 31. The Eagles fall to 8-6 overall on the season and 1-3 in the conference. Meanwhile, KSU improves to 9-8 overall and 3-2 in league competition.

Neither team was able to pick up any extra point matches, as all 10 bouts were decided by decision. Although EMU was unable to earn a victory over the Golden Flashes, it was the closest the team has come in the past eight seasons as it fell by only six points to the MAC foe.

The Green and White got the start it needed to kick off the dual as redshirt-senior **Jared Germaine (Saginaw, Mich.-Saginaw Valley)** earned a 9-7 decision over Alfredo Gray at 125 lbs. Redshirt-sophomore **Vincent Pizzuto (North Jackson, Ohio-Jackson Milton)** picked up a huge victory over No. 18 Mack McGuire at 133 lbs. Pizzuto clinched a takedown with time dwindling to go up by two and erase McGuire's riding time point, extending the Eagle lead to 6-0.

The Golden Flashes answered back to the Eagles first threats as Tyler Small (141 lbs.) and Mike DePalma (149 lbs.) each notched decisions to knot the score at 6-6 heading into the halfway point of the dual.

Eastern and Kent State exchanged bouts as **Brandon Zeerip (Fremont, Mich.-Hesperia)** grabbed a win at 157 lbs. before Tyler Buckwater knotted the score for the second time in the dual with a 5-2 decision at 165 lbs.

Kent State saw its first lead of the dual when Caleb Marsh secured a 5-3 decision at 174 lbs., taking the 12-9 advantage. Sam Wheeler, who is No. 12 according to InterMat.com and is ranked No. 2 in the conference at 184 lbs., handed redshirt-senior **Phillip Joseph (Lapeer, Mich.-Lapeer East)** his first MAC loss as he grabbed an 11-7 decision, extending the KSU lead to 15-9 with just two bouts remaining.

The Golden Flashes grabbed the victory they needed at 197 lbs. to secure the win over EMU as Cole Baxter earned a 5-2 decision, putting a win out of reach for Eastern heading into the final match of the night.

Redshirt-senior **Khodor Hoballah (Dearborn, Mich.-Dearborn)** picked up one final win for the Eagles as he kept Mimmo Lytle scoreless with a 5-0 decision in the heavyweight division.

"I thought our fight tonight was at a very high level," said Head Coach **Derek DelPorto**. "Our pace and our conditioning was better than theirs, but they capitalized on our mistakes and scored, so hats off to them. Once we correct some of the minor mistakes made I feel confident some of those matches will go our way at the conference tournament."

GREEN AND WHITE UNABLE TO HOLD OFF MSU: In a dual that would come down to the final bout of the night, the Eastern Michigan University wrestling squad was unable to pull off a victory over the Spartans of Michigan State University, falling 18-16 at the Convocation Center Friday, Jan. 23.

The Eagles and the Spartans each nabbed five bout victories, but it was MSU that would come out on top with three extra-point matches compared to EMU's two. Three-straight EMU victories were decided by riding time, while **Brandon Zeerip** dominated his match at 157 lbs. and **Anthony Abro** earned the shut out victory at 197 lbs.

UP NEXT ON THE MATS: Eastern Michigan wrestling will stay the road for a second Mid-American Conference dual when it heads to DeKalb, Ill. to take on the Huskies of Northern Illinois University Friday, Feb. 6. First bout is slated for 7 p.m.

EMU SUFFERS SECOND CONFERENCE LOSS: Eastern suffered its third-straight dual loss and second Mid-American Conference loss of the season at the hands of Ohio University, Jan. 18. The Eagles notched four victories on the day, while the Bobcats earned back-to-back major decisions from two of their nationally-ranked grapplers at 165 lbs. and 174 lbs. to secure a 20-15 victory over EMU.

TWO GRAPPLERS PLACE AT PURPLE RAIDER OPEN:

Freshman **Derek Hillman** and sophomore **Kyle Springer** each earned second-place finishes at the Purple Raider Open, hosted by the University of Mount Union Sunday, Jan. 18. The two made the trek to Alliance, Ohio to compete as unattached wrestlers, while the rest of the Eagles took on Ohio in a Mid-American Conference dual.

The runner-up finish marked the fourth podium finish of the season for Springer and the second for Hillman. Springer notched four wins on the day at 141 lbs., while Hillman secured three wins at 184 lbs.

EAGLES SUFFER TOUGH LOSS AT THE HANDS OF CSU:

In a dual that came down to the final bout of the night, the Eastern Michigan University wrestling team was unable to pull off the victory, falling to Cleveland State University, 20-15, Thursday, Jan. 15, at the Convocation Center.

EMU captured four of the 10 bouts with one extra-point victory, while CSU had six victories and back-to-back major decisions. Redshirt-junior **Anthony Abro** started the night in thrilling fashion capturing a last second takedown for the 4-3 decision before the Vikings took the next four bouts. The Eagles answered back with three-straight wins of their own, including a pin from redshirt-senior **Brandon Zeerip**.

Redshirt-sophomore **Devan Marry** put control back into EMU's hands during a match in which he dominated Matt Donohoe to earn the 7-3 decision, but the Eagles were unable to hold on, falling in the final to bouts of the night. **ABRO CADABRO:** Like last season, redshirt-junior **Anthony Abro** has been a magician on the mats in the 2014-15 season. Abro notched a perfect weekend for the Eagles, going 3-0 on the mats with two decisions and one pin. The Canton, Mich. native started off the weekend with a 9-5 decision over Ryan Darch of Clarion to extend the EMU lead to 31-7 over the Golden Eagles before coming up big for Eastern at the Pitt Duals Sunday, Jan. 11. With the score of the Duke dual knotted at 13-13, Abro continued to be a leader for the Green and White, stepping up and notching a narrow 3-2 decision over returning All-American and nationally-ranked Conner Hartmann that would allow EMU to take a 16-13 lead into the final bout of the dual.

In their second dual of the day, the Eagles struggled with N.C. State as the Wolfpack took nine of the 10 bouts. EMU's lone victory came from Abro who capped off a perfect weekend with a pin over Michael Boykin in the 197 lb. weight class. Abro posts a 16-7 overall record on the season, a 9-2 record in dual bouts and has earned two victories over ranked opponents in the 2014-15 season.

The redshirt-junior continued to be a leader on the mats for the Green and White securing his fifth-straight victory with a last second takedown on the edge of the mat against Cleveland State's Nick Corba. The 4-3 decision gave the Eagles the early lead in the match, but EMU was unable to hold off the Vikings, falling 20-15, Jan. 15.

EMU TOPPLES CLARION ON THE ROAD: The Eagles picked up their sixth victory of the season with a 34-7 road win over Clarion, Jan. 10. The Green and White captured eight of the 10 bouts with three pins, one major decision, and four decisions.

Much like EMU's last dual, redshirt-junior **Vincent Pizzuto** came out firing with 10-straight points before pinning Seth Carr in the first period, allowing Eastern to take a two-point lead over the Golden Eagles. The Green and White again replicated its last outing when **Michael Shaw** notched a second-straight pin at 141 lbs. to extend EMU's lead to 12-4 heading into the 149 lb. matchup.

EMU took the final bouts of the afternoon with three-straight decisions from **Mike Curby**, **Anthony Abro**, and **Gage Hutchison**, earning a 34-7 victory over the Golden Eagles.

EAGLES GO 1-1 AT PITT DUALS: Eastern Michigan University wrestling squad went 1-1 at the Pitt Duals, taking down Duke before falling to No. 22 N.C. State Saturday, Jan. 11. EMU earned a 22-13 victory over the Blue Devils, but was unable to hold off the Wolfpack, falling 36-6 to the nationally-ranked opponent.

The Eagles got off to a fast start over Duke, winning the first four bouts to get out to a 13-0 lead. The Green and White used decisions from **Blake Caudill**, **Nicholas Barber**, and **Michael Shaw** in their respective weight classes as well as a 12-2 major decision from redshirt-junior **Vincent Pizzuto** at 133 lbs. to take the comfortable advantage. Duke quickly worked its way back into the match, knotting the score at 13-13 before **Anthony Abro** and **Gage Hutchison** combined for two wins to seal the dual for EMU.

In their second dual of the day, the Eagles struggled with N.C. State as the Wolfpack took nine of the 10 bouts. EMU's lone victory came from Abro who capped off a perfect weekend with a pin over Michael Boykin in the 197 lb. weight class. N.C. State secured five decisions, two pins, and one technical fall en route to its 36-6 victory over the Green and White.

PIZZUTO RANKS THIRD IN JANUARY MAC POLL:

Redshirt-junior **Vincent Pizzuto** is ranked in the monthly Mid-American Conference poll for the second-straight month after picking up four victories in the month of December and a win in his first conference dual of the season. The North Jackson, Ohio native grabbed two wins at the Northwestern Duals over opponents from Princeton and Cal Poly, Dec. 6, before picking up one win at the Midlands Championships.

Pizzuto knotted the score at 6-6 against Northern Iowa, Jan. 4, with a pin over Leighton Gaul in 3:43 to give him a 7-9 overall record and a 1-0 record in conference action.

EMU DROPS FIRST MAC DUAL OF THE NEW YEAR: In its first Mid-American Conference dual of the 2014-15 season, the Eastern Michigan University wrestling squad was unable to keep pace with the University of Northern Iowa Sunday, Jan. 4, falling 24-15.

After the Green and White forfeited the first bout of the dual at 125 lbs., redshirt-junior **Vincent Pizzuto** knotted the score at 6-6, pinning Leighton Gaul in 3:43 in the 133 lb. match. The Eagles took their only lead of the dual with its second-straight pin as **Michael Shaw** secured the six points for EMU in the second period.

Following the pin, Northern Iowa notched five-straight decisions before **Anthony Abro** earned the Eagles final victory of the afternoon at 197 lbs.

EAGLES PLACE 21st AT MIDLANDS: The Green and White placed 21st overall the 52nd annual Ken Kraft Midlands Championships as the Eagles racked up 24 points, which marks the second-highest point total in EMU grappling history at the event. Eastern also had five members of its squad compete on day two of the tournament, which was a four person increase from just one season ago.

ABRO GRABS TWO WINS ON DAY TWO AT MIDLANDS:

In the 197 lb. weight class, redshirt-junior **Anthony Abro** saw a successful day taking two major decision victories before dropping into the consolation bracket. The Canton, Mich. native won his first bout in the consolation bracket over Rider's Donald McNeil, 9-2, and was able to pencil in his name for day two of the tournament after defeating Patrick Downey of Iowa Central, 5-3, in his last bout of the day. After earning the narrow 6-4 decision in the fourth round of the consolation bracket Monday night, Abro picked up two-straight decisions on day two of the tournament before falling to Ruben Franklin of CSU Bakersfield in a 3-1 sudden victory to end his day in Evanston.

ZEERIP PLACES EIGHTH AT 157 LBS.: Redshirt-senior **Brandon Zeerip** competed on day two of the Midlands Championships for the second-straight season donning the Green and White. The Fremont, Mich. native made his way into the quarterfinals nothing a major decision before dropping a high-scoring 24-10 bout to IDaiah Martinez of Illinois in the quarterfinal bout. On day two, Zeerip grabbed a victory in his first match of the day with a 15-5 major decision but was unable to take the tie-breaker over Rider's Chad Welch.

Despite it being his second loss of the tournament, Zeerip had one more bout to wrestle for the seventh-place match at 157 lbs. The Fremont, Mich. native was unable to hold off Doug Welch of Purdue as Welch blanked Zeerip in a 7-0 decision to secure the seventh-place finish.

TORRES PLACE SECOND AT CLEVELAND STATE OPEN:

In the second podium appearance in his collegiate career, freshman **Armando Torres** earned a major decision over Gardner Webb's Landon LoAbo in the first round before taking back-to-back decisions to secure a spot in the finals against Northwestern's Stevan Micic. Torres was unable to keep pace with Micic, falling in a 10-2 major decision to garner the second-place finish at 125 lbs.

DAVIS MAKES HIS RETURN TO THE MAT: Junior **Jacob Davis**

Davis saw three wins on the afternoon after returning to the mats for the first time since the MSU Open, Nov. 2. The North Ridgeville, Ohio native had a bye in the first round and took two-straight decisions to make his way into the quarterfinals where he won in a forfeit from Hunter Gamble of Gardner Webb. Davis was unable to come away with the win in the semifinals, falling to Austin Coburn of Old Dominion to end his day in the 174 lb. weight class.

MALLOT WORKS HIS WAY INTO FOURTH AT CSU OPEN:

Redshirt sophomore **Mitchell Malott** had a long day on the mats for Eastern Michigan battling his way through the consolation bracket after falling in a 12-1 major decision in his first bout of the afternoon. After receiving a bye in the first round of the consolation bracket, the 157 lb. grappler used two decisions, two major decisions, a tech fall, and a forfeit to win six-straight bouts and work his way into the consolation semifinals. Jonaton Rivera of Notre Dame forfeit the semifinals handing Malott a slot in the third-place match, but the Saginaw, Mich. native was unable to hold on, falling in a 10-2 major decision.

EMU PLACES THREE AT CLEVELAND STATE OPEN: The Eastern Michigan University wrestling team saw three top-four finishes, including a runner-up finish from freshman **Armando Torres** at the Cleveland State Open Saturday, Dec. 13.

Both **Derek Davison** and **Mitchell Malott** earned fourth-place finishes for the Green and White after battling their way through the consolation bracket. EMU had three grapplers with two wins on the day as **Rocco Borg**, **Chad Decker** and **Dakota Juarez** all grabbed victories in their respective weight classes while **Josh Evans**, **Derek Schultz**, and **Cole Dillman** each secured one win apiece for the Green and White.

ZEERIP EARNS FIRST MAC WRESTLER OF THE WEEK HONOR:

HONOR: After posting a perfect weekend at the Windy City Duals, redshirt-senior **Brandon Zeerip** has been named Mid-American Conference Wrestler of the Week as announced by the conference Wednesday, Dec. 10. The award marks the first of Zeerip's career donning the Green and White as well as the first individual conference honor given to the Eastern Michigan wrestling team this season.

Zeerip saw a perfect weekend at the Windy City Duals in Evansville, Ill., going 3-0 in dual matchups. The Fremont, Mich. native earned a narrow 9-8 decision over Princeton's Francesco Fabozzi to put the meet back in the Green and White's control before earning a 9-7 decision over Cal Poly's Colt Shorts.

Zeerip capped off his day with a 5-3 decision over Noel Blanco of Drexel, helping the Eagles to a slight 22-19 victory over the Dragons. The 157 lb. grappler improved his record to 10-3 overall and 6-1 in duals.

THREE EAGLES RANKED IN MAC DECEMBER POLL:

For the first time this season, three EMU grapplers found their names on the Mid-American Conference monthly rankings announced by the conference office, Dec. 10.

After spending the majority of the 2013-14 season ranked in the national poll, redshirt-junior **Vincent Pizzuto** has had a slow start to the 2014-15 campaign, but hopes to have found his stride after posting two wins at the Windy City Duals, Dec. 6. The North Jackson, Ohio native holds a 5-7 overall record and a 3-4 dual record to help rank him as the No. 4 wrestler in the MAC at 133 lbs.

Coming off his first MAC Wrestler of the Week honor, redshirt-senior **Brandon Zeerip** ranks fourth in the conference at 157 lbs., posting a 10-3 overall record in his final season donning the Green and White. The Fremont, Mich. native boasts a 6-1 mark in duals, while holding a five-match win streak after dropping his first dual of the 2014-15 season.

Redshirt-junior **Michael Shaw** is the final Eagle ranked in the December poll, tying for fourth at 141 lbs. Shaw has earned four wins so far this season and three dual victories for EMU in his first season starting at 141 lbs.

EMU TAKES TWO IN THE WINDY CITY: The Eagles went 2-1 at the Windy City Duals Saturday, Dec. 6, grabbing wins over Cal Poly, 30-7, and Drexel, 22-19, after bouncing back from a 26-11 defeat at the hands of Princeton.

Redshirt-senior **Brandon Zeerip** went 3-0 on the day with three decisions, while **Shayne Wireman**, **Vincent Pizzuto**, and **Anthony Abro** added two wins apiece for EMU. After falling to Princeton in its first match of the day, Eastern Michigan bounced back with eight bout victories over Cal Poly and five against Drexel.

HUTCHISON SECURES EAGLE VICTORY OVER DREXEL:

EMU's final dual of the afternoon came down to the final bout with Drexel leading the majority of the match. With the Eagles trailing by three heading into the heavyweight division, **Gage Hutchison** would need to earn an extra-point victory in order to give EMU the slight victory over the Dragons.

Drexel forfeited the 125 lb. weight class to give Eastern the early 6-0 lead, but battled back to take three-straight bouts to get out to a 13-6 advantage going into the 157 lb. match. **Brandon Zeerip** capped off his perfect day on the mat with a 5-3 decision over Noel Blanco to bring EMU within four of Drexel.

A major decision from **Devan Marry** knotted the score at 13-13 in the 165 lb. weight class, but again Drexel quickly took back its lead winning the next two bouts by decision.

A 2-1 decision for **Anthony Abro** brought EMU within three of the Dragons before Hutchison pinned Drexel's Joey Goodhart just 26 seconds into the bout to propel Eastern to a thrilling 22-19 victory to close out its day at the Windy City Duals.

EASTERN CAPTURES EIGHT BOUTS AGAINST

BLOOMSBURG: The Eagles captured eight of the 10 bouts over the Huskies with two pins and six decisions, including two shutouts, to run away with the 30-6 victory. Making his 2014-15 dual debut, redshirt-freshman **Blake Caudill** shut out Elliot Zackoski in a 2-0 decision to give the Eagles the early 3-0 lead, but Bloomsburg knotted the score in the 133 lb. bout. Following the setback, EMU took the next five bouts to take a 24-3 advantage heading into the final three rounds of action. Eastern captured two of the next three bouts en route to a 30-6 victory over the Huskies.

GREEN AND WHITE EARNS THIRD AT KEYSTONE

CLASSIC: The Eastern Michigan University wrestling team had nine grapplers place in the top-eight to secure a third-place team finish at the Keystone Classic Sunday, Nov. 23. Northwestern took the overall title, scoring 98 points, while Rider placed second overall with 92.5 points. The Eagles rounded out the top-three with 89 overall points to finish just one point ahead of the University of Pittsburgh.

Sophomore **Shayne Wireman** represented the Eagles at 125 lbs., making his way into the finals and securing the fourth tournament placing of his young career. The Lansing, Mich. native won three-straight matches, including a 16-6 major decision over Elliot Zackoski of Bloomsburg in the opening round of competition, before falling to Dom Forys of Pitt in a 4-0 decision to take home a second-place finish.

Both **Nicholas Barber** and **Brandon Zeerip** earned fourth-place finishes in their respective weight classes as both fell into the consolation bracket early. The Green and White also saw two EMU grapplers place fifth in their respective weight classes as **Austin Geerlings** and **Mike Curby** both had a successful day on the mat.

Finally, the Green and White had four grapplers place sixth at the Keystone Classic to wrap up a third-place team finish as **Anthony Abro**, **Gage Hutchison**, **Devan Marry**, and **Vincent Pizzuto** each earned spots on the podium.

SPRINGER GRABS THIRD PODIUM FINISH OF THE SEASON:

Transfer **Kyle Springer** has been the lone Eagle grappler to wrestle in both the Simpson Open, Nov. 22, and the Mat Town Tournament, Nov. 30, earning third-place finishes in both appearances.

In his second tournament as an Eagle, Springer placed seventh at the EMU Open before traveling to two different tournaments without the rest of the Green and White squad.

The New Boston, Mich. native worked his way into the semifinals at the Simpson Open before falling in a 4-1 decision to end up in the consolation bracket but came back to win two-straight bouts to capture the third-place finish.

Last weekend, the sophomore transfer added five more wins to his already impressive season at EMU. After dropping his second bout of the day at the Mat Town Tournament, Springer came back to win four-straight en route to his second third-place finish in a two-week span.

EAGLES PICK UP FIRST WINS IN BOLYARD ERA:

The Green and White came away with victories over Southern Illinois Edwardsville (22-18) and Lock Haven (25-13), but were unable to hold off the powerful No. 16 Northwestern Wildcats in its first dual of the afternoon, falling 26-6. Sophomore **Shayne Wireman** came out strong to open up his 2014-15 campaign, winning all three of his bouts, while **Anthony Abro**, **Nicholas Barber**, and **Brandon Zeerip** each notched two wins on the afternoon.

FILLING BIG SHOES AT 125 LBS.:

Sophomore **Shayne Wireman** seems to be picking up right where **Jared Germaine** left off in the 125 lb. weight class. Coming into the season, Wireman knew he had big shoes to fill after Germaine went 17-1 in duals during the regular season. The Lansing, Mich. native seems to have stepped into the role, winning his first three bouts of the 2014-15 campaign. The sophomore picked up an 8-3 decision over Garrison White of No. 16 Northwestern before pinning Southern Illinois Edwardsville's Kenny Baldridge in 3:28. Wireman capped off his perfect day when he shut out Kaleb LaMaire of Lock Haven 13-0 to earn the major decision.

DAVISON PLACES SECOND AT EMU OPEN: Redshirt-junior **Derek Davison** won five-straight bouts to make his way into the championship match of the 165 lb. weight class at the EMU Open, Nov. 15. The LaSalle, Mich. native grabbed three decisions, one of which was over teammate **Dakota Juarez**, and one major decision to secure his spot in the finals. Davison was unable to hold off Bryce Martin of Indiana, falling in a 9-5 decision to notch his first tournament placing of the season.

BARBER LOOKS STRONG AFTER MOVING UP A WEIGHT CLASS:

WEIGHT CLASS: Redshirt-sophomore **Nicholas Barber** made his 2014-15 debut at the EMU Duals, Nov. 16, taking on two 2014 NCAA qualifiers. In his first bout of the season, Barber matched up against 2013 NCAA Champion Jason Tsirtsis of No. 16 Northwestern. The Cleveland, Ohio native kept the No. 1 ranked Tsirtsis to just one escape through the entire three periods, while grabbing one escape of his own to knot the match at 1-1 with time dwindling on the clock. However, Tsirtsis had eclipsed over one minute of riding time to take the narrow 2-1 victory. In his second bout of the day, Barber got out to a quick lead over SIUE's Karsten Van Velsor before capping off the bout with a 15-5 major decision. Barber grabbed his second victory of the day at 149 lbs. shutting out two-time NCAA qualifier Dan Neff of Lock Haven in a 2-0 decision to improve his record to 2-1 overall.

FRESH PRINTS: The Eagles saw two grapplers earn top-six finishes at the MSU Open, Nov. 1, as freshmen **Derek Hillman** and **Kayne MacCallum** earned fifth and sixth-place finishes in their respective weight classes.

Hillman made his way into the 184 lb. quarterfinal match of the freshmen/sophomore division at the MSU Open defeating Austin Droscha in the 15-3 major decision before taking down Harper College's Desmond Milligan in a 20-4 technical fall. Hillman fell into the consolation bracket after losing in an 8-5 decision to Mid-American Conference foe Quinton Rosser of Northern Illinois. Once in the consolation bracket, the Woodhaven, Mich. native picked up a sudden victory win over Brandon Sunday of Indiana Tech and a 4-0 decision over Tyler Hughes of Lake Erie to make it into the fifth-place match. Hillman was unable to hold off Shawn Shadaia of Michigan State, falling in a 7-2 decision and taking home the sixth-place finish.

In the first tournament of his collegiate wrestling career MacCallum posted a 3-1 record, finishing fifth overall in the 174 lb. freshman/sophomore division. MacCallum received a bye in the first round before defeating Levi Berry in a 14-1 major decision. The Green Oaks, Ill. native went on to win two more bouts on the afternoon, including a 4-1 decision in the fifth-place match.

A NEW LOOK FOR 2014-15: After the graduation of four starters from the 2013-14 campaign, Head Coach **David Bolyard** will need to revamp his starting lineup for the 2014-15 season. From the looks of the projected 10-man lineup for this season, the Eagles will have five new starters and will shuffle some of their grapplers around within the weight classes.

#KEEPBUILDING: The EMU grapplers have adopted the motto of #KeepBuilding for the 2014-15 campaign which will represent the team's ambitions to improve upon last year's record and individual goals. Fans can follow EMU wrestling on Twitter at @EMUWrestling or online at EMUEagles.com for up-to-date news, live results, and upcoming events.

TWO EAGLES EARN MAC PRESEASON RANKINGS:

Two Green and White grapplers earned top-four seeds in the Mid-American Conference Preseason Poll as redshirt-junior **Vincent Pizzuto** was ranked third at 133 lbs. and redshirt-senior transfer **Collin Zeerip** is ranked fourth in the 174 lb. weight class.

EMU TABBED EIGHTH IN MAC PRESEASON POLL: After compiling a 13-7 overall record and a 3-4 record in the MAC in 2013-14, the Eastern Michigan wrestling squad was picked eighth overall among nine teams for the second consecutive season as it compiled three points. The University of Missouri is pegged to take the conference after grabbing 27 points in the preseason poll, while Old Dominion is projected to finish second with 18 points.

2014-15 MAC Preseason Poll:

1. Missouri (27.0)
2. Old Dominion (18.0)
3. Northern Iowa (15.5)
4. Kent State (13.5)
5. Ohio (12.0)
6. Central Michigan (6.0)
7. Northern Illinois (4.0)
8. **Eastern Michigan (3.0)**
9. Buffalo (0.0)

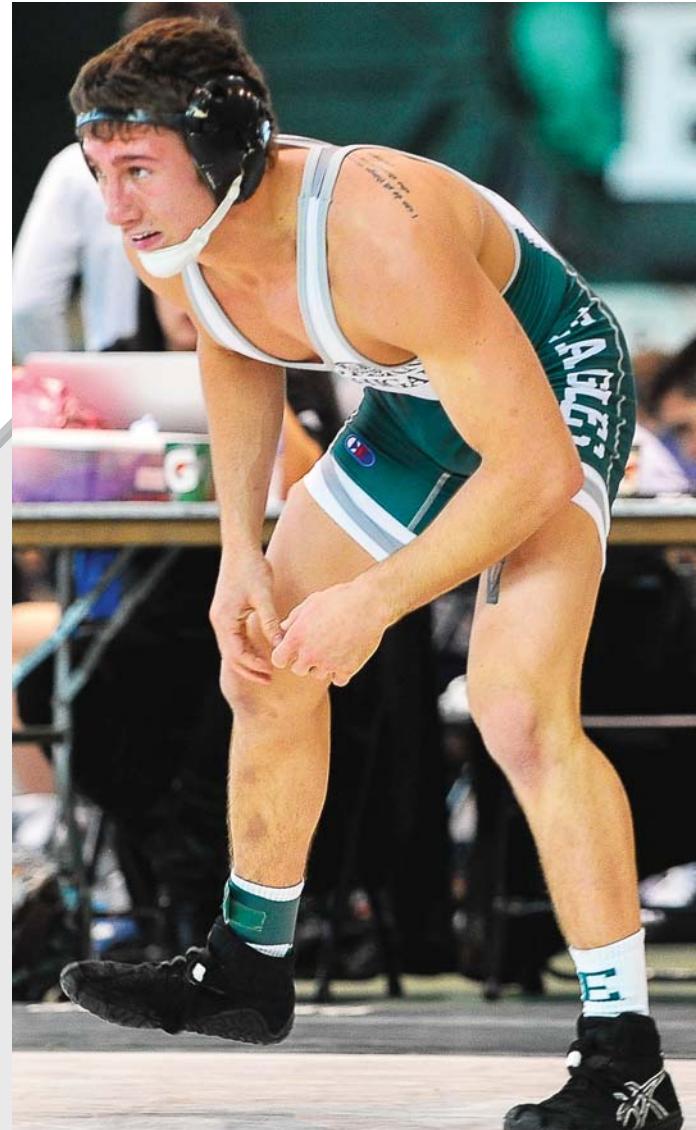
EAGLES VOLUNTEER AT GIRLS ON THE RUN SUPER

HERO 5K: The Eastern Michigan University wrestling squad volunteered its time at the Girls on the Run Super Hero 5K at the Hudson Mills Metropark in Dexter, Mich. Saturday, Oct. 25. Girls on the Run is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams. The organization was established in 1996 in Charlotte, N.C. and seeks to provide pre-adolescent girls with the necessary tools to embrace their individual strengths and successfully navigate through life experiences. The Eagle wrestlers encouraged runners while acting as course marshalls in all three events of the afternoon.

GREEN AND WHITE INKED NINE FOR 2014-15: The Eastern Michigan wrestling team will welcome nine newcomers and two transfers to the 2014-15 squad. Head Coach **David Bolyard** and his coaching staff announced, July 7.

Ben Calandrino, Josh Evans, Ben Griffin, Derek Hillman, Dakota Juarez, Kayne MacCallum, and Armando Torres will compete for the Green and White this season after signing their National Letters of Intent, while transfer **Kyle Springer** will join the squad with three years of eligibility and **Collin Zeerip** will use his final year of eligibility as a member of the EMU wrestling squad.

After the signing period, the Eagles brought on two additional newcomers in **Chad Decker** and **LaRone Mack** to complete their roster for the 2014-15 season.



2014-15 EASTERN MICHIGAN WRESTLING ROSTER

Name	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown/High School
Anthony Abro	197	R-Jr.	Canton, Mich./Canton
Nicholas Barber	141	R-So.	Cleveland, Ohio/St. Edward
Rocco Borg	149	R-Fr.	Oxford, Mich./Oxford
Jake Byers	133	R-Sr.	Cedar Springs, Mich./Rockford
Alexander Calandrino	125	R-So.	Howell, Mich./Howell
Ben Calandrino	133	Fr.	Howell, Mich./Howell
Blake Caudill	125	R-Fr.	Butler, Pa./Butler
Mike Curby	184	R-Sr.	Osseo, Mich./Hillsdale
Jacob Davis	174	Jr.	North Ridgeville, Ohio/St. Edward
Derek Davison	157	R-Jr.	LaSalle, Mich./Monroe
Chad Decker	149	Fr.	Jackson, Mich./Grass Lake
Cole Dillman	285	R-Jr.	Leola, Pa./Conestoga Valley
Josh Evans	141	Fr.	Palmerton, Pa./Palmerton Area
Austin Geerlings	165	So.	Kentwood, Mich./East Kentwood
Ben Griffin	133	Fr.	Canton, Mich./Canton
Gage Hutchison	285	R-Fr.	Buchanan, Mich./Buchanan
Dakota Juarez	165	Fr.	Grand Haven, Mich./Grand Haven
Kayne MacCallum	174	Fr.	Green Oaks, Ill./Libertyville
Larone Mack	157	Fr.	Southfield, Mich./Harrison
Mitchell Malott	157	R-So.	Saginaw, Mich./Swan Valley
Devan Marry	165	R-So.	Hudson, Mich./Hudson
Justin Melick	149	R-Jr.	Fenton, Mich./Fenton
Vincent Pizzuto	133	R-Jr.	North Jackson, Ohio/Jackson Milton
Chris Rau	141	R-Jr.	Deerfield, Mich./Dundee
Derek Schultz	197	R-Fr.	Tinley Park, Ill./Tinley Park
Michael Shaw	141	R-Jr.	Bangor, Mich./Allegan
Kyle Springer	141	So.	New Boston, Mich./Davenport Assumption
Armando Torres	125	Fr.	Lorain, Ohio/Elyria
Shayne Wireman	125	So.	Lansing, Mich./Holt
Brandon Zeerip	157	R-Sr.	Fremont, Mich./Hesperia
Collin Zeerip	174	R-Sr.	Fremont, Mich./Hesperia

Head Coach: David Bolyard (Central Michigan, 2005) - First Season

Assistant Coach: Luke Smith (Central Michigan, 2008) - Fourth Season

Assistant Coach: Scott Mattingly (Central Michigan, 2013) - First Season