

Sammie Grant

EAGL Director of Communications

sgrant@towson.edu

EAGLSID.WixSite.com/EAGLGymnastics



## 2024 EAGL Annual Awards Announced

**TOWSON, Md. (March 24, 2024)** – At the conclusion of the 2024 EAGL Championship at Towson on Saturday, March 23, the East Atlantic Gymnastics League annual award winners were announced. Graduate student Kylie Gorgenyi from New Hampshire was named EAGL Gymnast of the Year, junior Elise Tisler of Towson was voted EAGL Specialist of the Year, senior Anneliese Silverman from George Washington was named EAGL Scholar-Athlete of the Year, George Washington’s Kendall Whitman earned EAGL Senior Gymnast of the Year and Retoshia Halsell of Towson was awarded EAGL Rookie of the Year. Additionally, Jay Ramirez, Ashley Sauer and Meredith Crawford of Towson were named EAGL Head Coach, Assistant Coach and Administrator of the Year, respectively.

### Gymnast of the Year

Graduate student Kylie Gorgenyi (North Reading, Mass.) of New Hampshire had a dominant final collegiate season, wrapping up her career ranked second in EAGL on vault (9.875 NQS), tied for second on bars (9.895 NQS), fourth on floor (9.885 NQS) and second on all around (39.270 NQS). She made her way onto the podium at 11 of the 12 meets this season, tallying 34 combined top-three finishes, 23 of which were first places. She registered career highs on three of the four events she competes in, setting or matching New Hampshire’s school record on two different events. On February 16, she scored a 9.975 on bars at the All-American Challenge, becoming the new record holder for the Wildcats on the event. A week later on February 25 she tied the all-around school record set in 2004, totaling a 39.475 after winning vault (9.900), bars (9.925) and floor (9.900). Gorgenyi was also named EAGL Gymnast of the Week three consecutive times, tied for the most amount out of any gymnast in the conference this season.

### Specialist of the Year

Junior Elise Tisler (Fairfax, Va.) of Towson was one of the top vault and floor performers for the Tigers and in the conference this season, as she currently sits ranked first on vault with a 9.920 NQS and second

on floor with a 9.895 NQS. Tisler was tabbed Specialist of the Week four times, the most out of any other gymnast in EAGL. Throughout the season she earned 14 podium finishes, seven of which were first places, across floor and vault. On February 23, she posted a career high 9.975 on floor, receiving a perfect 10.0 from one judge. She followed up on March 1 with another career high 9.975 on vault, again receiving a 10.0 from one judge to make her the second Towson gymnast in program history to receive a 10 from one judge in two different events. In both events she now holds the second highest score in program history for the Tigers. Elise led Towson's vault squad to quite a successful season as she helped the program post seven scores in the top 10. On floor, she led the squad to a program record 49.650 set on February 23. On the national scale, Tisler currently ranks 13<sup>th</sup> in the NCAA on vault.

### **Scholar Athlete of the Year**

Anneliese Silverman (Basking Ridge, NJ) of George Washington is working towards earning her masters in physical activity in public health, maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Silverman competed in all-around for the Revolutionaries the entire season, contributing to the team in each event she competes in. The New Jersey native earned nine top five finishes in all-around, one of which was a win.

### **Senior Gymnast of the Year**

Senior Kendall Whitman (Pottstown, Pa.) of George Washington "continued her stellar career with another spectacular season this year" head coach Margie Foster-Cunningham stated. Whitman tallied 10 event victories across two different events and all-around, showcasing her depth. She helped lead George Washington to its program-record mark of 197.200 on March 15 at Towson after logging a 39.425 on all-around and a 9.975 on floor, winning both events. The Pennsylvania native also collected three EAGL Gymnast of the Week honors, tied for the most out of any gymnast this season.

### **Rookie of the Year**

Freshman Retoshia Halsell (Louisville, Ky.) of Towson began her collegiate season as one of the top vault and floor performers for the Tigers. She picked up nine top-5 finishes, two of which were victories on floor. Halsell also became the first freshman in Towson program history to receive a perfect 10.0 from one judge as she earned one during her career high 9.975 floor performance on February 23, helping the Black & Gold break the program record on the event. The Kentucky native was tabbed EAGL Rookie of the Week three consecutive times, the most out of any gymnast in the league. She was one of the most decorated rookies in EAGL as she was the only freshman to receive two First Team All-EAGL awards as she ranks in the top eight in the conference on vault and floor.

### **Head Coach of the Year**

Jay Ramirez from Towson led the Tigers to a spectacular record-breaking season as the program set the highest team score ever recorded on two separate occasions, hitting the 197 mark for the first time in program history and then two additional times, which aided the team to their highest NQS. Under his

watch this season the team collected 71 podium finishes with 23 first place, 22 second and 26 third. He led the Black & Gold to 19 event scores being posted in the top 10 in program history, five of which were program records. Ramirez helped his athletes showcase their depth as they recorded 35 49's across all four events, which breaks the previous record of 32 set last year. The Tigers posted 53 career highs, nine of which included a perfect 10.0 from one judge. The team posted 42 scores in the 9.9 range, the most out of any EAGL program this season. He coaches two Tigers to rank in the top-20 in the NCAA and six to rank in the top-5 in the conference.

### **Assistant Coach of the Year**

Alongside coach Ramirez, Ashley Sauer of Towson helped take the program to new heights this year, coaching the team through a record-breaking season. The Black & Gold climbed in the rankings, sitting in the top 20 in the NCAA in two different events. In the EAGL conference, the team ranks either first or second on all four events. She coached the beam squad to a program record performance at EAGL Championships, as four gymnasts logged 9.900s or higher for a final score of 49.475 which was the team's highest score of the meet. Additionally, the Tigers logged two team scores in the top-10 on the event. Under her guidance, the team picked up 10 EAGL weekly awards, the most out of any program in the conference. The Tigers also earned the most All-EAGL selections, picking up 21 total.

### **Administrator of the Year**

Merefith Crawford served as the sports administrator for the Towson gymnastics team for the second season, seeing that all home meets run smoothly and helping out in any area needed. She constantly supports the athletes, through prioritizing their needs and doing what she can to benefit the program.