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01/10/1984 - Basketball Concludes Road Trip

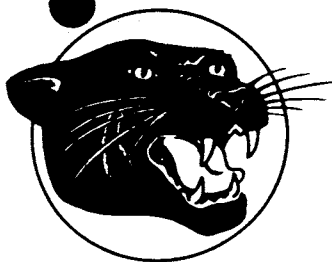
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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's basketball Panthers will conclude a six-game, month long road trip when they play Mid-Continent opponent Valparaiso University Saturday night (Jan. 14). Tip-off is 7:30 p.m. at Valpo's Hilltop Gym.

The Panthers are 4-6 and have lost three straight (prior to Wednesday 1/11 game at Cleveland State) while Valparaiso, one of the league's most improved teams early in the season, is 6-6.

Valparaiso has won its only league encounter, 52-49, at Cleveland State while EIU is 0-1 in the Mid-Continent losing 60-57 in overtime at Wis-Green Bay.

"We're still looking for 40 solid minutes from everyone," said Coach Rick Samuels. "We had about 30 in the loss at Wisconsin-Green Bay but we've dug a hole early in two straight games and can't get over the hump . . . can't get that big basket.

"It's encouraging that we come from behind but not encouraging that we get down like that."

Samuels plans to start 6-8 junior Paul Neidig (Poseyville, IN-North Posey) in place of Kevin Duckworth (Dolton-Thornridge) at center.

"We think Paul deserves an opportunity plus it may help Kevin to come off the bench after the game is a few minutes old."

The guard situation is getting more and more precarious. Back in September the Panthers had five vying for the starting spot but Tim Dykstra was sidelined with a broken wrist and now Tim Wyss (Cissna Park) is hobbled by a back injury.

"Vincent Smelter and Troy Richardson (Dolton-Thornridge) are playing almost 40 minutes . . . we need to get them a break, but haven't been able to do it with Wyss out. Hopefully he will be back by the weekend."

* * * * * GAME NOTES * * * * *

GAME: Eastern Illinois University (4-6) at Valparaiso University (6-6) at 7:30 CST, Saturday, January 14 at Hilltop Gym, Valparaiso, IN.

RADIO: All the action can be heard on WLBH-FM, 97 on the dial, beginning with the pre-game show at 7:15 . . . Marc Stuart calls play-by-play with Dick Vaughan providing commentary.

TENTATIVE STARTERS:

	<u>EIU</u>	<u>VALPO</u>
F 20	Jon Collins 6-4 So.	F 24 John Meyne 6-3 Sr.
F 52	Dirk Androff 6-7 Jr.	F 34 Rick Pickren 6-6 Fr.
C 50	Paul Neidig 6-8 Jr.	C 42 Tony Asberry 6-6 Jr.
G 34	Vincent Smelter 6-2 Jr.	G 23 Rob Harden 5-10 So.
G 14	Troy Richardson 6-0 Jr.	G 14 John McIlvain 6-0 Sr.
or G 24	Tim Wyss 6-5 So.	

-more-

SERIES RECORD: EIU leads the series 4-3 winning four in a row all under Rick Samuels the last Valparaiso win was ten years ago in January, 1984, 79-78.

THE COACHES: EIU's Rick Samuels, in his fourth season, is 47-48 . . . was 16-11, 14-13, 13-18 in his first three seasons here . . . former assistant at Iowa State and Eastern Washington.

Valpo's Tom Smith, also in his fourth season, is 41-53 at VU . . . he previously was head coach five years at Central Missouri where he had an overall record of 86-46 for a career record of 127-99 . . . '80 CMS team was ranked No. 1 in NCAA II for eight weeks but lost in regional tournament championship played at Valpo under Gene Bartow.

LAST YEAR'S GAME: The Panthers were 0-12 at this point last year and returning from a disastrous Hawaiian road trip when they travelled to Valpo . . . EIU responded with a 91-71 victory shooting a school record 68.5% (37-54) as Kevin Duckworth had 18 points, 15 rebounds and Dirk Androff had 17 points.

EIU LAST GAME: The Panthers lost the Mid-Continent opener, 60-57, in overtime at Wis-Green Bay . . . tied 51-51 after regulation, UWGB made nine free throws in the extra session . . . Vincent Smelter and Kevin Duckworth each had 12 points while Dirk Androff had ten rebounds . . . the Panthers shot an even 50% while UWGB hit only 41.3% but the home team made 22 free throws to Eastern's five.

AMCU-8 STANDINGS: (thru 1/9)

<u>Team</u>	<u>Overall</u>	<u>AMCU-8</u>
Illinois-Chicago	9-4	1-0
Northern Iowa	7-4	0-0
Western Illinois	6-4	0-0
Southwest Missouri	5-4	0-1
Valparaiso	6-6	1-0
Cleveland State	5-6	0-1
Eastern Illinois	4-6	0-1
Wisconsin-Green Bay	3-7	1-0

OVERTIME JINX: The Panthers have lost three overtime games by a total of five points, 77-76 to Ball State, 65-64 to Montana State and 60-57 to Wis-Green Bay.

SMELTER SCORING: Guard Vincent Smelter (Macon, GA-Northeast) has been inserted in the starting lineup due to the injury to Tim Wyss and has responded by scoring 25 points in his two starts . . . he scored 13 against Montana State and 12 at UWGB . . . he is third on the team in minutes played (292) and has the fewest turnovers per minutes played of any guard.

ABOUT VALPO: The Crusaders have a 6-6 record winning five of their first six including a 73-55 defeat of Bradley . . . however they then lost four in a row before bouncing back to down Cleveland State, 52-49 . . . forward John Meyne, the defending AMCU-8 scoring leader, has a 15.8 average to again lead the team . . . last year he was 18.9 earning all-league and Sporting News Honorable Mention All-American honors . . . sophomore Rob Harden, a former high school all-american from Valparaiso High School, transferred back to his hometown from the University of Florida and has a 15.5 average . . . guard John McIlvain has 63 assists, nearly six per game . . . freshman Rick Pickren, who was Missouri's prep scoring leader with a 31 point average, is at 9.5 . . . the Crusaders are only averaging 61.4 while allowing just 61.9.

SAMUELS SAYS: "Valparaiso has utilized a three guard offense very effectively and consequently is proving to be a much improved team . . . that's particularly evidenced by the big win over Bradley . . . I think everyone is familiar with (John) Meyne after last year but with Harden now eligible some of the heat is taken off Meyne offensively so they have more balance in the lineup . . . it's definitely not the same team we defeated twice last year . . . however, we have played well up there the last two years, and hopefully that will continue."

1983-84 EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY TEN GAME BASKETBALL STATISTICS (4-6)

NAME	G(GS)	MIN	FGM	FGA	PCT	FTM	FTA	PCT	REB	AVE	A	ST	B	PF(D)	TO	PTS	AVE	HIGH
Jon Collins	10(10)	367	71	138	.514	40	47	.851	45	4.5	29	10	1	20	28	182	18.2	26(WIU)
Kevin Duckworth	10(10)	242	50	88	.568	17	29	.586	73	7.3	3	4	8	38(3)	26	117	11.7	18(BS, UIC)
Tim Wyss	9(8)	245	50	111	.450	10	21	.476	30	3.3	9	8	-	10	19	110	12.2	24(MSU)
Troy Richardson	10(10)	320	39	91	.428	14	18	.778	27	2.7	42	23	0	33(2)	25	92	9.2	18(ISU)
Dirk Androff	9(8)	223	9	22	.409	10	15	.667	55	6.1	12	3	-	27(2)	13	28	3.1	7(WIU)
Vincent Smelter	10(2)	292	33	69	.478	17	27	.630	29	2.9	26	8	2	22(2)	21	83	8.3	13(WIU, MSU)
Paul Neidig	10	179	17	40	.425	17	25	.680	31	3.1	7	4	4	20	18	51	5.1	12(KS)
Derrick Spight	10	117	7	26	.269	8	13	.615	16	1.6	3	2	1	11	4	22	2.2	6(ISU)
Steve Hopkins	4(2)	50	6	14	.428	2	3	.667	13	3.2	1	1	-	4	2	14	3.5	8(KS)
Ronnie Duckworth	4	21	1	1	1.000	-	2	.000	5	0.8	-	2	1	4	2	2	0.5	2(UIC)
Drew Beck	4	17	3	5	.600	-	-	-	3	0.7	3	-	-	1	1	6	1.5	4(WGB)
Mark Tarnier	1	1	-	1	.000	-	-	-	1	1.0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Todd Emro	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Team Rebounds 43										-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EIU TOTALS	10	2075	286	606	.472	135	200	.675	371	37.1	137	65	17	190(9)	159	707	70.7	79(KS,MSU)
OPP TOTALS	10	2075	306	628	.487	123	181	.679	347	34.7	167	84	39	184(6)	151	735	73.5	87(ISU)

Dead Ball Rebounds: EIU - 31, OPP - 17

EIU INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

FGA	20	Jon Collins (Indiana State)
FG	11	Tim Wyss (Montana State)
FTA	12	Jon Collins (Western Illinois)
FT	10	Jon Collins (Western Illinois)
FG%	.778(7-9)	Kevin Duckworth (Kent State)
FT%	1.000(8-8)	Paul Neidig (Kent State)
REB	10	Dirk Androff (Ball State, Montana St.) Kevin Duckworth (Wis-Green Bay)
ASST	12	Troy Richardson (Indiana State)
PTS	26	Jon Collins (Western Illinois)

EIU TEAM HIGHS

79	Illinois-Chicago
35	Indiana State
28	Kent State, Ill.-Chicago
21	Western Illinois
.638	(30-47) Eastern Montana
.812	(13-16) Eastern Montana
55	Illinois-Chicago
23	Indiana State
79	Kent State, Montana St.

EIU TEAM LOWS

47	Eastern Montana
23	Illinois-Chicago
10	Wis-Green Bay
5	Wis-Green Bay
.291	(23-79) Illinois-Chicago
.563	(9-16) Indiana State
24	Southern Mississippi
9	Montana State
57	Wis-Green Bay

OPP INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

FGA	26	Larry Robbins (Kent State)
FG	12	Larry Robbins (Kent State)
FTA	13	Richard Sims (Wis-Green Bay)
FT	11	Richard Sims (Wis-Green Bay)
FG%	.833(10-12)	James Williams (Southern Miss.)
FT%	.846(11-13)	Richard Sims (Wis-Green Bay)
REB	16	Terry Braun (Indiana State)
ASST	16	Craig Lathen (Illinois State)
PTS	29	Richard Sims (Wis-Green Bay)

OPP TEAM HIGHS

77	Illinois-Chicago
39	Indiana State
32	Wis-Green Bay
22	Wis-Green Bay
.532	(33-62) Southern Miss.
.860	(6-7) Kent State
51	Illinois-Chicago
25	Illinois-Chicago
87	Indiana State

OPP TEAM LOWS

46	Wis-Green Bay
19	Wis-Green Bay
7	Kent State
6	Kent State
.413	(19-46) Wis-Green Bay
.450	(9-20) Indiana State
16	Eastern Montana
11	Ball State
60	Wis-Green Bay

GAME-BY-GAME SCORING/REBOUNDING

(AT HOME: 2-1 ON ROAD: 1-3 NEUTRAL: 1-2 AMCU: 0-1 AMCU HOME: 0-0 AMCU ROAD: 0-1)

EIU	OPPONENTS	COLLINS	DUCKWORTH	NEIDIG	WYSS	RICHARDSON	HOPKINS	SMELTER	SPIGHT	ANDROPH
W 79	76 Kent State (H) 2500	17/4	15/8	12/3	9/4	6/2	8/5	7/0	5/0	DNP
* L 65	79 Southern Mississippi (N) 10,364	18/3	6/3	6/4	18/3	10/2	0/2	7/2	0/1	0/1
* W 73	70 Western Illinois (N) 11,187	26/3	7/5	0/4	10/7	6/0	DNP	13/3	4/0	7/7
L 76	77 (OT) Ball State (H) 2500	20/4	18/9	8/4	20/2	4/0	DNP	5/2	1/2	0/10
L 79	87 Indiana State (A) 5072	22/5	7/5	6/3	13/3	18/4	DNP	7/2	6/5	0/5
W 79	73 Montana State (H) 1485	17/8	14/9	4/2	24/3	12/2	DNP	5/1	0/2	3/5
** W 73	66 Eastern Montana (A) 2780	25/5	11/7	5/4	6/0	15/4	DNP	7/5	0/0	4/6
** L 62	82 Illinois-Chicago (N) 1852	7/6	18/9	3/4	10/8	6/8	2/3	7/6	2/1	3/7
L 64	65 (OT) Montana State (A) 2271	20/1	9/8	2/0	DNP	6/5	4/3	13/3	4/1	6/10
L 57	60 (OT) Wis-Green Bay (A) 1342	10/6	12/10	5/3	0/0	9/0	DNP	12/5	0/3	5/4

* 3rd @ Illini Classic (Champaign)

** 2nd @ KOA Classic (Billings, MT)