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Dec. 9, 1980
LS-AS-BB-BB OPP

PANTHER BASKETBALL REPORT

THE GAME: Eastern Illinois University (2-2) hosts Western Illinois University (3-1),
7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, Lantz Gym.

THE OCCASION: Opening game in Mid-Continent Conference schedule.

TENTATIVE STARTERS:

		<u>EIU</u>					
F	Ricky Robinson	6-6	Jr.	F	Joe Dykstra	6-6	So.
F	Jim Williams	6-6	Jr.	F	John Seay	6-6	Sr.
F	Ricky Serkin	6-5	Jr.	C	Todd Hutcheson	6-7	Fr.
G	Chuck Turk	6-	Sr.		or		
G	Warren Patten	5-11	Sr.		Jeff Nielsen	6-7	Sr.
				G	Jamie Lilly	6-5	Jr.
				G	Dwayne Banks	6-3	Sr.

THE SERIES: Western Illinois holds a 56-43 lead. The Panthers held a 16-6 edge through the 70s.

LAST YEAR: Eastern won both games last year, 72-69 and 90-75, which was the clincher for a tournament spot. Ricky Robinson (Aurora-East) had two of his better games against the Leathernecks with 16 points in the first contest and 17 in the latter at home.

THE COACHES: EIU's Rick Samuels, in his first season, is 2-2. Western's Jack Margenthaler, in his fourth season, is 50-36.

WIU FACTS: Western dropped its opener, 81-77, to a talented Augustana team, then bounced back to defeat Northeast Missouri, 88-73, and Central Missouri State, 103-80, which earlier defeated EIU by one point . . . the 'necks are led by sophomore Joe Dykstra who scored 26 and 24 in his last two games . . . senior guard Dwayne Banks became the 8th leading scorer in school history when he reached 1225 career points against Central Missouri . . . a likely starter, Todd Hutcheson, led the state of Iowa in scoring (26.4) and rebounds (15.1) last season as a prep . . . the Leathernecks were 19-10 last season, finished second in the NCAA II North Central Region setting 10 school team and individual records . . . they shot .502 from the field and this year are at 51.7% . . . from the free throw line they are deadly with a .788 mark last season, one of the highest in the nation.

EIU FACTS: Eastern hit the century mark, 102 against Ferris State Saturday, for the first time in two years . . . last scoring 103 against St. Joseph's in 1979 . . . EIU is shooting an incredible .54% from the field . . . Warren Patten has 60.4% . . . he also leads in scoring with a 16.7 average followed closely by Ricky Robinson at 16.0 . . . Robinson's 24 points and 15 rebounds against Ferris State were both personal highs . . . he had 24 points once before against Armstrong State but 11 was his previous high rebound figure . . . Jim Williams was perfect from the field against Ferris, 8-8 . . . Chuck Turk also tied his personal best with six assists against Ferris . . . Robinson and Patten have been the most consistent, in double figures in all four games.

COACH SAMUELS SAYS: "We're shooting the ball well . . . most of our shots against Ferris were coming from our offense . . . that's good because it gives our players confidence in what we're trying to do . . . we're still learning what we can do . . . it takes an individual awhile to learn what his teammates can be expected to do on the court . . . for instance Chuck Turk (Maple Park-Kaneland) made some excellent passes . . . he was able to deliver the ball before the man was really open . . . that's the mark of an excellent passer . . . to anticipate a teammate's move . . . our kids had a team meeting and decided they were not playing as a group . . . I think Ricky (Robinson) really showed what he is capable of doing . . . we could have a real shootout against Western Illinois . . . they shoot the ball well also, and appear ready to run . . . I'm familiar with (Joe) Dykstra, (Jamie) Lilly and (Todd) Hutcheson . . . I saw them play in Iowa and know how much talent they possess . . . it should be a heck-uva way to open the conference season."