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01/15/1982 - Claude Magee All American

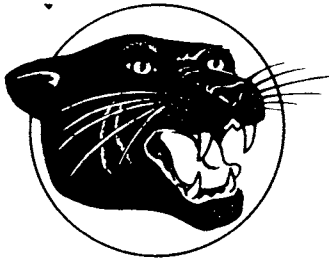
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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

DAVID KIDWELL, *Sports Information Director*

OFFICE: (217) 581-2920 HOME: (217) 345-4166

Jan. 15, 1982
LS-AS-TRACK-HTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Sophomore Claude Magee (Clermont, FL), a NCAA All-American in two events, will lead Eastern Illinois University's track team into its first year of NCAA Division I competition.

The Panthers open the indoor season Saturday (Jan. 23) in a double dual hosting Southeast Missouri and Indiana State. The meet begins at 2 p.m. in the Lantz Fieldhouse.

"We've finished in the top ten at NCAA meets five times in the last eight years but the stiffer competition on the Division I level will force us to change our ultimate goal from a national championship to an event championship," said Coach Neil Moore.

Magee, a sprinter-long jumper, will hopefully pick up where he left off last spring when he laid the foundation for career as one of EIU's best.

"Claude's the key to our success this spring . . . primarily he's a sprinter but he could develop and excel in the long jump, also," said Moore.

Magee led the Panthers in scoring last season. He earned All-American honors with a sixth place finish in the 100 dash and ran a leg on the fourth place 400 relay team.

He was the Mid-Continent Conference Track 'Athlete of the Year', set three varsity records and anchored two Drake Relay victories in the 400 and 800 relays.

"Claude had a hand in all of our major successes last year . . . you can see why he is the focal point entering the '82 season."

Magee is just one of four sophomores who, as freshmen, led the Panthers in scoring. The other three are All-American sprinter Efrem Horton (Rockford-Auburn) and middle distance runners David Houston (Granite City-South) and Perry Edinger (Mattoon).

"Houston should emerge at the top of an improved group of middle distance runners . . . he ran a brilliant 1200 meter leg on a winning medley relay at Drake," Moore said.

Horton will join Magee and (Dwayne) Brown (another returning relay All-American) as our top sprinters . . . with these three we have a great nucleus for several relays," Moore explained.

"Edinger and Joel McKinney (Niantic-Harristown) are a couple other good middle distance runners although they'll probably excel later on outdoors in the steeplechase." Edinger set a MCC record winning the event last spring.

"Paul James (Mahomet-Seymour) could develop into one of the top discus specialists in the midwest. He was our fifth leading scorer last season and got all of his points outdoors.

"He's going for a third straight conference title and could top his school record of 180-8 feet," Moore said.

Three year lettermen Mike Beresford (Danville) and Chuck Elliott (Palatine) will run the longer distances while Mark Schrimpf (Mundelein), another three year letter winner, will aim for a school record in the decathlon.

1982 INDOOR TRACK SCHEDULE

2:00, Saturday, Jan. 23	SOUTHEAST MISSOURI, INDIANA STATE
2:00, Saturday, Jan. 30	BALL STATE, SOUTHWEST MISSOURI
Friday-Saturday, Feb. 5-6	at Illinois Intercollegiate (Champaign)
7:00, Friday, Feb. 19	ILLINOIS STATE, MURRAY STATE, MARYVILLE (MO)
7:00, Friday, Feb. 26	EIU INVITATIONAL
10:00 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 27	at Illini Classic (Champaign)
7:00, Friday, March 5	EIU LAST CHANCE MEET
9:30 a.m., Saturday, March 6	EIU HIGH SCHOOL INVITATIONAL
Friday-Saturday, March 12-13	NCAA National Championship (Pontiac, MI)

1982 OUTDOOR SCHEDULE

1:30, Saturday, March 27	at Murray State
10:00 a.m., Saturday, April 3	at Southeast Missouri Invitational
11:00 a.m., Saturday, April 10	EIU RELAYS
Monday-Tuesday, April 12-13	EIU DECATHLON
2:00, Saturday, April 17	at Illinois State, Western Illinois, Western Michigan
Friday-Saturday, April 23-24	at Drake Relays
Wednesday-Saturday, April 28-May 1	at Illinois Intercollegiate (Champaign)
Thursday-Friday, May 6-7	at Mid-Continent Conference (Macomb)
1:00, Saturday, May 15	at USA/TFA (West Lafayette, IN)
Thursday-Saturday, June 3-5	NCAA I National Championship (Provo, UT)