

1-15-1981

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### Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "01/15/1981 - EIU swimmer Ted Soltys qualified for NCAA2 national swimming championship" (1981). 1981. 391.

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Jan. 15, 1981  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University swimmer Ted Soltys (Elmhurst-York) qualified for the NCAA II National Swimming Championship in three relay events recently at the Illinois Intercollegiate in Chicago.

Soltys swam legs on the 800 free (7:07.9) 400 medley (3:35) and 400 free (3:14.6) relays which finished first, second and third, respectively.

The junior All-American will represent the Panthers on those relays at the NCAA II finals, March 19-21 at Youngstown State in Youngstown, OH.

"We swam the best mid-season meet since I've been here," said Coach Ray Padovan, in his 15th year. "Besides winning nine of 18 events, we had 14 cutoff times for the national meet . . . it wasn't something we pointed to.

"It's just that we have a more mature group this year . . . mostly juniors and seniors. Once the first couple qualified, everyone just picked up on the momentum."