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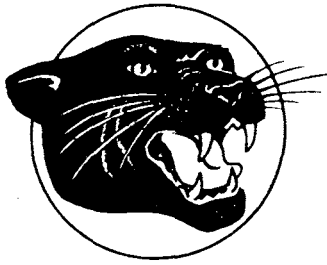
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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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March 2, 1982
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's swimming Panthers will close the season in their main event, the Midwest Championships, this weekend (March 5-7) in Chicago.

"There are 12 quality teams so it's a good meet . . . it's something we have been pointing towards," said Coach Ray Padovan.

"We have some quality individuals who are capable of placing high . . . plus with so much quality we can't be hurt by cheap times."

Besides Eastern, other Illinois colleges participating are Illinois State, Western Illinois and Chicago Circle. Western Kentucky has won the past couple years, according to Padovan.

"This is mainly for schools who don't have a conference meet to go to . . . it suits us better than anything else at the end of the season. We haven't been in it the last couple years but if we swim well we could crack the top three."

Eastern is coming off a second place finish in the Mid-Continent Conference meet.

Tom Hussey (Charleston) and Miguel Carrion (Equito, Ecuador) are likely candidates for top individual honors.

Hussey won three events last weekend in the conference meet setting MCC records in both the 100 and 200 backstroke.

Carrion specializes in the 400 individual medley, winning at the league meet and knocking two more seconds off his previous school record.

He swam it in 4:10 after breaking Bob Thomas 4:12 mark, which was Eastern's oldest swimming record (1973) still on the books.