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## 01/31/1984 - Basketball Home Stretch

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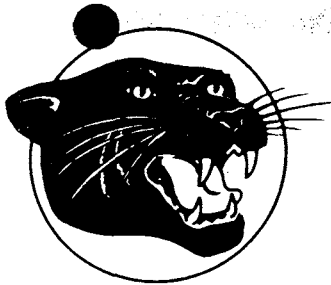
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# Panther Sports News

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's basketball Panthers, finally begin a long stretch of home games by hosting AMCU-8 league leader Illinois-Chicago Saturday (Feb. 4) and non-conference opponent East Carolina on Monday (Feb. 6). Both games are at 7:30 in Lantz Gym.

Eastern, 8-9, has lost three straight in the conference dropping to 3-4 and tied for 5th. The Panthers whipped Eastern Washington, 75-68, Saturday night but then lost, 88-85, at Illinois-Chicago Monday.

The UIC Flames are now 14-6, have won nine of their last 11 and lead the AMCU-8 with a 6-2 record. They have won five straight conference games at home to surge into first place.

The Panthers now have nine of their remaining ten games in Lantz Gym after playing 12 of the first 17 either on the road or at neutral sites. Six of seven AMCU-8 games are at home.

"With a strong finish we can still be among the league leaders but to accomplish that we're going to have to win'em all," says Coach Rick Samuels. "It's possible now that we're coming home but we have to play with the same intensity that we did at UIC Monday."

### \* \* \* \* GAME NOTES \* \* \* \*

THE GAMES: Eastern Illinois University (8-9, 3-4) hosts Illinois-Chicago (14-6, 6-2) at 7:30 CST, Saturday, Feb. 4, Lantz Gym, Charleston.

EIU hosts East Carolina (3-14), at 7:30 CST, Monday, Feb. 6, Lantz Gym, Charleston.

RADIO: All the action can be heard on 50,000 watt WLBH-FM, 97 on the dial, with play-by-play by Marc Stuart and commentary by Dick Vaughan . . . the Illinois-Chicago game is tape delay with the pre-game starting at 9:30 . . . the East Carolina broadcast is live with pre-game at 7:15.

### TENTATIVE STARTERS:

| <u>EIU</u>           |          | <u>UIC</u>        |          |
|----------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| F 20 Jon Collins     | 6-4 So.  | F 41 Ivan Daniels | 6-10 Jr. |
| F 52 Dirk Androff    | 6-7 Jr.  | F 44 Tim Anderson | 6-5 Sr.  |
| C 00 Kevin Duckworth | 6-11 So. | C 54 Darryl Rice  | 6-7 Sr.  |
| G 24 Tim Wyss        | 6-5 So.  | G 10 Craig Lathen | 6-1 Jr.  |
| G 34 Vincent Smelter | 6-2 Jr.  | G 15 John Ellis   | 6-3 Sr.  |

### EASTERN CAROLINA

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| F 35 Derrick Battle   | 6-6 Fr.  |
| F 24 Keith Sledge     | 6-3 Fr.  |
| C 42 Leon Bass        | 6-10 Fr. |
| G 11 Curt Vanderhorst | 6-1 So.  |
| G 12 Tony Robinson    | 6-1 Sr.  |

THE COACHES: EIU's Rick Samuels, in his fourth season, is 50-51 overall . . . in his first three seasons the Panthers were 16-11, 14-13, and 13-18 . . . he previously was an assistant at Iowa State and Eastern Washington.

UIC's Willie Little is in his first year as head coach after serving as Tom Meyer's assistant for the previous three seasons . . . Little took over the innercity Manley High School head coaching position in 1975 when the school had no varsity basketball and led the Wildcats to a 31-1 1980 Class AA state championship.

ECU's Charlie Harrison is in his second year with the Pirates currently holding a 19-27 record . . . he guided ECU to a 16-13 record last year . . . prior to joining the Pirates he was an assistant under Johnny Orr at Iowa State in 1980-82.

THE SERIES: This is the 7th meeting between the Panthers and UIC with the series tied at 3-3 . . . the two teams first met in December, 1978 with EIU winning 52-51 at home . . . the Panthers also prevailed in Lantz Gym 71-60 in 1979 and then split as AMCU-8 opponents last year . . . EIU won 86-74 here but lost in Chicago, 90-77 . . . in the KOA Classic championship game in December UIC won 82-62 and then took last Monday's contest 88-85 to even the series . . . the Flames have now won three straight.

This is the second meeting between East Carolina and the Panthers with ECU leading 1-0 . . . the Pirates won in Greenville, NC by a 78-54 score two years ago.

SCORINGSLUMP OVER??: After scoring below 70 points in eight straight games the Panthers popped in 75 Saturday against Eastern Washington and a season high 85 Monday at UIC . . . EIU's point average has climbed a bit but is still slightly under 70 at 69.6.

DUCKWORTH TOP AMCU SHOOTER: 6-11 sophomore center Kevin Duckworth (Dolton-Thornridge) leads the league in field goal percentage with a 59.6% mark . . . he has hit on 84 of 141 . . . however he has been limited to just eight shots a game.

| AMCU-8 STANDINGS: | Team               | AMCU-8 | Overall |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------|---------|
|                   | Illinois-Chicago   | 6-2    | 14-6    |
|                   | Northern Iowa      | 5-2    | 12-7    |
|                   | Wis-Green Bay      | 4-3    | 7-10    |
|                   | Western Illinois   | 3-2    | 10-7    |
|                   | EASTERN ILLINOIS   | 3-4    | 8-9     |
|                   | Southwest Missouri | 3-4    | 8-7     |
|                   | Valparaiso         | 2-5    | 7-11    |
|                   | Cleveland State    | 1-6    | 6-10    |

|                        |          |   |
|------------------------|----------|---|
| <u>Games This Week</u> | - Feb. 1 | Western Illinois at Wis-Green Bay   |
|                        | Feb. 2   | Xavier at Cleveland State   |
|                        | Feb. 4   | Northern Iowa at Cleveland State<br>Illinois-Chicago at Eastern Illinois<br>Valparaiso at Western Illinois<br>Wis-Green Bay at Southwest Missouri |
|                        | Feb. 6   | East Carolina at Eastern Illinois<br>Cleveland State at Western Illinois<br>Valparaiso at Southwest Missouri<br>Wis-Green Bay at Northern Iowa    |

AMCU-8 RACE: EIU is tied for 5th in the league standings after completion of the first half of the conference race . . . however the Panthers have also played more road games than any other AMCU-8 opponent consequently the second half of the season favors a strong Eastern finish.

ABOUT UIC: The Flames are red hot winning nine of their last 11 . . . seven of those wins were at home, two on neutral sites . . . the losses were the only two road games at Northern Iowa and Southwest Missouri . . . the Flames now play five straight AMCU-8 road games with only Western Illinois remaining on their home schedule . . . UIC is scoring 85 points a game which ranks No. 6 in the nation, and hitting over 51% from the field . . . five players average in double figures with John Ellis tops at 16.7 . . . guard Craig Lathen is No. 2 in the country in assists with 9.3 per game . . . the Flames have also been averaging 40 rebounds per game but EIU held a 37-30 advantage in Monday night's game.

ABOUT ECU: East Carolina has a 3-14 record prior to a Saturday night contest with George Mason . . . the pirates opened with wins over Campbell and Charleston-Newport but then lost 12 straight before defeating UNC-Wilmington last week . . . they are last in the ECAC-South . . . sophomore guard Tony Vanderhorst leads in scoring with a 9.9 average . . . the team is scoring just 55 points a game but also only allowing 64 . . . forward Keith Sledge, who has started just the last eight games, is averaging over nine in that period.

SAMUELS SAYS: "We played with a lot of intensity at Illinois-Chicago and I'm still confident this team can finish with a flourish if we play as we did the other night . . . we still need to get the ball to (Kevin) Duckworth more often because right now he's the league's best shooter but I'm pleased that we're also getting offensive production from several the last couple games . . . in regard to the conference standings, a lot can change during the month of February particularly in regard to us since we now have so many at home while Illinois-Chicago, the league leader, goes on the road for five of its last six games . . . Northern Iowa, which is in second place, has four games left on the road, so I certainly believe we're still in the chase . . . we just hope that February is a productive month for Panther basketball."

1983-84 EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY 17-GAME BASKETBALL STATISTICS (8-9)

| NAME             | G(GS)  | MIN  | FGM | FGA  | PCT   | FTM | FTA | PCT  | REB | AVE  | A   | ST  | B  | PF(D)   | TO  | PTS  | AVE  | HIGH         |
|------------------|--------|------|-----|------|-------|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|----|---------|-----|------|------|--------------|
| Jon Collins      | 17(17) | 609  | 130 | 252  | .519  | 62  | 72  | .861 | 64  | 3.8  | 37  | 18  | 1  | 36      | 45  | 322  | 18.9 | 31(CSU)      |
| Kevin Duckworth  | 17(14) | 415  | 84  | 141  | .596  | 33  | 48  | .687 | 120 | 7.1  | 8   | 7   | 17 | 68(6)   | 37  | 201  | 11.8 | 20(EWU)      |
| Tim Wyss         | 16(15) | 407  | 81  | 181  | .447  | 17  | 38  | .447 | 51  | 3.2  | 22  | 16  | -  | 20(1)   | 34  | 179  | 11.2 | 24(MSU)      |
| Vincent Smelter  | 17(9)  | 538  | 58  | 119  | .487  | 33  | 52  | .635 | 67  | 3.9  | 59  | 22  | 2  | 39(3)   | 34  | 149  | 8.8  | 16(WGB, UIC) |
| Troy Richardson  | 17(10) | 479  | 56  | 132  | .424  | 19  | 29  | .655 | 45  | 2.6  | 61  | 31  | 1  | 47(2)   | 48  | 131  | 7.7  | 18(ISU)      |
| Dirk Androff     | 16(15) | 390  | 18  | 42   | .428  | 17  | 30  | .567 | 100 | 6.2  | 19  | 8   | -  | 42(3)   | 25  | 53   | 3.3  | 7(WIU)       |
| Paul Neidig      | 17(3)  | 247  | 22  | 52   | .423  | 20  | 29  | .690 | 44  | 2.6  | 7   | 6   | 4  | 32      | 26  | 64   | 3.8  | 12(KS)       |
| Derrick Spight   | 16     | 223  | 15  | 51   | .294  | 17  | 27  | .630 | 32  | 2.0  | 4   | 3   | 2  | 21      | 10  | 47   | 2.9  | 6(3 OPP)     |
| Steve Hopkins    | 11(2)  | 124  | 14  | 29   | .483  | 2   | 5   | .400 | 33  | 3.0  | 5   | 6   | 1  | 11      | 7   | 30   | 2.7  | 8(KS)        |
| Ronnie Duckworth | 7      | 24   | 1   | 1    | 1.000 | -   | 2   | .000 | 5   | 0.7  | -   | 2   | 1  | 4       | 2   | 2    | 0.3  | 2(UIC)       |
| Drew Beck        | 4      | 17   | 3   | 5    | .600  | -   | -   | -    | 3   | 0.7  | 3   | -   | -  | 1       | 1   | 6    | 1.5  | 4(WGB)       |
| Mark Turner      | 1      | 1    | -   | 1    | .000  | -   | -   | -    | 1   | 1.0  | 2   | -   | -  | -       | -   | -    | -    | -            |
| Todd Emro        | 1      | 1    | -   | -    | -     | -   | -   | -    | -   | -    | -   | -   | -  | -       | -   | -    | -    | -            |
| Team Rebounds 62 |        |      |     |      |       |     |     |      |     |      |     |     |    |         |     |      |      |              |
| EIU TOTALS       | 17     | 3475 | 482 | 1006 | .479  | 220 | 332 | .663 | 627 | 36.9 | 227 | 119 | 29 | 321(15) | 269 | 1184 | 69.6 | 85(UIC)      |
| OPP TOTALS       | 17     | 3475 | 495 | 1013 | .489  | 224 | 323 | .693 | 546 | 32.1 | 281 | 132 | 61 | 315(9)  | 255 | 1214 | 71.4 | 88(UIC)      |

Dead Ball Rebounds: EIU - 42 OPP - 38

EIU INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

|      |       |   |
|------|-------|---|
| FGA  | 20    | Jon Collins (Indiana State, Western Illinois, UIC)    |
| FG   | 15    | Jon Collins (Cleveland State)                         |
| FTA  | 12    | Jon Collins (Western Illinois)                        |
| FT   | 10    | Jon Collins (Western Illinois)                        |
| FG%  | .900  | (9-10) Kevin Duckworth (Eastern Washington)           |
| FT%  | 1.000 | (8-8) Paul Neidig (Kent State)                        |
| REB  | 11    | Kevin Duckworth (Cleveland State), Dirk Androff (UIC) |
| ASST | 12    | Troy Richardson (Indiana State)                       |
| PTS  | 31    | Jon Collins (Cleveland State)                         |

EIU TEAM HIGHS

|      |                                   |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 79   | Illinois-Chicago                  |
| 35   | Indiana State, Eastern Washington |
| 28   | Kent State, Illinois-Chicago      |
| 21   | Western Illinois, Wis-Green Bay   |
| .638 | (30-47) Eastern Montana           |
| .812 | (13-16) Eastern Montana           |
| 55   | Illinois-Chicago                  |
| 23   | Indiana State                     |
| 85   | Illinois-Chicago                  |

EIU TEAM LOWS

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 41   | Wisconsin-Green Bay                    |
| 22   | Valparaiso                             |
| 10   | Wisconsin-Green Bay                    |
| 5    | Wis-Green Bay, Cleveland St., E. Wash. |
| .291 | (23-79) Illinois-Chicago               |
| .417 | (5-12) Eastern Washington              |
| 24   | Southern Mississippi                   |
| 4    | Northern Iowa                          |
| 57   | Wisconsin-Green Bay                    |

OPP INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

|      |      |  |
|------|------|--|
| FGA  | 26   | Larry Robbins (Kent State)                 |
| FG   | 12   | Larry Robbins (Kent State)                 |
|      |      | Todd Hutcheson (Western Illinois)          |
| FTA  | 13   | Richard Sims (Wisconsin-Green Bay)         |
| FT   | 11   | Richard Sims (Wisconsin-Green Bay)         |
| FG%  | .889 | (8-9) Melvin Bradley (Eastern Washington)  |
| FT%  | .846 | (11-13) Richard Sims (Wisconsin-Green Bay) |
| REB  | 16   | Terry Braun (Indiana State)                |
| ASST | 16   | Craig Lathen (Illinois-Chicago)            |
| PTS  | 30   | Todd Hutcheson (Western Illinois)          |

OPP TEAM HIGHS

|      |                              |
|------|------------------------------|
| 77   | Illinois-Chicago             |
| 39   | Indiana State                |
| 32   | Wisconsin-Green Bay          |
| 23   | Northern Iowa                |
| .532 | (33-62) Southern Mississippi |
| .889 | (8-9) Valparaiso             |
| 51   | Illinois-Chicago             |
| 27   | Western Illinois             |
| 88   | Illinois-Chicago             |

OPP TEAM LOWS

|      |                             |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 43   | Valparaiso                  |
| 19   | Wisconsin-Green Bay         |
| 7    | Kent State                  |
| 6    | Kent State                  |
| .413 | (10-46) Wisconsin-Green Bay |
| .450 | (9-20) Indiana State        |
| 16   | Eastern Montana             |
| 8    | Wisconsin-Green Bay         |
| 52   | Valparaiso                  |

GAME-BY-GAME SCORING/REBOUNDING

(AT HOME: 4-1    ON ROAD: 3-6    NEUTRAL: 1-2    AMCU: 3-4    AMCU HOME: 1-0    AMCU ROAD: 2-4)

| EIU    |    |                                 | COLLINS | DUCKWORTH | NEIDIG | WYSS | RICHARDSON | HOPKINS | SMELTER | SPIGHT | ANDROFF |
|--------|----|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|--------|------|------------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| 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     |
| W 67   | 66 | Cleveland State (A) 1252        | 31/4    | 16/11     | 0/1    | 12/5 | 2/5        | 0/1     | 0/3     | DNP    | 6/3     |
| W 58   | 52 | Valparaiso (A) 1872             | 21/5    | 10/6      | 2/2    | 4/2  | 7/1        | 4/2     | 3/7     | 6/1    | 1/2     |
| W 67   | 62 | Wis-Green Bay (H) 2500          | 14/0    | 8/6       | 4/3    | 8/3  | 6/1        | 0/0     | 16/5    | 6/4    | 5/8     |
| L 60   | 65 | Northern Iowa (A) 3392          | 13/5    | 12/6      | 0/1    | 10/4 | 6/3        | 2/1     | 12/5    | 2/5    | 3/8     |
| L 65   | 78 | Western Illinois (A) 5832       | 17/1    | 10/5      | 2/4    | 10/4 | 6/5        | 6/9     | 8/6     | 6/3    | 0/4     |
| W 75   | 68 | Eastern Washington (H) 1443     | 16/1    | 20/7      | 2/2    | 12/2 | 6/2        | 2/4     | 11/7    | 2/0    | 4/8     |
| L 85   | 88 | Illinois-Chicago (A) 2500       | 28/2    | 8/5       | 3/0    | 13/1 | 6/1        | 2/3     | 16/5    | 3/1    | 6/11    |

\* 3rd at Illini Classic (Champaign)

\*\* 2nd at KOA Classic (Billings, MT)