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March 2, 1982
Hometowns

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Leigh Hankins (South Beloit), Eastern Illinois University senior forward, led the Panthers to a 14-13 season in their first year in NCAA Division I play.

Hankins was the only player to start all 27 games. He scored 10.3 a game and led the Panthers in minutes played (793), field goal percentage (56.9%) and rebounds (5.7).

"Hank has to feel good about his season," said Coach Rick Samuels. "Here's a player who got the most out of his ability once he got the opportunity to play . . . it's rewarding to see someone progress as Leigh has done."

Hankins scored in double figures in 15 of the 27 games with a high of 20 against Olivet Nazarene.

The Panthers won eight of their last 10 posting an above .500 record for the ninth straight season.