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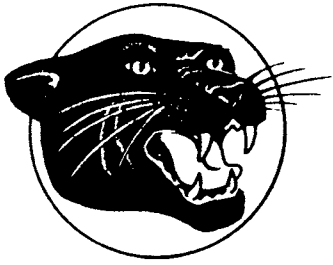
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#### Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "02/18/1981 - Women's Swimming and Badminton Begin IIAW State Competition" (1981). 1981. 428.

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# **Panther Sports News**

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Feb. 18, 1981  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University women's swimming and badminton teams begin IATAW state competition this weekend.

The swimming team travels to Carbondale to begin competition Thursday (February 19) while badminton play begins Friday (February 20) at Normal.

Swimming preliminaries begin at 11 a.m. with the final sessions scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on each of the three days of competition. Defending state champion, SIU-Carbondale, is regarded as a slight favorite in the meet.

"We will be competing against Division I schools in the state," said Panther coach Ray Padovan. "We could finish anywhere from third to fifth place," he added.

"We have the largest team entered," said Padovan. "Our real goal is to give everyone a final shot to qualify for nationals.

"Thus far we've qualified seven people. I'd like to think that we have another five that are quite capable of qualifying this weekend," said Padovan.

Those individuals having already qualified for the national meet include Dawn Reynolds (Waterloo), Lynn Miner (Knobnoster, MO/Rantoul), Bev Little (O'Fallon), Lori Gill (Normal/University), Dawn Buczkowski (Bartlett/Elgin), Tammy Baker (Sterling) and Ricki Rousey (Lincoln).

"We're really looking forward to this meet because it's an indication of the progress we've made this year," said Padovan.

While the swim team's outlook seems bright for this weekend, badminton coach Karen Earley is having her problems preparing her team for their state tournament.

"We will definitely not be at full strength this weekend," said Earley. "Two of our players are out, one with an injury sustained two weeks ago and one due to a death in the family," said Earley.

EIU WOMEN'S SWIMMING  
AND BADMINTON

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Lost to the Panthers for the upcoming tournament are junior Jody Lyon (Arlington Heights) and sophomore Jo Obrycki (Mt. Prospect).

"We will be forced to break up both the number two and three doubles teams," said Earley. "Denise Hadley (Hinsdale/Central) and Janet Haberkorn (Arlington Heights) will be anchoring the number two spot. They have never played together before, however they do combine to make a good doubles team," said Earley.

"We'll move our number four doubles team of Nancy Szarzynski (Wheaton/North) and Lisa Walz (Palatine/Fremd) up to the number three spot. We will not enter a fourth doubles team," said Earley.

Earley hopes to see her number one doubles team of Sue Gonnella (Niles/Maine East) and Chris Kelly (Miller Place, NY) seeded in the non-flighted, open draw tournament.

"We won't have anyone seeded in singles competition," said Earley. "We just want to do our best with who we've got this weekend," she added.