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Panther Sports News

Feb. 25, 1981

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL-Eastern Illinois University's Claude Magee (Clermont, FL) set or tied four indoor track records while winning three events in last weekend's triangular with Murray State and Illinois State.

Magee, just a freshman, won the 300 dash in 30.8, tying the EIU varsity record and setting a Lantz Fieldhouse and freshman record. The varsity record was set by former national champion Rodney Jackson in 1973.

Magee also tied his own freshman mark in the long jump with a 23-64. Earlier this year he achieved that distance in a double dual with Ball State and SIU-Edwardsville.

Magee topped off the evening with a first in the 60 dash in 6.2.

"Claude's going to be a great one. His high school coach at Clermont, Vern Eppinette, is an Eastern grad whose father (Bob) still lives in Charleston . . . Vern wrote that he had a good sprinter and long jumper that was being overlooked a bit by schools in the south. Magee was the state champ in the long jump and 100 dash.

"We corresponded for quite awhile and eventually signed him, although we had a lot of help getting him. What we like is his potential . . . we haven't had someone in the long jump with his speed and explosion . . . John (Craft, women's track ceach) has been giving him some extra schooling," Moore explained.

"At this time he's learning how to hitch kick . . .once he gets that down, then I think he can go over 24 feet in the near future. Plus he's run a 21.8 in the 200 . . . his versatility makes him quite valuable."