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Panther Sports News

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PREVIEWING THE WEEK (March 1-7)

Thursday, March 1

Men's swimming at Midwest Swimming Championship (Chicago)

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Friday, March 2

Men's track at AMCU-8 championship (Macomb)

Men's swimming at Midwest Swimming Championship (Chicago)

Saturday, March 3

MEN'S BASKETBALL hosts Southwest Missouri (7:30, Lantz)

WOMEN'S TRACK hosts Last Chance Meet (noon, Lantz Fieldhouse)

Women's Basketball at SIU-Carbondale

Men's Swimming at Midwest Swimming Championship

Men's Track at AMCU-8 Championship

Monday, March 5

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL hosts Illinois State (5:15, Lantz Gym)

MEN'S BASKETBALL hosts Northern Iowa (7:30, Lantz Gym)

Wednesday, March 7

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL hosts Indiana State (7:30, Lantz Gym)

REVIEWING THE WEEKEND (February 24-25)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:

The Lady Panthers suffered two narrow Gateway Collegiate Conference defeats last week, dropping an 80-75 decision at Southwest Missouri and losing 70-65 at Wichita State. The losses drop Eastern to 15-10 overall and 9-6 in the GCAC (fifth place).

TONI COLLINS (Lincoln-Jamaica-Sidell), a junior forward, turned in two solid performances for the Lady Panthers. She tallied 17 points against Southwest Missouri on seven of 10 shots from the field and three of four free throw attempts. Saturday she came back with 25 points and 12 rebounds against Wichita as she raised her season scoring average to 14.0.

MELANIE HATFIELD (Lawrenceburg, IN), a sophomore guard, led Eastern scorers with 18 points at Southwest Missouri and added 16 at Wichita to lift her GCAC average to 13.4. The quick guard also dished out eight assists and came up with seven steals in the two contests.

CHRIS ALDRIDGE (Taylorville), a sophomore forward, was hampered by a very sore left ankle and played only 24 minutes against Wichita, tallying three points and pulling down seven rebounds. She had a more typical outing against Southwest Missouri as she hit seven of 12 shots and scored 15 points with six rebounds, three assists, a block and a steal.

SUSAN HYND (Ottawa-Township), a sophomore center, scored in double figures in both of last week's games as she raised her season average to 10.0. She scored 15 at Southwest Missouri, added 13 at Wichita and pulled down 15 rebounds in the two games.

WOMEN'S TRACK:

The Lady Panthers placed fifth in the Gateway Conference indoor meet Saturday (Feb. 25) at Cedar Falls, IA. Illinois State took team honors with 166 points followed by Drake (82), Wichita State (68), Western Illinois (63) and Eastern with 41 points.

GAIL STEPHENS (Evanston), a senior long sprinter, turned in another sparkling performance as she helped Eastern to its two first-place finishes. She set school and conference records with a 1:21.6 time in the 600-yard dash and ran a leg of the winning mile relay, which finished in 3:49.2. Although the relay time is three seconds off the NCAA qualifying time, Stephens' time in the 600 is below the NCAA standard. However, she must await an invitation to the Mar. 10 national meet.

ELIZABETH SMITH (Deerfield), a freshman, placed fourth in the pentathalon.

LAUREN LYNCH (Elmhurst-York), a freshman long sprinter, ran a leg of the winning mile relay which finished in 3:49.2. She also placed fifth in the 400-yard dash, crossing the finish line in 58.83.

RENEE JOHNSON (Chicago-South Shore), a senior long sprinter, ran a leg of Eastern's mile relay, which finished first in 3:49.2.

BARBARA HUDSON (East St. Louis-Senior), a senior, helped the mile relay team to victory in 3:49.2.

DENISE MACON (Chicago-Kenwood Academy), a junior, placed sixth in the shot put with a toss of 40 feet, $11\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING:

Eastern finished its season Saturday (Feb. 25) by placing ninth of 11 teams at the Midwest Championships at the University of Illinois-Chicago. Illinois State won the team championship followed by Western Illinois. High points for the Lady Panthers came with four school records being broken.

DAWN BUCZKOWSKI (Bartlett-Elgin), a senior, placed 10th in the 100-yard freestyle, finishing in 54.7. She also helped the 400-yard free relay team to a fourth-place finish in an EIU record time of 3:38.7 and came in eighth in the 100 fly in 1:00.2.

PETRA KOOIKER (Jacksonville), a sophomore, placed ninth in the 100-yard freestyle, edging out her teammate Buczkowski in 54.5. She also swam a leg of the record-setting 400-yard freestyle relay team that placed fourth in 3:38.7.

TAMMY BAKER (Sterling), a senior, had a hand in setting two Eastern records. She swam the 200-yard freestyle in 1:58.4, placing fifth, and swam a leg of the 400-yard free relay that established a new school record of 3:38.7.

DEBBIE KROENING (Carbondale-Community), a junior, broke two Eastern records in distance freestyle events. She completed 500 yards in 5:19.2 and placed 10th in the 1650-yard free, finished in 18:29.4.

TRACY SAAL (Pekin), a freshman, helped the 400-yard free relay team establish a new Eastern record of 3:38.7.

MEN'S BASKETBALL:

The Panthers defeated Western Illinois, 92-76, for their third straight victory and won their fifth in the last six games to boost their overall record to 13-11 and 5-6 in the AMCU-8.

TIM WYSS (Cissna Park), sophomore guard/forward, matched his career high scoring 24 points Saturday night with a team high nine rebounds. Wyss hit 9-18 from the field and all six free throw attempts. He is now tied for second on the team in scoring with an even 12 points per game, and has upped his field goal percentage to 46.2%.

VINCENT SMELTER (Macon, GA-Northeast), junior guard, scored 17 points, a season personal high, and had four steals. He shot 6-9 from the field and increased his overall field goal percentage to 52.1%. He is now averaging 8.9 points and has 93 assists, second on the team.

JON COLLINS (East St. Louis-Cahokia), sophomore forward, scored 14 points hitting 7-14 from the field. Collins still leads the team with an 18.4 scoring average and is hitting 51.7% from the field, 81.2% from the line, 3.7 rebounds per game and 2.1 assists. He is No. 2 in the AMCU-8 in scoring.

TROY RICHARDSON (Dolton-Thornridge), junior guard, came off the bench to score 13 points. He has been in double figures in three straight games and five of the last six. He hit 5-9 from the field, 3-4 free throws with four steals. Richardson now is averaging 8.3 points and leads the team in assists with 96 (4.0 p/game) and steals with 49 (2.0 p/game).

DIRK ANDROFF (Decatur-Eisenhower), junior forward, had his best offensive output of the season scoring ten points and also leading the team with four assists. Androff connected on all four field goal attempts and is now shooting 49.2% in all games and 53.1% in 11 AMCU-8 contests. Androff is still second on the team in rebounding at 6.2 per game.

KEVIN DUCKWORTH (Dolton-Thornridge), sophomore center, scored eight points but due to foul trouble was limited to just 22 minutes. Duckworth is scoring 12 points a game, and tops the team in rebounding at 7.1 and shooting percentage at 59.1%.

MEN'S TRACK:

The Panthers hosted the EIU/Converse Invitational Track Meet with 19 teams participating in a non-scoring meet.

DAN MATAS (Oak Park-River Forest), sophomore weightman, set a new indoor shot put record at $54-3\frac{1}{4}$. This is the third straight meet he has set a varsity mark. He opened the season with a $53-10\frac{1}{2}$ for a new record, then upped that by reaching 54-0 at the Illini Classic followed by Saturday's record toss.

CHRIS JOHNSON (Peoria-Manual), freshman sprinter, set an EIU Invitational record winning the 600 yard dash in 1:12.25. This is the first time he has run the 600 this year, normally competing in the 440 dash. He did run the 440 as the anchor leg of the winning mile relay which ran a 3:22.49 for a meet record.

CLAUDE MAGEE (Clermont, FL), junior sprinter, ran the 440 yard dash for the first time this winter finishing second in 50.13, less than one-tenth second off the winning time of 50.07. He also ran a 440 leg of the mile relay which set a meet record winning in 3:22.49. Magee was timed in 49.9 for his leg.

CRAIG DEWALL (Forreston), senior hurdler, placed second in the 60 yard high hurdles in 7.5.

DON JOHNSON (Terre Haute-South), freshman sprinter, ran the 440 leg of the distance medley relay which won in a Lantz Fieldhouse record of 10:18.63. Johnson's split was 50.9. He also ran a leg of the two-mile relay which was second in 7:52.5. Johnson's 880 split was 1:57.6.

MARK SMITH (Tuscola), freshman sprinter, ran a 50.8 440 leg of the mile relay which won in a meet record 3:22.49.

DREW GEISLER (Granite City-South), junior middle distance runner, ran the three-quarter mile leg of the distance medley which won in a Lantz Field-house record 10:18.63. He ran a 3:06.1.

JOHN GASSMANN (Olney), senior distance runner, ran a 4:21.5 mile leg of the distance medley which won in a Lantz Fieldhouse record 10:18.63.

SCOT ADAMSON (Moweaqua), freshman sprinter, ran a 52.0 440 leg of the mile relay which won in a meet record 3:22.49.