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02/28/1984 - Basketball Closes In On Third Place

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Panther Sports News

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LS-AS-BB-BB OPP
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's basketball Panthers can close in on third place in the AMCU-8 and avenge two road losses as they conclude regular season play the next few days.

Eastern hosts Southwest Missouri on Saturday (March 3) and Northern Iowa Monday (March 5). Game time for both is 7:30 in Lantz Gym.

Prior to these two games the Panthers will meet Valparaiso on Wednesday (Feb. 29) in Lantz Gym in a rescheduled contest.

EIU has won three in a row and five of its last six games so could guarantee an above .500 finish with wins in these season ending games. Eastern is 13-11 overall and in fourth place in the AMCU-8 with a 5-6 mark.

A .500 season would be the 10th in the last 11 seasons for Eastern, and third in four years for Panther coach Rick Samuels.

Southwest Missouri and Northern Iowa have both matched the Panthers in recent strong performances. The SMS Bears are 14-9 with nine wins in the last 12 games. They are 7-5 and in third place in the conference.

Northern Iowa has won seven in a row for an 18-7 record and is tied with Illinois-Chicago for first place in the AMCU-8 with a 10-2 mark.

Following these games the pairings will be announced for the AMCU-8 post-season tournament which will be held March 9-11 in the Southwest Missouri Hammons Student Center in Springfield.

* * * * * GAME NOTES * * * * *

THE GAMES: Eastern Illinois University (13-11, 5-6) hosts Southwest Missouri State (14-9, 7-5) at 7:30 CST, Saturday, March 3, Lantz Gym, Charleston.

Eastern hosts Northern Iowa (18-7, 10-2) at 7:30 CST, Monday, March 5, Lantz Gym, Charleston.

RADIO: All the action can be heard on Mattoon's 50,000 watt WLBH-FM, 97 on the dial, with Marc Stuart calling play-by-play and Dick Vaughan providing commentary . . . both games will be broadcast live beginning with the pre-game show at 7:15.

TENTATIVE STARTERS:

	<u>EIU</u>		<u>SWMO</u>
F 20	Jon Collins	6-4 So.	F 30 Chris Scott 6-3 Sr.
F 52	Dirk Androff	6-7 Jr.	F 14 Anthony Boggs 6-3 Sr.
C 00	Kevin Duckworth	6-11 So.	C 42 Eric Gray 6-5 Sr.
G 24	Tim Wyss	6-5 So.	G 12 Randy Stange 5-11 Jr.
G 14	Troy Richardson	6-0 Jr.	G 10 Brian Smith 6-0 Jr.

UNI

F 40	Jay Block	6-6 Sr.
F 43	Scott Stafford	6-7 Jr.
C 44	Herbert King	6-7 Sr.
G 20	Rob Williams	6-0 So.
G 4	Eric Hawthorne	6-4 Fr. or
G 32	Randy Kraayenbrink	6-3 So.

THE SERIES: Eastern trails Southwest Missouri, 8-4. The Bears have won four of the last five games . . . EIU's only win in this stretch was 82-67 in the final game of 1983 to clinch a tie for second in the AMCU-8.

EIU leads UNI, 12-5 and has near lost to them in Lantz Gym.

THE COACHES: EIU's Rick Samuels is 56-53 in four years as head coach . . . in his previous three seasons the Panthers were 16-11, 14-13 and 13-18 . . . he formerly was an assistant at Eastern Washington and Iowa State . . . he is 2-3 vs. UNI, and 1-4 vs. SWMO.

SWMO's Charlie Spoonhour is in his first year as head coach at a four year institution however in eight years of junior college coaching at Moberly and Southeastern Iowa had a 205-63 record reaching the national juco tournament four times . . . he also was an assistant at Nebraska, Oklahoma and Southwest Missouri . . . he is 1-0 vs. EIU.

UNI's Jim Berry, in his 11th season at Northern Iowa, is 180-211 overall which includes four years as head coach at Loras College . . . his record at UNI only is 124-172 . . . his 1978-79 team took second in the Division II North Central Regional . . . he is 4-9 vs. EIU.

FIRST MEETING: With a one point lead and the ball the Panthers committed a turnover in the closing seconds allowing Eric Gray to make two free throws with seven seconds left to give SWMO a 53-52 win . . . EIU shot 64.7% with Jon Collins and Kevin Duckworth getting 18 and 16, respectively . . . Scott's 14 led the Bears.

UNI made 11 of 13 free throws in the last four minutes to hang on to a 65-60 victory in the UNI-Dome . . . EIU only shot 36.5%, its second worst of the season, as Collins led with 13 points . . . Randy Kraayenbrink had 20 for the purple Panthers.

AMCU-8 STANDINGS:

	<u>Conference</u>	<u>Overall</u>	<u>AMCU-8 Remaining</u>
Illinois-Chicago	11-2	19-6	1
Northern Iowa	10-2	18-7	2
Southwest Missouri	7-5	14-9	2
Eastern Illinois	5-6	13-11	3
Western Illinois	5-7	13-12	2
Wis-Green Bay	5-9	9-17	0
Cleveland State	4-9	12-14	1
Valparaiso	3-10	8-16	1

Games of 3/3: Northern Iowa at Western Illinois
Southwest Missouri at EIU
Butler at Valparaiso

Games of 3/5: Northern Iowa at Eastern Illinois
Western Illinois at Illinois-Chicago

WYSS BOUNCES BACK: After scoring just 17 points with three rebounds in the three previous games, 6-5 guard/forward Tim Wyss (Cissna Park) bounced back to match his career high with 24 points against Western Illinois . . . he also led the team with nine rebounds . . . was nominated for AMCU-8 'Player of the Week' . . . Tim hit 9-18 from the field and all six free throw attempts.

ANDROFF RESPONDS: Dirk Androff (Decatur-Eisenhower), 6-7 junior forward, did not start the two games prior to WIU . . . however he got back into the first five last Saturday and scored a season high 10 points hitting all four field goal attempts and led the team with four assists.

RICHARDSON HOT: Troy Richardson (Dolton-Thornridge), 6-0 junior guard, went 11 straight games in mid-season without scoring double figures . . . but as the team has gotten hot, so has Troy . . . he's hit in double figures in five of the last six games and boosted his scoring average to 8.3 . . . he also leads the team with four assists per game and two steals per contest.

COLLINS IN TOP FIVE??: Scoring just 26 points in the last two games, Jon Collins (East St. Louis-Cahokia), 6-5 sophomore forward, now needs to boost his figures a bit if he's going to crack EIU's single season top five scoring list . . . Collins has 442 and needs 81 more to surpass Lloyd Ludwig's 1956-57 total of 522.

THIRD IN AMCU-8??: In order for the Panthers to finish third they must win the remaining conference games which would give them an 8-6 AMCU-8 mark, and Southwest Missouri must cooperate by losing its last two games . . . the Bears close with a home game against Cleveland State on 3/6 . . . if EIU defeats SWMO Saturday the Panthers can do no worse than a tie for third providing they lose no more games.

ABOUT SWMO: The Bears have won nine of their last 12 games and with Saturday's (2/25) win over Arkansas State set a new high for wins (14) as a Division I team . . . defense has provided the impetus for this streak as they are only allowing opponents 59 points and only one of the last starters are averaging in double figures led by Chris Scott at 13.9 . . . Anthony Boggs is 12.0, Eric Gray and Randy Stange both are at 10.1 . . . Phil Schlegel has only started one game but has come off the bench to lead the league in FG% shooting right at 60% however he only takes six shots a game . . . the entire team is hitting 51.3%, best in the conference . . . Boggs is 4th in the nation in free throw shooting at 90.4%.

ABOUT UNI: The purple Panthers are the surprise team going right down to the final games with a chance to win the AMCU-8 . . . UNI is 18-7 overall, 10-2 and tied with Illinois-Chicago for first in the conference . . . currently on a seven-game winning streak . . . were picked to finish fifth in the AMCU-8 in the preseason poll with no voter selecting the purple Panthers higher than third . . . Randy Kraayenbrink, sophomore guard, has provided the scoring punch with a league leading 20.6 average however he has been out since 2/13 with a sprained ankle . . . his status is questionable for Monday's game . . . UNI does have a tough assignment Saturday

night when it must win at Western Illinois to keep pace with UIC . . . Herbert King, 6-7 senior, is the only other player in double figures at 12.0 . . . UNI is toughest in the Dome where it has won 14 straight including wins over Wisconsin, Drake and Kansas State . . . however they are only 3-6 on the road . . . Scott Stafford leads the conference with 44 blocks and Rob Williams from Benton is third in assists with five per game.

SAMUELS SAYS: "We may be out of the race for the league championship but we still have a great opportunity to prove we're among the league's best teams . . . we can avenge a couple road losses against Southwest and Northern Iowa here in the next few days, and winning these would also help us a couple ways . . . it would give us a shot at third place in the conference and a better pairing in the post-season tournament . . . we're playing pretty well and feel good about our chances in the tournament . . . our players see some positive things happening here at the end of the year and don't intend to let up . . . Tim Wyss statistically had a good game against Western but even more than that I thought he played his most all-around active game this year . . . Vincent Smelter has probably been our most consistent, though, each game out but you can't discount Jon Collins as he has scored in double figures in all but one game."

GAME-BY-GAME SCORING/REBOUNDING

(AT HOME: 9-2 ON ROAD: 3-7 NEUTRAL: 1-2 AMCU: 5-6 AMCU HOME: 3-1 AMCU ROAD: 2-5)

EIU	OPPONENTS	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 (T) 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
L 73	78 Illinois-Chicago (H) 2027	14/5	14/12	2/3	20/9	8/3	0/1	11/3	0/2	4/8
W 78	58 East Carolina (H) 1068	16/2	18/6	6/5	13/1	14/6	0/0	0/0	7/2	0/4
W 94	55 Roosevelt (H) 1186	14/3	7/6	2/4	24/6	10/3	9/5	10/1	7/4	5/6
L 52	53 Southwest Missouri (A) 3896	18/4	16/12	2/0	4/0	2/1	2/0	4/0	2/1	2/4
W 95	81 Cleveland State (H) 1641	32/3	13/5	8/1	9/1	10/2	0/1	16/5	3/2	4/7
W 80	56 IUPUI-Indianapolis (H) 828	12/3	12/6	3/4	4/2	12/3	6/10	7/7	6/1	4/7
W 92	76 Western Illinois (H) 2343	14/4	8/3	0/2	24/9	13/0	4/2	17/5	0/0	10/4

* 3rd at Illini Classic (Champaign)

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

1983-84 EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY 24-GAME BASKETBALL STATISTICS (13-11, 5-6)

NAME	G(GS)	MIN	FGM	FGA	PCT	FTM	FTA	PCT	REB	AVE	A	ST	B	PF(D)	TO	PTS	AVE	HIGH
Jon Collins	24(24) C-11(11)	815 398	182 90	352 177	.517 .508	78 32	96 37	.812 .865	88 40	3.7 3.6	49 12	26 11	3 2	42 21	60 27	442 212	18.4 19.3	32(CSU) 32(CSU)
Kevin Duckworth	24(21) C-11(8)	579 277	117 51	198 88	.591 .579	55 25	79 35	.696 .714	170 82	7.1 7.4	10 4	10 5	26 11	87(6) 43(3)	44 23	289 127	12.0 11.5	20(EWU) 16(CSU, SWMO)
Tim Wyss	23(22) C-11(10)	579 255	121 48	261 108	.464 .444	35 18	58 27	.603 .667	79 38	3.4 3.4	42 24	23 10	- -	34(1) 19(1)	42 19	277 114	12.0 10.4	24(MSU, RU, WEU) 24(WIU)
Vincent Smelter	24(14) C-11(10)	709 373	85 45	163 86	.521 .523	44 25	70 37	.628 .676	88 49	3.7 4.4	93 53	32 19	3 -	51(3) 31(2)	53 26	214 115	8.9 10.4	17(WIU) 17(WIU)
Troy Richardson	24(14) C-11(3)	690 286	86 30	182 64	.472 .469	28 15	40 21	.700 .714	63 22	2.6 2.0	96 34	49 21	1 1	66(3) 29(1)	64 36	200 75	8.3 6.8	18(ISU) 13(WIU)
Dirk Androff	23(20) C-11(10)	546 281	30 17	61 32	.492 .531	22 12	40 24	.550 .500	140 64	6.1 5.8	38 19	16 9	- -	56(3) 29(2)	36 20	82 46	3.6 4.2	10(WIU) 10(WIU)
Paul Neidig	24(3) C-11(3)	340 126	31 11	76 21	.408 .524	25 4	37 8	.676 .500	63 21	2.6 1.9	12 1	6 1	4 1	50 19	29 11	87 26	3.6 2.4	12(KS) 8(CSU)
Derrick Spight	23 C-10	303 130	23 8	76 28	.303 .286	26 14	40 21	.650 .667	44 24	1.9 2.4	5 -	5 2	2 -	31 22	18 7	72 30	3.1 3.0	7(ECU) 6(WIU)
Steve Hopkins	18(2) C-10	192 86	24 10	49 18	.490 .555	3 -	8 2	.375 .000	52 20	2.9 2.0	7 5	11 7	11 6	19 13	12 6	51 20	2.8 1.8	9(RU) 6(WIU)
Ronnie Duckworth	12 C-4	49 5	4 -	11 2	.364 .000	1 -	7 1	.143 .000	10 -	0.8 -	1 -	5 -	2 2	11 3	3 -	9 -	0.7 -	4(RU) -
Drew Beck	9 C-3	42 7	7 2	12 3	.583 .667	- -	- -	- -	5 1	0.5 0.3	6 2	- -	1 -	4 1	4 1	14 4	1.5 1.3	4(WGB, ECU) 4(WGB)
Mark Tarner	4 C-1	28 28	4 1	8 1	.500 1.000	3 -	4 -	.750 -	5 2	0.8 2.0	3 -	2 -	- -	6 1	3 -	11 2	2.7 2.0	9(IUPU) 2(WIU)
Todd Emro	2 C---	3 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -
Team Rebounds 86 (C-34)																		
EIU TOTALS	24 C-11	4875 2225	714 313	1449 628	.493 .498	320 145	479 213	.668 .681	893 397	37.2 36.1	362 154	185 85	53 22	458(17) 229(9)	368 176	1748 771	72.8 70.1	95(CSU) 95(CSU)
OPP TOTALS	24 C-11	4875 2225	675 286	1422 597	.475 .479	321 186	465 263	.690 .707	786 328	32.7 29.8	379 164	174 81	87 34	453(14) 212(6)	378 168	1671 758	69.6 68.9	88(UIC) 88(UIC)

Dead Ball Rebounds: EIU - 55 OPP - 51
C-EIU - 26 OPP - 20