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4-28-1982

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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "04/28/1982 - Claude Magee One of Nation's Elite" (1982).
1982. 461.

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Panther Sports News

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April 28, 1982
LS-AS-TRACK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL-- Eastern Illinois University sprinter Claude Magee (Clermont, FL) ranks as one of the nation's elite in the 100 meter dash.

Magee's 10.25 in the 100 meter dash is No. 3 among collegiate sprinters and No. 5 among all Americans, according to Track & Field News.

"This is the highest we've ever had anyone ranked," said Coach Neil Moore, "and his credentials certainly qualify him to be among the nation's best."

Ahead of Magee on the collegiate list are Ron Brown of Arizona State and Mike Miller of Tennessee, both with 10.2 times.

Atop the American list are Carl Lewis at 10.16, Mel Lattany at 10.18 and then the three collegians.

Magee's time, recorded in the first meet of the season at the SEmotion Relays earlier this month, qualifies him to compete in the NCAA I National Championship in Provo, Utah in early June.

However, Magee is currently sidelined with a hamstring injury that will force him to miss this weekend's Illinois Intercollegiate and possibly the Mid-Continent Conference on Friday, May 7.

"He's definitely out of the intercollegiates and probably will miss the conference . . . we want to make sure he's ready for nationals. That's the one we're pointing for," Moore explained.

His absence this weekend will severely hamper EIU's chances for a strong performance in the state meet. Besides the 100, Magee normally competes in the long jump, runs legs of a couple sprint relays and/or the 200 dash.

Last year the Panthers finished fourth with Magee winning both the 100 and 200 dashes. "We did not do well at Drake last weekend so we're hoping some individuals can bounce back at the intercollegiate," Moore said.