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03/13/1984 - Weather Not Cooperating With Softball

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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's women's softball team is not getting the cooperation it needs.

The cooperation is not coming from Mother Nature, who appears to have already forced the cancellation of Saturday's scheduled 1 p.m. season opener with the College of St. Francis. Although the game has not yet been officially cancelled, Lantz Field remained snow-covered Tuesday and only much warmer weather and no additional precipitation will make the game possible.

If the Panthers are able to take the field, EIU head coach Deanna D'Abbraccio said she will start with senior Mary Tiegs (Lake Bluff-Libertyville), senior Fran Stalter (Pontiac-Township/Parkland CC) and junior Shelly Eddington (Brighton-Southwestern/Lewis & Clark) in the outfield.

The infield, third to first, will be comprised of freshman Kathy Range (Cahokia), sophomore Tammi Rettig (Bloomington), senior Becky Jochim (Palestine/Lincoln Trail CC) and senior Janet Blacker (Monticello/Parkland CC). Junior Tangi Waldrop (Robinson/Lincoln CC) will catch for veteran senior pitcher Donna Ridgway (Annapolis-Hutsonville).

"We're really eager to get outside," D'Abbraccio said. "We'd like to see the defense come together and have the ability for the outfield to work with the infield. That just isn't possible when you're practicing indoors."

Following Saturday's scheduled season-opener, the Lady Panthers will travel to Oklahoma to compete in the prestigious American Legion Fastpitch Tournament. The three-day event runs Mar. 22-24 and will give Eastern the opportunity to face many fine teams from different regions of the country.