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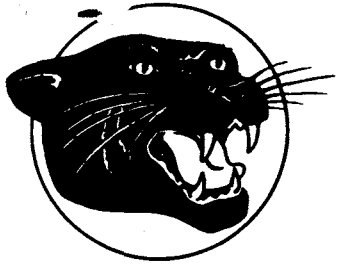
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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, ILL (May 6, 1986)--The Eastern Illinois men's track team placed second out of six teams at the Association of Mid-Continent Universities (AMCU-8) Championships this past weekend in Macomb, IL.

EIU tallied 165 total points while Northern Iowa won the title with 224 points. Coach Neil Moore's squad was third after the first day before making a gallant run at the blue ribbon. Eastern won the team title in 1985 and finished in the top two each of the past four years.

Junior **DAN MATAS** (Oak Park/ OP-River Forest) won the shot put with a toss of 56-6 3/4 while keeping the title in the family. Matas's twin brother--Marion--won the event a year ago while competing for Western Illinois. M. Matas is red-shirting this year for the Leathernecks. D. Matas also was third in the discus with a 155-1 throw.

The Panthers also nailed down a second in the 3000 meter steeplechase with a stellar performance by freshman **JOHN WELLS** (Jasonville, IN/Shakamak). Wells ran the course in 9:33.56. Freshman **BRUCE ALBRIGHT** (Pontiac) was fourth (9:48.5) while sophomore **DALE RIGHTER** (Mattoon) was fifth (9:58.9).

Jumping specialist **KELLY SWIFT** (Clayton) notched a fourth in the long jump with a leap of 22-10 1/2 while placing second in the triple jump with a 46-1 1/2 effort.

LARRY PRIEBE (Palos Hills/Stagg) defended his javelin title successfully by tossing 194-3 to win the event. He won first-place as a junior with a throw of 208-8.

Weight-specialist **LARRY THOENNISSEN** (Morton) won the hammer throw with throw of 175-4. The senior also was fourth in the discus with 153-6 effort.

Senior **JAY FLAT** (Sessor/Niantic Harristown) placed third in the hammer throw (162-5) and fifth (146-5) in the discus.

Eastern record-holder **BOB MAZANKE** (Palos Hills/Stagg) won the discus with a throw of 165-0. Three Panther teammates finished in the top 6 in the event.

Pole-Vaulter **LONNIE VICKERY** (Bourbonnais) was third in his specialty with a 15-0 effort.

Eastern middle-distance standout **JIM MATON** (Shelbyville) won the 1500 meter run with a time of 3:57.24. He also was second in the 800 meter with a clocking of 1:52.50. Maton was named the AMCU-8 Indoor Track Athlete of the Year earlier this season. His brother Phil was fifth in the 800 meter (1:54.43) and sixth in the 1500 meter (3:58.64) run.

Freshman sprinter **IAN ISAACS** (North Aurora/West) pulled a double by winning the 100 (10.76) and 200 meter (21.75) dashes. Former EIU All-American Claude Magee won both events a year ago. Isaacs also ran a leg on the second-place 400-meter relay team.

Junior **BRAD THOMPSON** (Robinson) was fifth in the 400 meter intermediate hurdles with a 56.59 clocking while teammate **MARK HEISE** (Charleston) was sixth with a 57.70 time.