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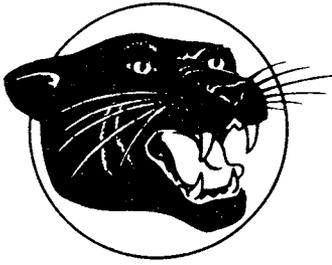
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Panther Sports News

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July 2, 1982
LS-AS-Hometowns

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Two of the top three pitchers in the Peoria-area Mid-State 10 Conference, Sam Light of Bartonville Limestone and Kevin Smith of Peoria Richwoods, have signed baseball scholarships to attend Eastern Illinois University, Coach Tom McDevitt announced.

Smith, a 6-0, 170 lefty who also played the outfield when he wasn't pitching, ranked No. 2 in the league with a 1.35 earned run average.

He had an 8-2 record striking out 73 and allowing 42 walks in 62 innings. He batted .323 with 20 hits, eight for extra bases, and seven stolen bases.

Light, a 5-10, 170 righthander, led the league in strikeouts with 80 in 53 innings. He was 8-3 and ranked No. 3 in the conference with 1.98 ERA. He gave up just 24 walks.

Light's Limestone team was 20-11 overall and third in the Mid-State 10 with a 11-7 record. Richwoods finished at 17-13 and tied for fourth at 10-8.

"Kevin's a fine two-way player who has good foot speed and a decent arm. He has a quick bat and should be capable of playing both positions although eventually I think he will have to pick one or the other," McDevitt said.

"Light reminds me a lot of Marty Pattin (13-year major league pitcher and former EIU All-American) except he doesn't throw as hard. He's about the same size as Marty and has Pattin's competitive spirit.

"He throws a good curve and slider, and ranks in the upper third of his class as does Smith."