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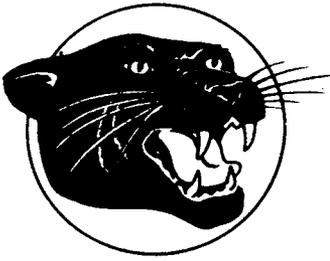
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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University sprinter Claude Magee (Clermont, FL)

will take with him two of the nation's fastest times in the 100 and 200 meter dashes when he departs Tuesday (May 29) for the NCAA National Championship in Eugene, OR.

Magee has qualified in those events for both the NCAA finals, held Thursday through Saturday (May 30-June 2), and the Olympic Trials held later in June in Los Angeles.

He set EIU records and finished second in both the 100 and 200 running in 10.16 and 20.68, respectively, last weekend at the Gatorade Classic in Knoxville, TN.

Magee's 10.16 time, though slightly wind-aided at 2.23 (2.0 MPH allowable), broke his previous record of 10.21. It ranks as the fourth best reported time in the nation by Track & Field News although head coach Neil Moore admits "a lot of good times are just now starting to roll in.

"Track & Field News calls the NCAA championship the U. S. Olympic goldmine . . . none of us can see anyone beating the U.S. in these two sprints so he's going to be in good company," said Moore.

"But it'll be different for him this year. As a sophomore he was a bit in awe of the nationals where now he's looked at as more of an equal . . . he's faster and more relaxed thanks to competing in some big meets such as the one in Tennessee."

Magee missed first place in the Gatorade "by an eyelash" both times, says Moore. Sam Grady of Tennessee beat him in the 100 and Auguston Young of North Carolina won the 200. "Track and Field says Grady might be the NCAA champion."

Magee's EIU record performance 20.68 in the 200 chopped two-tenths of a second off Sandy Osei-Agyeman's 1973 time of 20.9, and was one of the few times he has been able to compete in the longer distance this spring. It was not wind-aided.

"Claude says he can do better because he knows he didn't do as well as he can on the turn . . . I still think the 200 is going to be his best event eventually, and

CLAUDE MAGEE
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maybe yet this spring," Moore says.

Prior to the NCAA meet, Magee will compete one last time in the regular season running Saturday at the Central Collegiate in Evanston.