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Panther Sports News

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LS-Hometowns

29

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's soccer Panthers will get a better idea where they rank among the midwest's best after this weekend's Governor's Cup Classic at DeKalb.

The Panthers, 4-2-1, face perennial power SIU-Edwardsville Friday afternoon (Oct. 5) with host Northern Illinois facing Western Illinois. The championship is Saturday afternoon.

"I suspect we'll be ranked third or fourth this week," says coach Cizo Mosnia, while SIU is around No. 6. St. Louis University is the top team in this region.

"But Northern Illinois has a 6-1 record and Western Illinois only lost to St. Louis, 2-1, so this tournament is wide open. It's a great opportunity to find out who's the best, and how far we can expect to get in this region," Mosnia said.

Mosnia praised both fullback Albert Adade (Kumasi, Ghana) and goalie Mark Simpson (Schaumburg) for their defensive efforts. "Albert is a strong defender and a major factor in our allowing less than one goal a game, and for a freshman Simpson has done a very good job.

"But as a team we're up and down and that concerns me the most . . . we're working hard to get to the point of playing consistently."

Neil Swindells (Manchester, England) leads the team with four goals and five assists. Starting with Swindells on the front line are Guy Callipari and Ozzie Molinari (both from London, Canada).

Besides Adade, other starting fullbacks are Rob Loncar (Chicago-Brother Rice), Paul Kelly (Alberta, Canada) and Andre McKenzie (Downers Grove-North).

The two starting midfielders are Rick Lansing (Point Pleasant, NJ) and Matt Gamache (St. Louis, MO-University) with three others, Greg Oidtman (Addison-York), John Glenndinning (Wheaton-Central) and Gordon Williams (Kingston, Jamaica), splitting time at the other midfield spot.