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11/12/1981 - XC Places Second To Marquette

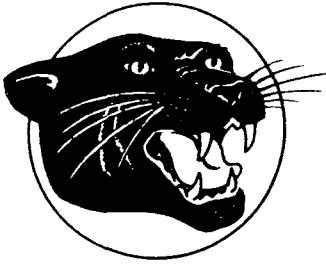
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Panther Sports News

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Nov. 12, 1981
LS-AS-HT

For Immediate Release

(PANTHER WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY 2ND MAIAW)

CHARLESTON, IL, Nov. 12 -- Eastern Illinois University women's cross country team placed second to Marquette University, in the Midwest Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (MAIAW) Division II Championships, Saturday Nov. 7 at Columbus, Ohio.

The Panthers, led by Gina Sperry, junior of Litchfield (Litchfield Senior) with a 5,000-meter 18:28 timing, scored 50 points compared to 23 for Marquette. Sperry placed sixth in the 31-competitors race.

Other EIU places and times were: Dawn Campbell, senior of Danville (Westville Township), seventh at 18:29.9, her best time of the season; Nancy Kramer, sophomore of Decatur (Douglas Macarthur) 10th at 18:47.2; Kathy Donnellan, sophomore of Arlington Heights (Arlington Heights) 13th at 18:55; Carrie Mortell, sophomore of McHenry (McHenry) 14th at 19:02, her best time of the season; Julie Curry, sophomore of Highland (Highland) 16th at 19:25, her best time of the season and Jane Eckerson, senior of Downers Grove (Downers Grove) 24th at 20:04.8, her best time of the season.

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee placed third with 58 points, Akron was fourth with 128 and Bradley University placed fifth in the Division II event with 130 points.

EIU coach John Craft had these comments following the MAIAW II run last Saturday, "we had four people earn their best times of the year, however we were disappointed that we did not have the title. The season ends for us as just Marquette, with their first-place show, are required to move on to national competition. We now look forward to track season."

Eastern Illinois University Associate Athletic Director, Joan Schmidt concurred with Craft, "criteria was set before the season began that we would have to win regionals in order to compete at nationals. . . people fail to realize that expenses (travel, meals and lodging) are paid by the institutions for participation in AIAW National Championships, not by AIAW. John (Craft) and the women's cross country team were in complete agreement with us (EIU Athletic Department) concerning this matter." ---# jrm #---