

1-22-1986

01/22/1986 - Mens Track

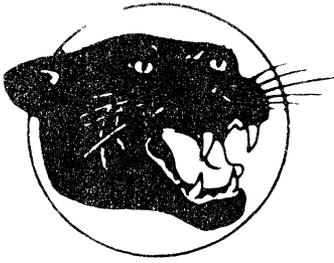
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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

DAVID KIDWELL, *Sports Information Director*

OFFICE: (217) 581-2920

HOME: (217) 345-4166

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--(Jan. 22, 1986)--Although Eastern Illinois University's men's track and field team finished second in a season-opening triangular meet at Lantz Fieldhouse on Jan. 18, there were plenty of standouts for the Panthers.

Southeast Missouri, a Division II powerhouse, won the meet with 95 points. Eastern Illinois was second with 67, and Parkland was third with 16.

The Panthers will compete next in a quadrangular meet at Lantz this Saturday (Jan. 25) against Mid-Continent Conference rivals Western Illinois and Southwest Missouri and DePaul and Northeast Missouri. The "Parents' Weekend" meet will begin at 1:00 p.m. with the field events and at 2:00 with the running events.

"We got some outstanding performances from our weight men, middle-distance men and our hurdler," said Eastern head coach Neil Moore. "We were simply outgunned by Southeast Missouri. It was a disappointing loss since we led after nine events. That's when Southeast Missouri showed that it is a contender for Division II national honors."

Sophomore Jim Maton (Shelbyville) and freshman Ian Isaacs (North Aurora-West) were double winners for the Panthers. Maton took off from Southeast Missouri's Pedro Caceres, an Olympian from Argentina, to capture first place in the mile at 4:14.09. Maton returned to the track an hour and 15 minutes later to take top honors in the 1,000 in 2:12.74, which ranked fourth on EIU's all-time list.

Isaacs won the 440 in 49.92 and combined with freshman Gary Sharp (Cairo), sophomore Mark Heise (Charleston) and junior Scot Adamson (Moweaqua) for the top spot in the mile relay at 3:22.09.

"Maton was the outstanding performer for Eastern," said Moore. "He had two fine performances. He also ran a leg on the distance medley relay team (which was second in 8:03.34 and anchored by Maton). He gave us everything he had, and it was quality."

Men's Track
Add 1

Isaacs had the best split among EIU runners on the mile relay at 49.9, while Heise was second-fastest at 50.1. "That was one of the most exciting mile relays I've seen in the fieldhouse in a long time," said Moore, who is in his 12th year as head coach.

Eastern won both weight events as senior Larry Thoennissen (Morton) took top honors in the 35-pound weight at 55-1 and junior Dan Matas (Oak Park-River Forest) won the shot put by seven inches over Thoennissen with a throw of 54-11 3/4. The "Cannon Corps" gave EIU a 21-1 advantage after two events.

"Thoennissen was our outstanding field performer," Moore said. "Dan's last throw beat Larry in the shot put. Both of them are having great years so far."

Sophomore Rod McMullen (Edwardsville) won the 60-yard high hurdles in 7.67.