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# Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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LS-Women's BB

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Hear ye . . . hear ye! Come one . . . come all to see the Eastern Illinois women's basketball team take on defending champion Drake and the Wanda Ford "Traveling Show" Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. in Lantz Gym. The Lady Panthers are 8-5 overall and 1-3 in the Gateway while the Bulldogs are 9-3 on the season and 2-1 in league play. Ford--a 6-0 junior--leads the conference in scoring (24.5) and rebounding (16.8). The Cleveland, O. native is a two-time all-league selection. EIU also hosts league-rival Northern Iowa (2-9, 1-2) Saturday afternoon at 5:15 p.m. in Lantz Gym.

"This is a vital week for us," proclaims Eastern head coach Barbara Hilke. "We must regroup and come out with fire in our eyes against Drake. I know we can play better defense than what we have been playing lately. The players must prove it to me this week.

"Drake will be ready for us since they lost to Northern Iowa last Friday. Our players must rebound better and contain Wanda Ford. It can be done with a lot of hard work and determination."

Senior forward Toni Collins (Lincoln/Jamaica-Sidell) paces the squad in scoring and rebounding. She is averaging 15.6 ppg and 8.1 rebounds a contest. Collins scored 17 points and grabbed eight rebounds in the first half of EIU's win at Western Illinois.

Chris Aldridge (Taylorville) compliments Collins at the other forward spot. The junior all-conference candidate is averaging 13.8 ppg and 7.1 rebounds while playing the past 10 days with a case of the flu.

Three different players rotate in the guard spots in Hilke's motion offense. Junior Kim Maxey (Mattoon) is third on the squad in rebounding with a 4.8 average. The sharp-shooting guard will celebrate her 21st birthday on Thursday against Drake. Cat-quick Melanie Hatfield (Lawrenceburg, Ind.) averages 12.9 ppg. She leads the club in assists (57) and steals (33). The elder statesman of the trio is senior Lori Conine (Paris/Kansas). She is contributing 9.7 ppg and 2.3 boards a game.

EIU is second in the conference in field goal percentage with a .493 mark. The Lady Panthers shot a league mark .717 (33 of 46) in last Saturday's 85-73 loss at Bradley.

## THE BUBBLE GUM KID

You can often find her on the court repeatedly practicing her patented shot from the corner or right wing. Her concentration as she catches all net with the 20-footer is mind-boggling at times. The only other thing which might receive the same amount of attention as her practice time on the court is the wad of bubble gum she has in her mouth at all times. Kim Maxey eats, sleeps and dreams basketball-- and bubble gum.

Things haven't come as easy as first impressions might dictate for the "Bubble Gum Kid." The Mattoon, Ill. native appeared to be set for basketball easy street during her illustrious career for Mattoon High School before she succumbed to a season-ending knee injury as a senior. Illinois and Houston backed off the sharp-shooter. Nobody would touch her with a 10-foot pole. Enter EIU head coach Barbara Hilke.

"I owe a lot to Coach Hilke and (Deanna) D'Abbraccio (EIU assistant basketball coach) because they stuck with me when nobody else would," admits Maxey after blowing a bubble. "I'm glad somebody took a chance on me and stuck with me. I have a lot to thank them for."

Taking a closer look at Maxey and one doesn't wonder why she matriculated 10 miles down Illinois Route 16 to Charleston. She mirrors Hilke in fire and determination. They are both cut from the same cloth--except Hilke doesn't chew as much gum.

"I love to win and I never think we are ever going to lose," states Maxey. "I can't stand it when anybody gives up at anything they try to do. It makes me so mad I want to scream."

Maxey has had many accomplishments and high points during her stellar career. However, one thing stands out above all the rest. It isn't hitting a 20-footer from the right corner to win a game. It isn't sinking a pair of clutch free throws with no time left on the clock to send the game into overtime. It isn't making a steal to preserve a victory. It's the removal of her cumbersome blue knee brace which she lumbered up and down the court with a year ago.

"It just felt so good not to wear the brace when I had to play basketball," explains Maxey between bubbles.

With an intense inner strength to succeed and a fanatical love for basketball, Maxey has become a starting guard for an up and coming Division I program. She is averaging 8.5 ppg and a surprising 4.8 rebounds a contest.

When thinking about Maxey the adage of "winners never quit, and quitters never win" come to mind. The "Bubble Gum Kid" is definitely a winner.

1984-85 EASTERN ILLINOIS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STATISTICS (8-5 overall, 1-3 Gateway) HOME: 4-2, AWAY: 3-3, NEUTRAL: 1-0

Name	ST-GM	MTS	FGM-FGA	PCT	FTM-FTA	PCT	PTS	AVG	REB	AVG	PF-D	AST	BS	ST	TO
Toni Collins, Sr., Forward	13-13	427	83-158	.528	37-60	.617	203	15.6	105	8.1	30-0	28	17	20	44
GCAC	4-4	131	30-49	.612	14-21	.667	74	18.5	26	6.9	13-0	5	6	6	23
Chris Aldridge, Jr., Forward	13-13	424	74-141	.525	32-47	.681	180	13.8	92	7.1	35-1	17	3	20	44
GCAC	4-4	130	26-44	.591	5-9	.556	57	14.3	34	8.5	11-0	9	0	6	18
Melanie Hatfield, Jr., Guard	12-13	437	73-146	.500	22-32	.688	168	12.9	54	4.2	44-4	57	1	33	52
GCAC	4-4	137	18-35	.524	2-5	.400	38	9.5	12	3.0	15-2	20	0	8	19
Lori Conine, Sr., Guard	10-13	448	59-126	.468	8-16	.500	126	9.7	30	2.3	22-0	38	4	26	44
GCAC	3-4	130	15-36	.417	0-2	.000	30	7.5	4	1.0	7-0	10	0	4	17
Kim Maxey, Jr., Guard	11-13	466	48-107	.449	9-18	.500	105	8.1	62	4.8	26-0	56	2	17	46
GCAC	4-4	158	19-35	.543	0-0	-	38	9.5	11	2.8	7-0	21	1	4	10
Sue Hynd, Jr., Center	5-13	232	43-86	.500	15-21	.714	101	7.8	50	3.8	21-0	2	5	5	15
	1-4	56	8-15	.533	0-0	-	16	4.0	14	3.5	6-0	0	0	1	4
Kerry Walsh, Fr., Center	0-10	83	11-23	.478	10-11	.909	32	3.2	14	1.4	10-0	1	0	3	4
GCAC	0-2	16	3-6	.500	4-4	1.000	10	5.0	4	2.0	5-0	0	0	3	2
Michelle Newman, Fr., Forward	0-12	76	8-16	.500	11-12	.917	27	2.1	9	0.8	1-0	3	0	3	5
GCAC	0-4	16	3-6	.500	3-4	.750	9	2.3	0	-	0-0	2	0	1	0
Ann Brown, Fr., Forward	0-8	58	8-19	.421	1-2	.500	17	2.1	17	2.1	5-0	3	1	4	2
GCAC	0-1	5	1-1	1.000	0-0	-	2	2.0	0	-	1-0	1	0	0	0
Pat Hamilton, So., Guard	1-3	36	6-17	.353	1-2	.500	13	4.3	11	3.7	3-0	6	0	5	4
GCAC	0-2	18	4-7	.571	1-2	.500	9	4.5	5	2.5	1-0	2	0	2	1
EASTERN ILLINOIS	13-13	2700	413-838	.493	146-221	.661	972	74.8	462	35.5	191-5	211	32	132	248
GCAC	4-4	800	127-234	.543	29-47	.617	283	70.8	117	29.3	66-2	69	7	34	82
OPPONENTS	13-13	2700	383-863	.444	100-155	.645	866	66.6	438	33.7	200-8	194	46	105	271
GCAC	4-4	800	130-255	.510	32-50	.640	292	73.0	127	31.8	60-3	71	4	35	75

DEAD BALL REBOUNDS--EIU 32, OPPONENTS (34)

GAME-BY-GAME RESULTS

Date	W-L	EIU	OPP	High Scorer	High Rebounder
Nov. 23	W	77	73 (OT)	at Florida International *	Aldridge 20 Hatfield 11
Nov. 24	L	49	75	at Central Florida *	Collins 13 Collins 16
Nov. 28	W	69	41	at Butler	Hynd 16 Maxey 13
Dec. 1	W	76	56	MIAMI (O)	Hatfield 21 Hatfield, Maxey 4 Collins, Hynd
Dec. 7	W	87	44	XAVIER (O) \$	Conine 18 Aldridge 13
Dec. 8	W	94	85 (30T)	EASTERN WASHINGTON \$	Hynd 21 Aldridge 13
Dec. 12	W	81	59	at Ball State	Collins 23 Collins 9
Dec. 14	L	76	83	at Wisconsin	Collins 20 Collins, Maxey 3 Aldridge, Hatfield
Dec. 21	W	80	58	EVANSVILLE	Hatfield 20 Collins 22
Jan. 3	L	65	80	ILLINOIS STATE	Aldridge 18 Aldridge 13
Jan. 5	L	69	74	INDIANA STATE	Collins 18 Collins 10
Jan. 10	W	76	53	at Western Illinois	Collins 19 Collins, Hynd 8
Jan. 12	L	73	85	at Bradley	Collins 22 Aldridge 10

\* Sunroast Invitational (Orlando, Fla.)

\$ Heath Candy Classic