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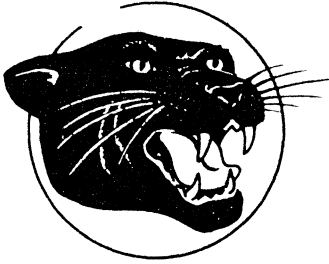
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# **Panther Sports News**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--(Jan. 23, 1986)--The Eastern Illinois University women's swim team will face their toughest challenge Friday as they travel to Dekalb to go against Northern Illinois University.

"Northern is probably the best team we'll face all season," said Eastern head coach Ray Padovan. "We went against them earlier in the season in the Wheaton Invitational, and they dominated that meet," said Padovan.

Eastern will look to senior co-captain Sheila Mulcrone and junior co-captain Tracy Saal to provide strength for the Panthers. Mulcrone is coming off a strong performance in last weekend's triangular meet at Harper Junior College. In that meet Mulcrone placed first in the 200 yd. backstroke and second in the 200 yd. individual medley.

Saal, who is Eastern's best performer in short distance, captured first in the 50 yd. freestyle.

Connie Wieck, Eastern's long-distance specialist, is also expected to have a strong showing against Northern. Wieck placed second in the 1000 yd. freestyle at Harper.

"Northern is an exceptionally good team, they're strong all across the board, and they're very balanced," Padovan said.