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Panther Sports News

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LS-AS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, ILL. (February 11, 1986)--Streaks are what collegiate basketball is all about these days. You win some...and you lose some. The Eastern Illinois men's basketball team has been winning some these past couple of weeks.

The Panthers--15-7 overall and 6-3 in the AMCU-8 race--are the proud owners of a three-game winning streak. EIU climbed back into the league race by defeating conference foes Northern Iowa (68-52) and Western illinois (74-68).

Coach Rick Samuels crew has hosts non-league foe Northeast Louisiana (14-7) Saturday night and then will take on league-rival Southwest Missouri (17-5, 6-3) Monday night. NE Louisiana defeated the Panthers 90-68 earlier this season in Monroe, La. EIU nipped Southwest Missouri 68-67 at the buzzer in the fourth league-game of the season. Both teams are tied for second in the AMCU-8--two games behind Cleveland State.

* * * * *

WLBH-radio (97FM) will broadcast both games beginning with the pre-game show at 7:20 p.m. Marc Stuart will provide the play-by-play while Mike Bradd will do the color commentary.

* * * * *

"These games this week are very important to us," explains Samuels. "We must keep on winning and hopefully some people may take notice of us for a possible post-season bid. Northeast Louisiana beat us earlier this season and that should be motivation enough for us. Southwest Missouri is one of the best teams in the league and that game should be battle."

Eastern Illinois is led by All-American candidates JON COLLINS (E. S. Louis/Cahokia) and KEVIN DUCKWORTH (Dolton/Thornridge). Collins--the league's "Player-of-the-Year" last season--is EIU's leading scorer with a 20.2 mark. He was ranked 32nd in the nation during the most recent release by the NCAA. He has scored in double figures in 42 consecutive games and 76 of 79 over three years.

Duckworth is making a bid toward becoming the league's top player and receiving some All-America recognition. The imposing 7-footer is averaging a neat 18.2 points and 9.1 rebounds a contest. "Sir Duck" has NBA talent scouts raving about his ability.

"Kevin Duckworth has outstanding quickness for a player his size," explains Dallas Mavericks' scout Keith Grant. "He has a nice touch around the basket and runs the floor better than you'd expect for someone his size. His size makes him a pro prospect."

PROBABLE
STARTERS:

	EIU	NELA
F	Jon Collins, 6-4, Sr., 20.2	Sean Paulfrey, 6-3, So., 9.5
F	R.Duckworth, 6-5, So., 4.1	Bobby Jenkins, 6-6, Sr., 19.4
C	K.Duckworth, 7-0, Sr., 18.2	Gerard Phillips, 6-8, Sr., 3.6
G	Doug Crook, 6-2, Sr., 13.9	Arthur Hayes, 6-3, Sr., 11.2
G	Norm Evans, 6-0, So., 5.6	Elgin James, 6-3, Sr. 13.1
	SMS	
F	Chris Ward, 6-4, Sr., 9.5	
F	Greg Bell, 6-5, Jr., 12.6	
C	Phil Schlegel, 6-6, Sr., 13.6	
G	Winston Garland, 6-2, Jr., 16.0	
G	Basil Robinson, 5-10, Jr., 6.5	

SERIES: NE Louisiana leads the overall series with Eastern, 1-0. Southwest Missouri leads the series with EIU by a 16-7 verdict.

COLLINS ON

THE MOVE: Jon Collins is EIU's third all-time leading scorer with 1516 career points. Former EIU great Tom Katsimpalis (1949-52) is second with 1538 points. Collins is averaging 20.2 points an outing and is making bid to become the first person conference history to be named to the all-league team three years in a row.

CUMULATIVE
Basketball Statistics -- Eastern Illinois 1985-86
(Includes 22 Games)

-PLAYER	G/ GS	FG/ FGA	FG%	FT/ FTA	FT%	PIS	AVG	REB	AVG	PF/ D	AST	TO	BLK	SIL	MIN-
Jon Collins	22/ 22	183/ 355	.516	79/ 106	.745	445	20.2	103	4.7	37/ 0	55	55	1	18	789
Kevin Duckworth	22/ 22	159/ 266	.598	83/ 112	.741	401	18.2	199	9.1	78/ 5	12	47	33	17	676
Doug Crook	22/ 22	135/ 275	.491	36/ 46	.783	306	13.9	62	2.8	55/ 0	72	36	0	43	731
Jay Taylor	19/ 0	51/ 124	.411	30/ 41	.732	132	7.0	47	2.5	27/ 0	57	40	1	18	373
Norm Evans	22/ 22	54/ 118	.458	14/ 27	.519	122	5.6	77	3.5	53/ 2	88	51	10	49	617
Ronnie Duckworth	11/ 2	18/ 33	.546	9/ 21	.429	45	4.1	44	4.0	20/ 1	6	8	5	2	197
Dave Vance	15/ 11	20/ 42	.476	19/ 23	.826	59	3.9	50	3.3	18/ 0	30	22	1	5	347
Brian Murphy	15/ 0	13/ 31	.419	17/ 23	.739	43	2.9	26	1.7	25/ 0	3	3	2	5	131
Mike West	22/ 9	20/ 47	.426	4/ 13	.308	44	2.0	70	3.2	36/ 0	13	33	3	7	379
Jerry Strickland	13/ 0	6/ 18	.333	10/ 11	.909	22	1.7	10	.8	7/ 0	5	2	0	3	55
Don Peavey	9/ 0	5/ 13	.385	5/ 7	.714	15	1.7	5	.6	3/ 0	3	6	0	1	33
Todd Emro	6/ 0	2/ 3	.667	2/ 4	.500	6	1.0	3	.5	2/ 0	1	0	0	0	9
Drew Beck	11/ 0	3/ 8	.375	4/ 6	.667	10	.9	15	1.4	4/ 0	6	7	0	0	63
Team Rebounds								57							
EIU	22/ 22	669/1333	.502	312/ 440	.709	1650	75.0	768	34.9	365/ 8	351	310	56	168	—
Team Rebounds								52							
Opponent Totals	22/ 22	648/1340	.484	268/ 378	.709	1564	71.1	754	34.3	403/ 7	343	304	60	164	—

-PER-GAME AVERAGES-

-PLAYER	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	PIS	REB	AST	TO	BLK	SIL	MIN-
Jon Collins	8.3	16.1	3.6	4.8	20.2	4.7	2.5	2.5	.1	.8	35.9
Kevin Duckworth	7.2	12.1	3.8	5.1	18.2	9.1	.6	2.1	1.5	.8	30.7
Doug Crook	6.1	12.5	1.6	2.1	13.9	2.8	3.3	1.6	.0	2.0	33.2
Jay Taylor	2.7	6.5	1.6	2.2	7.0	2.5	3.0	2.1	.1	1.	19.6
Norm Evans	2.5	5.4	.6	1.2	5.6	3.5	4.0	2.3	.5	2.2	28.1
Ronnie Duckworth	1.6	3.0	.8	1.9	4.1	4.0	.6	.7	.5	.2	17.9
Dave Vance	1.3	2.8	1.3	1.5	3.9	3.3	2.0	1.5	.1	.3	23.1
Brian Murphy	.9	2.1	1.1	1.5	2.9	1.7	.2	.2	.1	.3	8.7
Mike West	.9	2.1	.2	.6	2.0	3.2	.6	1.5	.1	.3	17.2
Jerry Strickland	.5	1.4	.8	.9	1.7	.8	.4	.2	.0	.2	4.2
Don Peavey	.6	1.4	.6	.8	1.7	.6	.3	.7	.0	.1	3.7
Todd Emro	.3	.5	.3	.7	1.0	.5	.2	.0	.0	.0	1.5
Drew Beck	.3	.7	.4	.6	.9	1.4	.6	.6	.0	.0	5.7
EIU	30.4	60.6	14.2	20.0	75.0	34.9	16.0	14.1	2.6	7.6	—
Opponent Totals	29.5	60.9	12.2	17.2	71.1	34.3	15.6	13.8	2.7	7.5	—

JON COLLINS' ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1983-84

- * Named AMCU-8 "Newcomer-of-the-Year"
- * Received First-team ALL-AMCU-8 accolades
- * Eastern Illinois Most Valuable Player
- * Second in the AMCU-8 in scoring with an 18.3 average
- * Scored 513 points in first season at Eastern Illinois
- * Led Eastern Illinois to 10th winning season in the last 11 seasons
- * Scored in double figures in 27 of 28 games

1984-85

- * Named AMCU-8 "Player-of-the-Year"
- * Received Honorable Mention All-American laurels from The Sporting News
- * First Eastern Illinois Division 1 All-American
- * Associated Press Honorable Mention All-American selection
- * Second in the league in scoring with an 18.6 average
- * Led Eastern Illinois to its first-ever AMCU-8 post-season tournament title
- * Led Eastern Illinois to a first-ever 20-win season in Division 1
- * Scored more than 500 points (558) for second year in a row
- * Set an Eastern Illinois Division 1 record with an 18.6 scoring average
- * Named Team Most Valuable Player

1985-86

- * Named to Street and Smith's Magazine Pre-season All-American team
- * Average of 20.6 points per game is on track to break the Eastern Illinois all-time scoring record (1625 points)
- * Has scored in double figures in 42 consecutive games
- * Has scored in double figures in 76 of 79 games in three years at Eastern Illinois
- * Leads the AMCU-8 in scoring with a 20.6 average