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# Panther Sports News

# EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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Jan. 29, 1985 LS-AS-BB-BB OPP

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--An early battle for first place is at stake in the Mid-Continent when the Eastern Illinois University basketball Panthers and Illinois-Chicago Flames meet Saturday night (Feb. 2). Tipoff is 7:30 in EIU's Lantz Gym.

The Panthers are 8-6 overall but atop the league standings with a 3-1 record. UIC is 9-7 in all games but close back in the AMCU-8 at 2-1.

Eastern has a non-conference game at Evansville Thursday night (Jan. 31) while Illinois-Chicago is idle the entire week after losing a one-point Mid-Continent contest at Northern Iowa last Saturday.

Illinois-Chicago, the defending regular season champ, was officially picked in a league poll to successfully repeat as Mid-Continent champ while EIU was chosen for third place but as high as second in some national publications.

The Panthers will come right back on Monday (Feb. 4) hosting Wis-Green Bay in another AMCU-8 game giving EIU three games in five days.

\* \* \* \* \* \* GAME NOTES \* \* \* \* \* \*

THE GAMES: Eastern Illinois (8-6, 3-1) at Evansville (10-8), 7:30 CST, Thursday, Jan. 30 at Roberts Stadium, Evansville, IN; EIU hosts Illinois-Chicago (9-7, 2-1) at 7:30 CST, Saturday, Feb. 2, Lantz Gym, Charleston; EIU hosts Wis-Green Bay (3-13, 1-3) at 7:30 CST, Monday, Feb. 4, Lantz Gym.

RADIO: Hear all the action on WLBH-FM Mattoon, 97 on the dial, with Marc Stuart calling play-by-play and Mike Bradd providing commentary on home games . . . pre-game starts at 7:20.

STARTERS:	EIU	EVANSVILLE						
	F 20 Jon Collins 6-4 Jr.	F 33 Bobby Mukes 6-7 Jr.						
	F 52 Dirk Androff 6-7 Sr.	F 34 Joe McAdoo 6-7 Sr.						
	C 00 Kevin Duckworth 7-0 Jr.	C 42 Richie Johnson 6-9 Sr.						
	G 10 Doug Crook 6-1 Jr.	G 15 Tyrone Scott 6-1 Sr.						
	G 24 Troy Richardson 6-1 Sr.	G 11 Michael Bradley 6-1 Fr.						
	UIC	UWGB						
	F 30 Brian Wilson 6-8 Sr.	F 44 Dan Christel 6-6 Fr.						
	F 22 Dick Knar 6-5 So.	F 30 Dave Peterson 6-6 So.						
	C 41 Ivan Daniels 6-10 Sr.	C 52 Barry Wright 6-8 Jr.						
	G 34 Eric Longino 6-4 Fr.	G 10 Tom Brown 6-1 Sr.						
	G 10 Craig Lathen 6-2 Sr.	G 24 Richard Sims 6-3 So.						

THE COACHES: EIU's Rick Samuels, in his fifth season, is 66-61 lifetime, all at EIU

. . he has had three winning seasons . . previously he was an assistant and co-head coach at Iowa State . . . he is 0-0 vs. Evansville, 1-4 vs. Illinois-Chicago and 3-1 vs. Wis-Green Bay.

Evansville's Dick Walters, in his seventh season after a stint as head coach of the College of DuPage, is 111-79 overall . . . he is 0-0 vs. EIU.

UIC's Willie Little, in his second season after serving as an assistant, is 31-14 . . . he is 3-0 vs. EIU.

UWGB's Dick Lien, in his third year, is 21-51 . . . he previously was an assistant with the Phoenix, and is 1-3 vs. EIU.

SERIES RECORD: EIU leads the Evansville series, 4-3, but trails both Illinois-Chicago, 4-3, and Wis-Green Bay, 7-5.

REMEMBER '76: The last time EIU met the Evansville Purple Aces was the championship of the 1976 NCAA College Division Great Lakes Regional at storied Roberts Stadium in Evansville . . . the Panthers upset the Aces, 75-73, and went on to take third place in the nation with a 23-8 record.

LAST YEAR: EIU lost three games to Illinois-Chicago last season . . . the first one was 82-62 in the KOA Classic, a holiday tournament in Montana . . . the next one was 88-85 at Chicago where Jon Collins had 28 but other than an early one point lead in the second half, EIU could get no closer than two late in the game as Craig Lathen made a free throw with seven seconds left to clinch it but the Panthers could again only remain close down the stretch and never got closer than three within the last two minutes . . . Darryl Rice led with 19 while Ivan Daniels had 18.

Eastern and Wis-Green Bay split games last winter, EIU winning 67-62 at home but losing at Green Bay, 60-57, in overtime . . . Richard Sims had 29 in UWGB's victory . . . Duckworth had 12 points, 10 rebounds for EIU . . . the home victory was cinched by two players no longer with EIU, Vincent Smelter and Derrick Spight, who each hit two free throws in the final seconds . . . Smelter and Jon Collins had 16 and 14 points, respectively for the Panthers.

EVANSVILLE: The Aces are 10-8 overall but just 2-5 in the Midwestern City Conference . . best player is 6-9 senior Richie Johnson, who has played every position for the Aces and has made several All-American squads . . . averaging 14 points, 8.3 rebounds . . . leading scorer is his cousin, Bubby Mukes, a 6-7 junior, at 16.8 ppg . . . even though the Aces are 7th out of eight teams, they lead the league in rebounding and have held the edge in that department against 16 of 18 opponents . . . Johnson is the leader with 8.2 and had 21 rebounds earlier against Western Kentucky . . . this is the Aces first home game in two weeks following MCC losses at Loyola, Detroit and St. Louis.

UIC: The defending Mid-Continent champs were 22-7 last season but will be hard pressed to duplicate that effort this winter . . . the AMCU-8 'player of the year' in '84, Craig Lathen, has returned to the team after being academically ineligible in the fall . . . he is scoring 10 points with 6.2 assists . . . last year he led the nation with 9.5 assists . . . 6-8 Brian Wilson and 6-10 Ivan Daniels, both seniors, are leading the team, each scoring around the 18 point mark . . . conference wins have come at Cleveland State (75-72) and at home against Valparaiso (84-64) with the loss at Northern

UWGB: The Phoenix have the worst record in the league (3-13, 1-3) but the difficulty of their schedule soothes that a bit . . . they began the season with a four point (75-71) loss at Minnesota and then later pushed Missouri Valley teams, Drake and Illinois State, but were downed 68-61 and 52-49, respectively . . . UWGB is last in the conference in scoring with a 56.3 average but ranked third in defense at 64 per game . . . sophomore Richard Sims, a second team all-AMCU pick as a frosh, is scoring 13.3 . . . two other newcomers, JC transfer Barry Wright and freshman Dan Christel, are among the league's top rebounders, each averaging over six per game.

CROOK NOMINATED: Doug Crook (Vincennes, IN-Lincoln), 6-1 junior guard, was EIU's nominee for 'player of the week' . . . he scored 19 at Valpo (8-11 FGs, 3-3 FTs), six steals, five rebounds and four assists . . . after sitting out last season with a broken wrist, Crook has returned to average 11.5 points and shoot 51% from the field . . . after a slow start he has been in double figures in nine of the last 11 games.

RECORD SHOOTING: The Panthers are seriously headed towards shattering the season record for field goal accuracy . . . currently EIU is hitting 52.3% from the field . . . the record is 50.5% in 1980-81 . . . after a slow start the Panthers have been over 50% in eight of the last 11 games with a season high of 61% against Augustana . . . free throw accuracy has also improved of late as EIU is hitting 75.3% over the last four games.

AMCU-8 STANDINGS (as of 1-29):	AMCU	OVERALL
EASTERN ILLINOIS	3-1	8-6
Cleveland State	4-2	12-6
Illinois-Chicago	2-1	9-7
Western Illinois	2-1	5-9
Northern Iowa	3-3	8-9
Southwest Missouri	2-4	7-10
Valparaiso	2-4	6-11
Wis-Green Bay	1-3	3-13

AMCU-8 Schedule . . . 2/2 - Illinois-Chicago at EIU
Wis-Green Bay at Southwest Mo.
Cleveland State at Valparaiso
Northern Iowa at Western Illinois

2/4 - Wis-Green Bay at EIU
Illinois-Chicago at Southwest Missouri
Akron at Cleveland State (nc)

SAMUELS SAYS: "The Evansville game is one we're looking forward to . . . both of us are trying to establish ourselves as Division I clubs after each having great success on the Division II level, and we should be playing each other on a regular basis since the two schools are so close . . although it's early in the conference race, the game with Illinois-Chicago is for first place and that should be sufficient motivation for players and fans alike . . . UIC has some great players and they like to push the ball up the floor . . . we're certainly not opposed to a fast paced game . . . Wis-Green Bay is still pretty young but they gave both Illinois State and Minnesota a real run so we're not overlooking them . . . I'm really pleased with our shooting, and hope we can continue to work the ball inside like we were able to do at Valparaiso."

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	NAME Jon Collins		Kevin Duckworth	Doug Crook		Dirk Androff	Troy Richardson	Steve Hopkins	Paul Neidig	Norm Evans		Vince Macciocchi	Terry Strickland		Drew Beck		Todd Emro		Tim Dykstra *		EIU TOTALS		OPP TOTALS		* Injured - out for season

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EIU - 497 556 14 - 1067 OPP - 444 499 30 - 973

# GAME-BY-GAME SCORING/REBOUNDING

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66 Valparaiso (A) 1006	74 Ball State (A) 4780		63 Northern Iowa (H) 3019	76 Pan American (H) 2015	83 Cleveland State (A) 1064			79 Central Florida (A) 524		68 Augustana (H) 2896	62 Kent State (A) 2367	67 Indiana State (H) 4262	75 Eastern Washington (A) 792	OPPONENTS	6-0 On Road: 2-4 Neutral:
16/3	21/5	10/6	28/7	17/4	8/4	18/6	17/4	15/8	14/7	17/2	9/4	19/9	26/3	COLLINS	al: 0-2
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<sup>\* 4</sup>th - Florida Southern Holiday Tournament