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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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PREVIEWING THE WEEK (February 26-March 5)

- Thursday, February 27 Women's Basketball hosts Drake (7:30 p.m.)
Women's Swimming at Midwest Championships (Chicago)
- Friday, February 28- Women's Track Hosts Gateway Conference Championships
March 1 Men's Track at AMCU-8 Championships (Cedar Falls, IA)
Women's Tennis at Northern Illinois
Wrestling at Western Regional
- Saturday, March 1 Women's Basketball hosts Northern Iowa (5:15 p.m.)
Men's Basketball hosts Illinois-Chicago (7:30 p.m.)
- Monday, March 3 Women's Basketball at Southwest Missouri
- Tuesday, March 4 EIU hosts IHSA Class A Basketball Supersectional (7:30 p.m.)
- Wednesday, March 5 Women's Basketball at Wichita State

MEN'S TRACK: The Panthers had four individual winners and one first-place relay team Saturday at the third annual Eastern Illinois University/Pepsi Challenge Invitational at Lantz Fieldhouse . . . twelve schools competed in the non-scoring meet, including Association of Mid-Continent Conference rivals Southwest Missouri and Western Illinois, Illinois and Western Kentucky . . . Eastern senior Larry Thoennissen (Morton) and sophomore teammate Jim Maton (Shelbyville) set school records in the 35-pound weight and 1,000 yard run, respectively . . . two fieldhouse records were broken as Dean Starkey of Illinois cleared 17-1½ in the pole vault and Ashley Johnson, who was running unattached, won the two-mile in 8:38.9.

LARRY THOENNISSEN (Morton), senior, won the 35-pound weight throw with a school record toss of 59-2 3/4 and was third in the shot put at 53-9 3/4. Thoennissen set the former 35-pound weight record on Feb. 1 at the Illini Classic with a throw of 58-1.

JIM MATON (Shelbyville), sophomore, won the 1,000 yard run with a school-record time of 2:10.50 and combined with his brother, junior PHIL MATON (Shelbyville-Illinois College), freshman ROD FERGUSON (Kankakee) and sophomore MARK HEISE (Charleston) to take top honors in the mile relay at 3:23.3. JIM MATON led off the relay with a split of 51.3. He broke Bob Feller's record of 2:10.60 that was set in 1979.

IAN ISAACS (North Aurora-West), freshman, won the 440 in 49.92 and was second in the 60 with a season-best 6.46 and tied for second in the 300 at 32.2.

GARY SHARP (Cairo), freshman, won the 300 in 32.0 and was third in the 440 at 50.79.

DAN MATAS (Oak Park-River Forest), junior, placed second in the shot put with a season-best throw of 55-7.

MARK HESIE (Charleston), sophomore, took second in the 440 at 50.39 and anchored the winning mile-relay squad with a split of 50.1.

ROBERT FLOT (Quincy), sophomore, captured second in the 60 hurdles at 7.92 and was a member of the distance medley team which placed third at 11:02.64. Flot had a split of 51.8 for the 440 (second leg). Other members of the relay were freshman BRAD CONTE (DuQuoin), who led off with a 2:03.8 for 880 yards; senior KELVIN OWENS (Charleston), who was timed at 3:30.6 for three-fourths of a mile as the third leg, and sophomore DALE RIGHTER (Mattoon), who anchored with a 4:37.2 for the mile.

BRAD THOMPSON (Robinson), junior, took second in the 600 at 1:14.81.

DAN JOHNSON (Terre Haute, IN-South), sophomore, placed third in the 600 at 1:14.85.

PHIL MATON (Shelbyville-Illinois College), junior, was fourth in the 600 at 1:14.87 and ran the second leg of the mile relay at 50.2.