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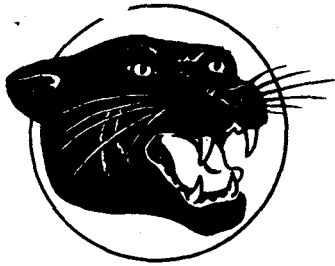
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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CHARLESTON, IL (April 28, 1986)--Hoping to continue to ride the broad shoulders of senior first baseman KENDALL SNYDER (Raymond-Lincolnwood/Lincoln Land CC) and the strong right arm of junior pitcher DAVE GOODHUE (Fithian-Armstrong), Eastern Illinois University's baseball Panthers will play two double-headers on the road and host two twinbills this week.

Eastern improved to 23-21-1 overall and concluded its Association of Mid-Continent Universities Conference slate with a third-place mark of 4-7 in the Gray Division as the Panthers took two of three games against Northern Iowa.

EIU slugged 12 home runs in the three-game series at Northern Iowa, including five round trippers by Snyder. Eastern's version of He-Man at 6-3, 200 pounds, he belted three consecutive homers in three straight at-bats in a double-header before blasting two dingers in one inning in a single game. In three games against Northern Iowa, Snyder hit five homers, drove in 11 runs, scored seven runs and had six hits in 10 at-bats.

(EDITORS NOTE: Snyder tied an existing NCAA record with two-home runs in one inning. South Florida's Todd Wagonner hit a pair of round-trippers April 14, 1985 vs Alabama-Birmingham. The NCAA doesn't know if anybody else has equalled or surpassed the mark.)

With his one-man wrecking effort, Snyder took over the team lead in homers with nine and moved to second for runs batted in with 36. The sure-handed Snyder also displays a steady glove as he has fielded 397 chances in 399 attempts for an impressive percentage of .995.

Goodhue, 11th in the nation a year ago with an earned run average of 1.89, lowered his team-leading ERA to 2.40 with victories over Southern Illinois-Carbondale and Northern Iowa. The right-handed ace went the distance against UNI, allowing six hits in five innings (10-run rule) and one earned run. Goodhue, who has allowed just 16 earned runs in 60 innings, improved his strikeout-walk ratio to 46-17 and his record to 6-3.

Senior catcher TIM TORRICELLI (Springfield) continues to be Eastern's leading hitter. The Panther field general is batting .368, with 50 hits in 136 at-bats. Torricelli, who has appeared in all 45 games this season, also leads EIU with 41 RBIs and 40 bases on balls. The sure-handed backstop has a fielding percentage of .987, handling 229 chances in 232 attempts.

Torricelli is tied for second on the squad with six homers and 39 runs while ranking second with seven stolen bases and third with 11 doubles. Torricelli's sixth home run was a grand slam in the third game against Northern Iowa.

Similar to the way Dave Winfield battled New York Yankee teammate Don Mattingly in the 1984 season, senior outfielder KEVIN SMITH (Peoria-Richwoods) has battled Torricelli for the top batting average all season. Smith is hitting .361, with a team-high 60 hits in 166 at-bats. The fleet-footed center fielder is also tops among the team with 42 runs, 15 doubles, six triples and 10 stolen bases. Smith ripped two homers in the first game against Northern Iowa as he upped his season totals to five home runs and 34 RBIs.

The Panthers are scheduled to play a double-header at St. Louis on Tuesday (April 29) before taking on Illinois in a double-header Wednesday (April 30) at 5:00 p.m. at Danville. Eastern lost to Illinois 15-8 on April 8 at Champaign and 10-6 on April 22 at Monier Field.

Eastern will conclude the season by hosting Blackburn on Saturday (May 3) and MacMurray on Sunday (May 4) at Monier Field. Both double-headers are scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m.