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Panther Sports News

May 7, 1985

Hts 18

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's track Panthers "had super performances from nearly everyone," said Coach Neil Moore, as they won the Mid-Continent Track & Field Championship in an extremely close three team race.

Winning for the second time in this decade (previously in 1981), EIU had 181 points, Western Illinois had 172, Northern Iowa 170, Cleveland State 62, Southwest Missouri 60 and Illinois-Chicago 4.

The Panthers were led by Claude Magee (Clermont, FL), senior sprinter, who was voted the meet's 'Outstanding Athlete'.

The following individuals scored points for EIU:

CLAUDE MAGEE (Clermont, FL), senior sprinter, set three meet records as he won three individual events and ran legs on two point-getting relays as he was the overwhelming choice for the meet's 'Outstanding Athlete' award . . . he won the 100 meter in a conference record 10.0 seconds, which also ties his best ever manual time . . . he won the 200 in a fully-automatic time of 20.95 breaking his own previous league record of 21.2 . . . he won the long jump in 23-9 $\frac{1}{4}$, topping the old mark of 23-7 $\frac{1}{4}$. . . he ran on the 4 x 100 relay which finished second and then ran a 46.1 split on the 4 x 400 relay which took third in a 3:13.95 which was a personal record for that group . . . "Claude is one of a kind . . . he's the most versatile talent we've ever had here," said Coach Neil Moore . . . "what he accomplished in this meet was the most outstanding individual performance, bar none, that I've seen in the 15 years I've been associated with EIU track."

JIM LAIL (Dolton-Thornridge), junior weightman, placed in four events for the Panthers, second most on the team, behind sprinter Claude Magee . . . Lail won the discus with a personal best of 179-0, took second in the javelin with another personal record of 196-2, which was more than 20 feet beyond his previous best distance, took third in the shot put at 55-7 and fifth in the hammer at 142-2 . . . he scored 26 team points, second to Magee's 33, in the two-day meet . . . "Jim is really an unsung hero in this meet," said coach Neil Moore . . . "he placed in four events and demonstrated his great talent because he can do all the throws, and do them successfully . . . we believe he is just behind Magee in deserving the 'Outstanding Athlete' award . . . those two are head and shoulders above everyone else in the meet . . . Jim is definitely the most versatile weight man we've ever had here at EIU," Moore said.

LARRY THOENNISSEN (Morton), junior weightman, scored 20 team points for the Panthers placing in three weight events . . . he was second in the shot put in 56-7 $\frac{1}{2}$, second in the hammer in 176-3 and fourth in the discus in 158-8 . . . he will compete this weekend in the Billy Hayes Invitational at Indiana University.

LARRY PRIEBE (Palos Hills-Stagg), junior weight man, won the javelin with a conference record 208-8 . . . that was also a personal best, just under three feet further than his previous best of 205-9 earlier this year . . . Priebe will now compete this weekend in the Billy Hayes Invitational at Indiana University.

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JEFF GENNARELLI (Berwyn-Morton West), freshman weightman, placed in two events for EIU . . . he was fifth in the shot put with a personal best and freshman record 52-1½, and took sixth in the hammer in 137-0.

JIM MATON (Shelbyville), freshman middle distance runner, took second in the 800 run in a personal best of 1:51.96 . . . his previous best was 1:54.59 . . . Maton ran a strong race finishing just behind Sol Anderson of Northern Iowa who ran a 1:52.23.

BOB MAZANKE (Palos Hills-Stagg), junior weightman, took second in the discus with a throw of 159-4 . . . he finished behind teammate Jim Lail who won with a 179-0 distance.

DREW GEISLER (Granite City-South), senior middle distance runner, was second in the 1500 running a season best 3:53.16, less than a second behind the winning effort of Branton White (Southwest Missouri) in 3:52.41.

ROD MCMULLEN (Edwardsville), freshman hurdler, placed in two individual events and ran an opening leg on a second place relay . . . he was second in the 110 high hurdles in a personal record of 14.54 topping his previous best of 14.8 . . . he was third in the 400 intermediate hurdles with another personal record of 53.19, bettering his old mark of 54.7 . . . and then ran a leg of the 400 relay which took second.

SCOTT ADAMSON (Moweaqua), sophomore hurdler, ran a personal best 53.04 to place second in the 400 intermediate hurdles . . . he then helped the Panthers clinch first place by running a 48.8 split on the 4 x 400 relay which took third place in the day's final event . . . that relay ran a 3:13.95 which was a personal best for this foursome.

DALE RIGHTER (Mattoon), freshman steeplechaser, took third place in the 3000 steeplechase in 9:30.06 . . . that was a personal best as he chopped seven seconds off his previous best.

DAN NEWMAN (Elmhurst-York), junior distance runner, finished fourth in the 3000 steeplechase with a 9:31.16 . . . that was a personal record as he ran the course 14 seconds faster than his previous best of 9:45.

DON JOHNSON (Terre Haute-South), sophomore middle distance runner, took sixth in the 800 run in 1:53.73 . . . that was a personal best as he cut almost three seconds off his previous best . . . he also ran a 48.7 split on the 4 x 400 relay which was third in 3:13.95 . . . that foursome also ran a personal best.

TOM GETZ (Peoria-Limestone), sophomore high jumper, set a personal record as he high jumped 6-6 to finish in sixth place.

ROXY WOOD (Pekin), junior pole vaulter, who had missed most of the season, returned to the lineup to take third with a vault of 15-0 even.

JAY HEARN (Ottawa), sophomore vaulter, captured fifth place as he vaulted 14-0 even . . . that was his best of the season.