

2070780-5434

ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL ELIMINATED FROM LEC TOURNAMENT

GORHAM, ME -- Jay Palmer came off the bench to score a career-high 22 points as the University of Southern Maine men's basketball team eliminated Eastern Connecticut State University from the Little East Conference post-season tournament with a 75-64 win Tuesday.

The fourth-seeded Huskies (11-13) advance to the LEC semifinals Friday against top-seeded Massachusetts Dartmouth. UMD received a first-round tournament bye . Fifth-seeded Eastern (14-10), playing without starters Rossie Covington and James Hunter, lost for the eighth time in the last 12 outings. Eastern was eliminated from the tournament in the first round for the first time in the tournament's eight-year history.

Southern Maine, the second-ranked free-throw shooting team in the LEC, canned 19 of 25 tries from the line in the game, including 13 of 15 in the final 2:25 to maintain an 11-point lead.

Jason Van Bennekum (13 points) sank nine of ten free throws in the second half. Glenn Tatro added 14 points for the Huskies.

Bari Winner (25 points) and Kevin Pettway (19) combined for 44 of the team's point total but three other starters combined for only 15 points. Winner, who led ECSU with nine rebounds, sank 11 of 17 shots from the floor.

Other games

Plymouth	95
RIC	67
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WCSU	87
MASS Boston	62

UMASS BOSTON DEFEATS ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL 72-64 IN LITTLE EAST CONFERENCE

BOSTON, Mass. -- Phil Dyer scored a game-high 23 points -- sinking five of eight three-point field goals -- to power the ~~University~~ University of Massachusetts Boston men's basketball team to a 72-64 Little East Conference win over Eastern Connecticut State University in the regular-season finale for both teams Saturday.

Eastern (14-9, 5-7) finishes ~~the~~ in a fourth-place with Southern Maine in the final conference standings and will travel to face the Huskies in an LEC first-round tournament game Tuesday ^{at 8 pm} UMass Boston ~~finishes~~ (6-17, 3-9) finishes in a tie for sixth .

Eastern led by as many as nine ~~25-16 with 8:45 left~~ in the first half but the Beacons cut the gap to one, 41-40 at the half. The Warriors needed nearly four minutes to score in the second half as UMB reeled off the first ten points to take command 50-41.

Dyer hit ~~of~~ eight of 14 shots from the floor en route to game-high honors while David Hanscom added 22 points and Matt Kuss ten. The Beacons hit 11 of 24 three-pointers while ECSU missed 13 of 17.

Bari Winner and Fran DeBari each had 16 points for Eastern, Kevin Pettway adding 15. ECSU was without starters ~~B~~ Rossie Covington and James Hunter, *who left the team without notice late last week.*

ECSU Sports Info 203-465-5172
Tuesday, February 15, 1994

UMASS DARTMOUTH CLINCHES LITTLE EAST CONFERENCE TITLE
Corsairs defeat Warriors for sixth straight time 82-71

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- The University of Massachusetts Dartmouth men's basketball team clinched its sixth Little East Conference regular-season title in eight years Tuesday, defeating Eastern Connecticut State University 82-71.

The win is the tenth in 11 LEC outings for the Corsairs (18-5), who have won 13 of their last 14. Eastern (14-8, 5-6) lost to the Corsairs for the sixth straight time.

Leading by two 62-60, UMass scored 14 of the next 16 points to build a 76-62 lead with 64 seconds left.

Stefan Pagios had a game-high 28 points for UMass, ranked first in New England. Aaron Lee had 15 points and ten rebounds and Ryan Bland 14 points and nine rebounds.

Rossie Covington had 14 points for Eastern, Kevin Pettway and Fran DeBari adding 13 and James Hunter ten.

WINNER SCORES 1,000th CAREER POINT IN ECSU'S 68-53 WIN OVER ALBERTUS

NEW HAVEN -- Senior forward Bari Winner scored his 1,000th career point and sophomore guard Kevin Pettway scored a career-high 22 points in Eastern Connecticut State University's 68-53 men's basketball win over Albertus Magnus College Thursday.

The win is the sixth in as many game for Eastern (13-7) over the Falcons (7-13).

Winner, a tri-captain from East Hampton, reached, then eclipsed the 1,000-point plateau with a short jump shot 48 seconds into the game. He becomes the seventh 1,000-point scorer under 13th-year head coach Dr. Dan Switchenko. ~~#####~~ Winner scored five points and now has 1,004 in his career. The East Hampton also grabbed his 500th career rebound with eight minutes left in the first half.

Pettway, making his third straight start, led both teams with a career-high 22 points on 9-of-12 shooting from the floor. He hit four of six three-point field goal tries.

Leading by six, 36-30 with 15:37 left in the game, Eastern outscored Albertus 15-4 over a five-and-one-half-minute stretch to take command 51-34 with 10:01 left. Pettway hit two three-point field goals and senior Fran DeBari (career-tying nine rebounds) one while senior Rossie Covington (21 points) ~~#####~~ had four points in the run.

Joel Dorsett led Albertus with 18 points.

Eastern resumes Little East Conference play Saturday, travelling to face Plymouth State College at 4 p.m. That game will be seen on

SportsChannel New England Sunday at 8 pm + Monday at 3 p.m.

Plymouth state sports info 603-535-2750

ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL EDGES PLYMOUTH STATE 83-76 IN LITTLE EAST SATURDAY

PLYMOUTH, NH -- The Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team shot 63.3 per cent and committed just six turnovers in the second half en route to an 83-76 Little East Conference men's basketball decision over Plymouth State College Saturday.

Eastern (14-7, 5-5), ranked eighth in New England, stopped a three-game Plymouth (15-7, 6-5) winning streak. The Panthers are ranked ninth in New England.

Trailing by five, 43-38 with 16:40 left in the game, ~~Eastern~~ Eastern outscored the ninth-ranked hosts 22-4 to go up by 13, 60-47 with 9:15 left. Fran DeBari (19 points, 8-of-12 shooting) scored eight points in the run. The Warriors pushed the lead to as many as 14, 68-54 with 5:18 left before the Panthers used a late surge to pull to within three, 77-74 with 55 seconds left.

Rossie Covington and Bari Winner added 18 points each for Eastern while James Hunter scored 17. ~~Winner~~ Winner (10) and DeBari combined for 17 rebounds.

After committing ~~ten~~ ten turnovers in the first half, the Warriors turned the ball over just six times in the second half, two coming in the closing minute.

Moses Jean-Pierre, ranked second nationally with a 27.9 scoring average, led Plymouth with 23 ~~points~~ points while Allan Conlan had 22. Jean-Pierre added seven assists and seven steals.

Plymouth, the conference leader with a 92.0 scoring average, has scored two of its three lowest totals as the Warriors swept the season series.

February 8, 1994
ECSU Sports Info 203-465-5172

WESTERN CONN. MEN'S BASKETBALL DEFEATS EASTERN CONN. 95-85

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Lonnie Brooks had 31 points on 11 of 18 shooting from the floor to pace the Western Connecticut State University men's basketball team to a 95-85 Little East Conference victory over Eastern Connecticut State University Tuesday.

The win is the 17th in 21 decisions for Western and seventh against two conference losses for the Colonials, ranked third in New England. Eastern falls to 12-7 overall and 4-5 in the LEC with its fifth loss in seven outings.

Brooks had five rebounds, four assists, four steals and two blocked shots to go along with his game-high 31-point total and hit five of ten three-point field goals. Ed Laiscell added 11 points for the winners.

Eastern's Rossie Covington led the Warriors with 20 points and became the program's all-time leading scorer when he eclipsed Kevin Barboza's (1983-86) four-year total of 1,418 points with a basket with 15:58 left in the game. Covington has 1,421 points in his three-year career.

Bari Winner added 19 points and five assists for Eastern and pulled to within one point of his 1,000th in his four-year ECSU career. Fran DeBari added 16 points and a career-high nine rebounds.

1453 *Champion*

12 3 9
Points 435
1474

ECSU Sports Info 203-465-5172
February 5, 1994

ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL DEFEATS SOUTHERN MAINE 72-62
Eighth-ranked Warriors win Little East Conference game

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Bari Winner hit a driving layup with 2:49 left to give the Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team the lead for good in a 72-62 victory over the University of Southern Maine Saturday.

Trailing 60-59, Eastern (12-6, 4-4) outscored the Huskies (8-11, 3-6) 13-2 the rest of the way en route to snapping a two-game losing streak. The loss snaps a two-game Southern Maine winning streak.

Southern Maine managed just one field goal and eight points after Jason Van Bennekum's three-point field goal gave the Huskies a 54-53 lead with 5:34 left.

The Huskies led throughout the first half, by as many as ten, 17-7 with 11:40 left in the first half.

Glenn Tatro of Southern Maine led all scorers with 22 points, but just four came in the second half. Tatro scored 18 points in the first half on 6-of-11 shooting from the floor but was limited to just three shots in the second half. Van Bennekum had 12 points for Southern Maine while Rob Laprise had ten.

Winner led ECSU with 19 points, 12 in the second half on 5-of-7 from the floor while Rossie Covington had 15 points, Fran DeBari 12 and Kevin Pettway ten points five assists and five steals in his second start of the year. Winner needs just 20 points to reach the 1,000-point plateau while Covington needs 18 points to become the program's all-time leading scorer.

The Warriors shot 51.6 per cent from the floor in outscoring USM 46-32 in the second half and finished the afternoon with a season-low 11 turnovers.

Eastern hosts Western Connecticut State University Tuesday at 8 p.m. in a Little East Conference game. The Colonials suffered their second conference loss in eight decisions Saturday, falling to conference leader Massachusetts Dartmouth 84-79 at Danbury.

779
261
980

ECSU Sports Info 203-465-5172
February 2, 1994

ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL LOSES FOURTH IN LAST FIVE OUTINGS
Warriors drop Little East decision to Rhode Island College 79-68

WILLMANTIC, Conn. -- A 25-2 scoring run in the second half propelled the Rhode Island College men's basketball team to a 79-68 Little East Conference decision over Eastern Connecticut State University Wednesday.

The loss is the fourth in five outings for Eastern (11-6, 3-4) while RIC improves to 7-10, 3-5 in the conference with its first win over the Warriors in the last seven outings.

Leading by seven, 46-39 with 18 minutes left, Eastern went scoreless from the floor for ten minutes as the Anchormen reeled off a 25-2 spurt to take a 16 point, 64-48 lead with nine minutes left.

Alex Butler led both teams with 21 points for Rhode Island, which shot 50 per cent (35-of-70) from the floor in the game. Chris Brown and Michael Marques added 16 each and Alonzo Jones ten. Reggie Pitts had 12 assists and ten rebounds.

Eastern, which shot just 25 per cent (9-of-36) from the floor in the second half and 30.3 per cent in the game, got 16 points from James Hunter, a season-high 13 from Jon Gould, 12 from Bari Winner and a career-high 11 from Paul Gitsis.

ecsu sports info 465-5172

**PAGIOS JUMPER AT BUZZER LIFTS UMASS OVER ECSU
Eastern Men's Basketball Edged 71-69**

NORTH DARTMOUTH, MA -- Stefan Pagios hit a 17-foot jumper as the final horn sounded to lift the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth to a 71-69 Little East Conference men's basketball victory over Eastern Connecticut State University Tuesday.

With the score tied 69-all, UMass Dartmouth's Aaron Lee inbounded the ball to Pagios, who drove the length of the floor and swished a jumper to give the Corsairs (11-4) their sixth straight win and fifth win in six LEC decisions. Eastern (11-5, 3-3) has lost three of its last four.

The Warriors, ranked eighth in New England, wiped out a seven-point, 66-59 deficit with 3:54 left, tying the game 69-all when Jeff Cavallo swished a pair of free throws with 59 seconds left.

Rossie Covington (season-high 30 points) scored five points and Bari Winner sank a three-point field goal to set the stage for Cavallo's game-tying free throws.

Pagios scored eight of his team's final 12 points. The Corsairs were held scoreless from the floor after Pagios' three-point field goal gave UMD a 64-59 lead with 4:22 left until Pagios' game-winning basket.

After Cavallo tied the game, the Corsairs threw the ball away on the ensuing possession with 27 seconds left but the Warriors missed two attempts from the floor and the Corsairs rebounded and called time out with six seconds left.

There were seven lead changes and five ties in the first half, with neither team unable to open up a lead of more than four points. Trailing 37-33 at halftime, Eastern led only once in the second half -- 38-37 on James Hunter's three-point field goal with 17:07 left. Leading by that one point, Eastern managed only another Hunter three-point field goal as the Corsairs rolled up a seven-point, 48-41 lead with 12:38 left.

The Warriors battled back from an eight-point deficit, however, outscoring the hosts 10-2 over the next four minutes and pulling even 53-all on a pair of free throws by John Gould with 7:41 left.

Pagios and Lee each had 19 points for sixth-ranked UMD, which has beaten ECSU the past five times the teams have met. Shawn Bassett added 16 points for the winners, ranked sixth in New England.

Hunter added 15 points and a career-tying ten rebounds while Bari Winner had nine points and five assists.

Eastern hosts Rhode Island College Tuesday at 8 p.m. in a conference game.

Thursday, January 20, 1994
508-285-2368

Men's Basketball

WHEATON DEFEATS ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL 77-65

NORTON, Mass. -- Three Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball starters combined for just eight points as the Warriors dropped a 77-65 decision to Wheaton College Thursday.

The loss is the second straight for Eastern (10-4), ranked fourth in New England. Wheaton is 6-4.

Trailing by 12, 60-48 with 6:20 left, Eastern scored seven straight points to cut the game to five, 60-55 with 5:16 remaining. After the teams traded points, Mahlon Williams hit a pair of free throws for Wheaton and Kevin Collins drilled his only field goal of the game 25 seconds later to put the Lyons in front 66-57 with 3:40 left.

Senior Rossie Covington (19) and sophomore Kevin Pettway (16) led ECSU but starters Bari Winner (six), Jeff Cavallo (two) and James Hunter (none) combined for only eight points. Hunter played 14 minutes in the first half but did not play in the second half due to a knee injury.

Wheaton's Khrys King led both teams with 20 points, hitting four three-point field goals, with Williams adding 15, Craig Keefe 13 and Chris McAllister ten. Keefe led both teams with nine rebounds.

Eastern led only twice in the early moments of the first half before the Lyons broke out to a lead of as many as 12 points, 26-14 with 6:45 left in the frame.

After falling behind by 12, Eastern scored nine straight, getting three points each from John Gould, Covington and Fran DeBari to get back to within three, 26-23 with 1:29 left.

Eastern shot just 39.1 per cent (9-of-23) from the floor in the first half, including one of seven from "three". Wheaton hit four "threes" in the first half.

EASTERN CONN. (65): James Hunter 0-0-0; Kevin Pettway 4-7-16; jeff Cavallo 0-2-2; mickey Soler 0-1-1; Ray Owens 0-0-0; Sheron Edwards 1-0-2; Paul Gitsis 0-0-0; Rossie Covington 6-7-19; Fran DeBari 3-2-9; Adam Kelsey 0-0-0; Bari Winner 2-2-6; Jon Gould 4-2-10; Jamie Brelsford 0-0-0; TOTAL: 20-23-65.

WHEATON (77): Kevin Collins 1-2-4; Khrys King 6-4-20; Sab Guerriero 0-0-0; Abel Olmo 4-1-9; Chris Mcallister 4-1-10; Lamont Bullock 1-2-4; Dave Miller 1-0-2; Craig Keefe 3-6-13; Mahlon Williams 6-3-15. TOTAL: 26-18-77.

Three-point field goals: E, Pettway, DeBari; W, King 4, Olmo, McAllister, Keefe.

Score at halftime: W, 31-23.

ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL SNAPS TWO-GAME LOSING STREAK
Defeats UMass Boston for fifth straight time 86-72

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Rossie Covington had a season-high 29 points on 12 of 14 shooting from the floor and James Hunter had 14 points, a career-high ten rebounds and a season-high eight assists in Eastern Connecticut State University's 86-72 Little East Conference men's basketball win over the University of Massachusetts Boston Saturday.

Eastern (11-4), ranked fourth in New England, improves to 3-2 in the conference while the Beacons fall to 2-11 overall, 0-5 in ~~the~~ conference play.

Bari Winner added 20 points, eight rebounds and five assists for Eastern, which shot 63.0 per cent in the second half after leading by just four, 40-36 at halftime.

The Warriors led by as many as 11 in the first half but UMass stormed back to take a 49-48 lead with 13:30 left. At that point, Eastern scored 12 of the next 14 to take command 60-51 with 9:53 remaining.

Fran DeBari added 13 points on 4-of-5 shooting.

Phil Dyer (14 points), Rick Sweeney (12) and Matt Kuss (11) led UMass offensively. David Hanscom, the team's top scorer, had only seven ^{points,} none in the first half.

8-12
3-4
11-16

WESTERN CONNECTICUT DEFEATS EASTERN CONNECTICUT IN MEN'S BASKETBALL

DANBURY, Conn. -- Paul Ellis had 27 points and 16 rebounds to lift the Western Connecticut State University men's basketball team to a 72-63 Little East Conference win over Eastern Connecticut State University Tuesday.

Western (12-2), ranked third in New England, improves to 4-0 in the conference while Eastern (10-3), ranked fourth in the region, falls to 2-2 in the LEC.

Ellis, who did not play a year ago when ECSU edged the Colonials 61-59 at Willimantic, keyed a second-half spurt ##### which put Western ahead for good. With Eastern leading by 1, 57-56 with 5:25 left, Ellis hit two driving layups and a pair of free throws to put Western up 62-58 with 3:50 left. Ellis finished with ten points over the game's final # 5:12.

Eastern, trailing by nine 26-17 with 6:30 left in the first half, ran off 11 straight points to move in front 28-26 with 2:46 left in the first half. The Warriors led by as many as eight, 36-28 early in the second half.

Lonnie Brooks added ten points and 12 rebounds for Western.

Rossie Covington led ECSU with 24 points and James Hunter had 12 points and a career-high ten rebounds and season-high seven assists. ECSU, the conference leader in field goal percentage, shot just 37.7 per cent from the floor.

Eastern travels to face Wheaton College Thursday at 8 p.m.

ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL WINS TENTH GAME OF YEAR
Warriors shut down Plymouth State 71-67

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team held Plymouth State College 25 points under its season's average in posting a 71-67 Little East Conference victory Saturday.

Eastern (10-2), ranked fourth in New England, improves to 2-1 in the conference with its second straight LEC win while Plymouth (9-4) falls to 2-2 in the conference. It was ECSU's fifth straight win over Plymouth.

Trailing by nine 35-44 in the opening minute of the second half, Eastern outscored Plymouth 16-6 to take its first lead 51-50 at 9:10 since midway through the first half.

Senior Bari Winner (18) led four double-figure scorers for Eastern, with Rossie Covington adding 15 (12 in the second half), sophomore Kevin Pettway 12 and senior Fran DeBari ten. Covington led ECSU with eight rebounds, seven in the second half.

The game was a battle of the top-ranked offensive (Plymouth) and defensive teams in the conference. Plymouth is ranked sixth in the nation with a 93.6 scoring average while ECSU allows just 71.7. Plymouth managed just six field goals and 25 points in the second half as it hit just 25.0 per cent of its 24 field goals.

Plymouth
Moses Jean-Pierre, ranked fourth nationally with a 28.6 scoring average, scored 32 points but had just one field goal and 11 points in the second half. He hit 16 of 21 free throws in the game and had 11 turnovers.

Eastern continues conference play Tuesday, travelling to Western Connecticut State University at 8 p.m.

Salem State College Sports Information 508-741-6549

December 30, 1993

**ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL WINS SALEM STATE TOURNAMENT
Winner named tournament MVP, Hunter named all-tournament**

SALEM, MA -- Tournament Most Valuable Player Bari Winner keyed a 17-5 run midway through the second half to snap a tie as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team won its first Salem State College Christmas Tournament Thursday 72-61 over Jersey City State College.

The win for Eastern (8-1) avenges a 92-86 loss to the Gothic Knights in the NCAA Division III sectional tournament in 1992. Jersey City is 8-3.

The Warriors broke a 36-all tie with 11:59 left in the game with a 17-5 run over a seven minute span to take command 53-41 with 5:02 left. Winner, who fouled out after just 19 minutes of action in Wednesday's 81-79 first-round win over host Salem State, hit a reverse layup and completed a three-point play with a free throw, had a steal, rebound and assist when ECSU reeled off seven straight points in the midst of the 17-5 run.

Winner scored nine of the Warriors' first 11 points in the game but was silent until swishing a three-pointer to give ECSU a 28-25 lead in the opening minute of the second half. He finished the game with 15 points and a game-high and career-tying 12 rebounds and also led both teams with a career-high six assists.

Hunter, who scored a game-high 23 points in the win over Salem, scored all 16 of his team-high total yesterday in the final nine minutes, hitting seven points in the 17-5 run. Hunter played the entire game except for three minutes, when he was helped from the floor after twisting his left knee.

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Eastern, which has won 16 of its last 18 regular-season games, got balanced scoring and timely free-throw shooting (18-of-21 in the second half) to offset Jersey City's decisive height advantage.

Rossie Covington (12), Fran DeBari (11) and Kevin Pettway (10) joined Hunter and Winner in double figures for the Warriors. Hunter added eight rebounds and Covington seven as ECSU held a 43-33 advantage on the boards.

Dwayne Cannady led Jersey City with 16 points, Lance Branch adding 15. The Gothic Knights shot just 32.4 per cent from the floor in the game.

Salem State defeated Scranton 91-71 in the consolation game.

All-tournament Team

*Bari Winner, Eastern Conn.
James Hunter, Eastern Conn.
Dwayne Cannady, Jersey City
Stefon Beck, Jersey City
Brian Carroll, Salem State
Jay Fairlamb, U. of Scranton

***-Most Valuable Player**

ECSU Sports Info 203-456-5483

ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL UPSET BY SOUTHERN MAINE 60-54
Top-ranked Warriors lose first after six victories

GORHAM, Maine -- Glenn Tatro scored 14 of his team-high 17 points in the second half -- eight coming during a key 13-2 run -- to help lift the University of Southern Maine to a 60-54 Little East Conference win over Eastern Connecticut State University Saturday.

The loss, in its conference-opener, is the first for Eastern after six wins opening wins. Southern Maine, which snapped ECSU's streak of five straight regular-season conference wins, is 2-0 in the IEC, 4-4 overall.

Ranked fifth in the conference by allowing over 81 points per game, Southern Maine limited New England's top-ranked team to nearly 30 points below its season's average of 83.5. Eastern had last scored fewer than 54 points in a 52-50 overtime loss at the University at Albany Feb. 5, 1991.

After trailing by as many as 11 in the first half, Eastern pulled to within one, 39-38 on a pair of free throws by Rossie Covington (game-high 18 points) with 10:52 left. At that point, the Huskies scored 13 of the next 15 points -- Tatro scoring eight on three field goals and two free throws -- to move out to a 12-point, 52-40 lead with 5:22 left.

The teams attempted the same number of free throws in the game (17), but Eastern missed nine, including five of eight in the final nine minutes.

After shooting 45.8 per cent from the floor in the first half, Eastern shot just 31.3 per cent in the second half. The Warriors hit only four of 18 three-point tries, with three coming in the final 2:32 as they scrambled to wipe out a ten-point deficit.

Jason Van Bennekum (14) and Herb Smart (11) followed Tatro in scoring for Southern Maine. Rob Laprise, a guard, led all players with ten rebounds.

Bari Winner followed Covington with ten points for Eastern but the Warriors' three top scorers of Winner, Covington and James Hunter were held 22 points under their combined season average. Covington had a team-high nine rebounds, with Hunter grabbing seven and guard Kevin Pettway six.

Eastern is idle until facing Salem State Dec. 29 in the opening round of the Salem State College Christmas Tournament.

December 7, 1993
ECSU Sports Info 203-456-5483

ECSU BASKETBALL WINS SIXTH STRAIGHT/BEST START IN 52 YEARS

Winner scores career-high 31 to pace 104-98 win over Worcester

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Senior Bari Winner of East Hampton scored a career-high 31 points -- 24 in the second half -- to carry the Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team to a 104-98 win over Worcester State College Tuesday.

The win is the sixth straight to open the season -- the team's best start in 52 years -- and 12th straight against Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference (MASCAC) opponents. Worcester State falls to 5-2 with its second straight loss.

Eastern last won its first six games in 1941/42 -- the second year of the program -- en route to a 14-0 mark.

Winner hit nine of 12 attempts from the floor in the second half to help ECSU back from a 12-point, 33-21 deficit in the first half. Senior center Rossie Covington of New Haven added 25 points (9-of-16 from the floor) and senior guard James Hunter 21. Hunter became the sixth 1,000-point scorer under head coach Dr. Dan Switchenko with 7:06 left in the first half. Hunter had 998 before sinking a three-point field goal to pull ECSU to within three, 34-31.

Trailing by four in the opening minutes of the second half, Eastern battled back and took the lead for good 71-70 when Winner hit a three-pointer with 8:15 left.

Worcester shot 61.3 per cent in the first half and led by as many as 12 before ECSU bounced back to take a 42-40 lead with 40 seconds left in the first half.

Junior center Jonathan Gould of Milford added ten points for Eastern while senior guard Fran DeBari had a career-high eight rebounds as the Warriors held a 37-28 advantage on the boards.

Eastern shot 59.3 per cent in the second half to outscore the Lancers 62-55.

Senior guard Al Pettway led all players with 32 points, all but eight coming in the secondhalf.

ECSU shot 56.0 per cent from the floor in the game, sinking four of eight three-pointers. Worcester shot 55.2 in the game.

Eastern opens its Little East Conference season Saturday at the University of Southern Maine.

~~Box sent previously~~
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ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL EDGES BRIDGEWATER FOR FIFTH STRAIGHT WIN
Willimantic's Hunter closes to within seven of 1,000 points

BRIDGEWATER, MA -- Seniors Bari Winner, Rossie Covington and James Hunter combined for 62 points to lift the Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team to an 84-79 win over Bridgewater State College Saturday.

The win is the fifth in as many outings this year for Eastern and 13th in its last 14 regular-season games dating back to last Jan. 26. Bridgewater falls to 1-3 after losing to the Warriors for the fourth straight time.

Winner (22), Covington (21) and Hunter (19) combined to connect on 19 of 32 attempts from the floor (59.4) and help the Warriors shoot 52.1 per cent.

Bridgewater shot 53.7 per cent from the floor -- including 62.1 per cent when it outscored ECSU by eight points in the second half -- but the Warriors held a 28-13 advantage in free throws made.

Hunter, who needs just seven points to become the sixth 1,000-point scorer under head coach Dan Switcheko, converted eight of nine attempts from the line while Winner sank seven of eight.

Winner's point total equalled his career high and gives him a 20.5 average in the last two games after averaging 10.3 over the first three games. Winner has converted 71.4 per cent of his 21 attempts from the floor the last two games and nine of 11 free throws.

Against Bridgewater, Eastern led by as many as 20 and settled for a 13-point halftime lead before the Bears battled back to tie the game in the second half. Sophomore guard Dan Hunt scored 18 of his game-high 29 points in the second half. Hunt hit 12 of 18 shots from the floor in the game and five of eight three-pointers.

Eastern's 5-0 start matches the second-best start in the 54-year history of the program. The team has not won its first six games since going 14-0 in the second year of the program in 1941/42.

The Warriors look for their 12th straight win over Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference opponents Tuesday when they host Worcester State College at 7 p.m.

ECSU Sports Info 203-456-583
December 2, 1993

ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL ROUTS NORTH ADAMS 77-56 THURSDAY
Warriors win tenth straight over MASCAC opponents

NORTH ADAMS, Mass. -- The Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team made it ten straight wins over Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference (MASCAC) opponents Thursday by routing North Adams State College 77-56.

Eastern, which has won ten straight games against MASCAC foes since losing at Salem State 68-63 Dec. 28, 1990, improved to 4-0 overall this year. The Mohawks are 0-3.

Senior center Rossie Covington posted his tenth career game of at least 25 points with a team-high 25 to go along with six assists and five rebounds. Senior forward Bari Winner scored 19 points (8-of-12 from the floor) -- his highest total in the past 15 games -- and shared team-high rebounding honors with sophomore guard Kevin Pettway. Pettway had eight points and five steals off the bench.

Senior guard James Hunter moved to within 26 of his 1,000th career point with 13.

Eastern, which has won 12 of its last 13 regular-season games, led by as many as 13 points in the first half, thanks to 53.8 per cent shooting from the floor and defense which forced 15 turnovers.

The Warriors wasted little time putting the game out of reach in the second half, scoring the first ten points of the frame and holding the hosts scoreless for more than five minutes in moving out to a 21-point, 46-25 lead. North Adams missed ten of its first 11 shots in the half.

It marked the fifth time in its last 11 games that Eastern has limited its opponent to 60 or less points. The Warriors have won their four games this year by an average of 15.3 points and have allowed an average of just 63.0 points.

Donald Roach supplied most of North Adams' offense, tallying a game-high 29 points. Two North Adams starters were held scoreless. With the exception of Roach, the Mohawks' starting lineup combined for 11 points.

Eastern looks for its 11th straight win against MASCAC competition Saturday when it travels to Bridgewater State College at 3 p.m.

UMASS SPORTS INFO 617-287-7815

ECSU DEFEATS HOST UMASS BOSTON ~~83~~ 83-64 TO WIN HARBOR INVITATIONAL
Hunter named MVP after averaging 23.5 points, 7.5 rebounds in two games

BOSTON, Mass. -- Seniors Fossie Covington and James Hunter combined for 37 points and 15 rebounds as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team defeated Massachusetts Boston 83-64 to win the Ninth Annual Harbor Invitational Saturday.

Eastern (3-0), a winner of 11 of its last 12 regular-season games, scored eight straight points in the opening minutes of the second half to snap a 33-all tie and take command 41-33. The Warriors, making their first Harbor Invitational appearance, ballooned the lead to as many as 21 69-48 with \$ 6:42 left in the game.

Hunter, who scored 25 of his game-high 29 points in ~~a~~ 76-60 first-round win over ~~UMass~~ Anna Maria Friday night, tossed in 16 of his 18 points in the second half last night, ~~sinking four of seven three-pointers.~~ *the second half of a*
on route to journey MVP honors.

Covington scored 13 of his game-high 19 points in the second half. Senior Bari Winner also finished in double figures for Eastern, scoring 14. Sophomore Kevin Pettway added 11 points for the Warriors.

Covington, who averaged 17.0 points and 10.0 rebounds in the tournament, led all players last night with ten rebounds *and James Hunter on the all-tourney team,*

Hunter averaged 23.5 points and 7.5 rebounds in the tournament and shot 51.7 per cent (15-of-29) from the floor (5-of-10 three-pointers) and 80.0 per cent (12-of-15) from the line.

David Hanscom (17 points) and Matt Kuss (10) led the ~~UMass~~ Beacons ~~UMass~~ (1-2) offensively and represented ~~UMass~~ UMass Boston on the all-tournament team. Richard Harding of Fitchburg State and Dennis Vanasse of Anna Maria were also named to the all-tournament team. Fitchburg defeated Anna Maria 93-91 in overtime in the consolation game.

UMASS BOSTON SPORTS INFO %>#_c@#&_c@#&#% 617-287=7815

ECSU MEN'S BASKETBALL ADVANCES TO HARBOR INVITATIONAL ~~FINAL~~ FINALS
Hunter scores 29 in 76-60 win over Anna Maria College

BOSTON, Mass. -- Senior guard James Hunter sank nine of 11 # field goals in the second half after missing all six of his first-half tries to lift the Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team to a 76-60 win over Anna Maria College Friday in the opening round of the Ninth Annual Harbor Invitational Friday.

The Warriors (2-0) move into the tournament final Saturday at 7:30 p.m. against the winner of Friday's late semifinal game between host Massachusetts Boston ^{which defeated} and Fitchburg State College. *87-73 in the other semifinal.*

~~#####~~ Hunter, who finished with a game-high 29 ~~points~~ points, scored 25 points in the second half and keyed a run of 13 straight ECSU points as the Warriors defeated the Amcats for the fifth time in as many tries.

Leading 39-33 ~~#####~~ three minutes into the second half, Eastern scored 13 straight points -- seven by Hunter, including five straight -- to open up a 52-33 lead with 10:10 left.

The final 29-point ~~total~~ total is the second-highest in Hunter's 74-game career and most since a career-high 31 point effort Nov. 23, 1991 at home against Teikyo Post University.

As a team, Eastern converted 60.0 per cent (18 of 30) of its second-half field goal tries and sank 21 of 28 tries from the line in the game. *Hunter was 10 of 11.*

The Warriors never trailed in the game but committed 13 turnovers and hit just 42.9 per cent of its field-goal attempts in the first half and led by just 31-27 at halftime. ECSU sank 13 of 16 free ~~throws~~ throws in the first half.

Senior Rossie Covington added 15 points and a team-high nine rebounds for Eastern while senior Fran DeBari had 12 points. Hunter followed Covington with seven rebounds and a game-high five steals.
(more)

(0-2),

Anna Maria, last year's Harbor Invitational titlist, managed only a pair

of three-point field goals by Tom Keane over the first ten minutes of the

second half as ~~ECU~~ ECSU moved out to a lead of as many as 20 points.

Jeff Padula led Anna Maria with 13 points, Keane adding ten. The Amcas

lost five starters and eight seniors from last year's ECAC tournament ~~team~~ team.

ECSU EDGES SALEM STATE COLLEGE IN MEN'S BASKETBALL
Warriors open with 77-72 victory over Vikings

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. -- Senior center Rossie Covington hit eight of ten field goal attempts in the second half and finished the game with nine assists and seven rebounds as the Eastern Connecticut State University men's basketball team edged Salem State College 77-72 Saturday in the opener for both teams.

The game was a battle between two teams favored to win their respective conferences, Salem State in the Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference and Eastern in the Little East Conference. It was also a rematch of last year's NCAA tournament first-round game, won 81-71 by Eastern at Salem, MA.

Covington sank 13 of 23 attempts from the floor, finishing with a game-high 26 points. His assists were a career-high. Sophomore point guard Kevin Pettway, making his first career start in place of injured Jeff Cavallo, finished with a career-high 17 points on 7-of-10 field goals. Pettway hit three of four three-pointers, including one with 3:43 left after the Vikings had closed to within 68-66.

Eastern led by as many as 12 points, 29-17, in the first half but the Vikings, ranked 17th nationally in the pre-season, tied the game 34-all at the half.

The Vikings opened up a four-point lead 40-36 early in the second half. James Hunter sank a reverse layup with 8:47 left to break a 57-all tie and give ECSU the lead for good.

Bari Winner added 13 points for Eastern on 5-of-8 shooting from the floor (1-for-1 three-pointers) and 2-for-2 from the line.

Eastern sank 51.6 per cent from the floor, including 64.3 per cent in the second half. Salem, which got 18 points from Tom Doyle, managed only 35.2 per cent from the floor in the game.