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03/24/1981 - Dave Gibson All American

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University swimmer Dave Gibson (South Holland-Thornwood) earned All-American honors to help pace the Panthers to sixth place in the NCAA II National Swimming Championship last weekend.

The Panthers scored 126 points, just one short of a fifth place tie. It was EIU's best finish since the 1975 squad was third. The top 12 swimmers place and earn All-American honors.

Gibson, a junior, earned All-American honors in three events. He was fifth in the 100 butterfly in 51.34 seconds.

He also swam on two relays, the 400 and 800 freestyles, which finished 10th and 4th, respectively. The 800 relay set a school record 6:59.25.

"Dave's 51.34 in the 100 fly would've been a school mark except that Tim Bird (Evanston-Elk Grove) came along and topped that. Both that time and his 200 fly time (did not place) were lifetime bests so he had a great season when you add his relay performances," said Coach Ray Padovan.