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### 04/09/1981 - Team Handball Tournament in Taiwan

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# Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920 April 9, 1981  
DAVID KIDWELL, *Sports Information Director* LS-AS-HTs  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Fifteen Eastern Illinois University students, including four from Charleston, will comprise the United States entry in the team handball tournament in Taiwan later this month.

Although not the official U. S. team, Eastern is the only one representing this country in the Chung Jeng World Cup 1981 International Youth Handball Championship in Taipei City, April 25-30.

Team members are as follows:

Mike Banach (Elk Grove)	Mark Leber (Arlington Heights- Buffalo Grove)
John Boyd (Manteno-Kankakee Bishop McNamara)	Jeff Miller (Charleston)
Jon Buckellew (Charleston)	Dan Ryan (Chicago-Kennedy)
John Cona (Rochester)	Mitch Shick (Charleston)
Jim Docter (Charleston)	Steve Smiley (Urbana-St. Joseph- Ogden)
Tim Dykstra (Plymouth, IN-LaVille)	Steve Stockman (Paxton)
Jon Jantzen (Woodridge-Downers Grove North)	Mike Stout (Indianola-Jamaica)
	Mark Turner (South Bend, IN-Clay)

The team was organized and received an invitation through the efforts of Chen-Hsing Huang and Bill Buckellew, EIU's physical education coordinator of graduate studies.

Huang, coach of the Taiwan national handball team, is currently on leave from Kaohsiung (Taiwan) Teachers College and serving as visiting professor of PE at EIU.

"I suspect there will be eight or nine teams coming to this tournament," said Huang "but Taiwan and Korea will be the best. I think we have a chance to defeat a couple teams . . . possibly Japan and West Germany.

"Eastern has a couple advantages . . . they are very tall players, taller than most, and strong. The obvious disadvantage is no experience, and with no other teams around, there is no way to play anyone . . . other than intrasquad games."

While in Taiwan, the team will also visit Charleston's sister city, Fengshan, and Kaohsiung Teachers College, which has an official faculty exchange program with EIU.

Fengshan and Charleston have agreed to fund round trip plane tickets for four additional people beyond team members. The Republic of China Handball Association is financing the players' trip plus room and board. Some Charleston businessmen "have graciously agreed to defray some of the additional expenses of an extra night's lodging, gifts, that sort of thing," Buckellew explained.

Buckellew will be coordinating the trip's activities along with Dr. Richard Lee, EIU's Planning and Budget Analysis Officer, who can fluently speak both languages.

Team handball is a combination of soccer and basketball. This is a formal attempt to increase the popularity of the sport here in the U. S.

It's played on an indoor court with seven players per team. The ball may be held a maximum of three seconds at which time the player in control must pass, shoot, or dribble. Players try to score by throwing the ball through soccer-style goals.

All of the players involved echoed similar statements about its lively action. "There's constant running, blocking and shooting . . . it's a team sport mixed with individual skills . . . a real change of pace," said Docter.

Turner, a freshman member of EIU's basketball team, said "the teamwork and physical style of play," appealed to him, while Banach said it most compared to soccer where "there's constant action.