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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University has hired Ralph McCausland as its new wrestling coach and Betty Ralston as its volleyball coach, Athletic Director R. C. Johnson announced.

McCausland, a former All-American for the Panthers during the late 1970s, has been an assistant coach at Wheaton Central and Downers Grove North high schools the past three years.

Prior to that he lettered three seasons at EIU winning one NCAA II national championship and earning three All-American awards.

His best season was 1978 when he took first place at 142 lbs. finishing with a 30-5 record, and then represented the United States on a NCAA II all-star team competing in Mexico.

As a sophomore he was sixth in the nation and took fourth as a senior when he also placed fourth in the prestigious Midlands Open Tournament at Evanston during the Christmas Holidays.

McCausland finished his career with a lifetime record of 98-25-2, and was No. 7 on EIU's all-time victory list.

Ralston has been the head volleyball and softball coach the past two years at Wisconsin-Oshkosh, and prior to that was volleyball coach at State University of New York-Plattsburgh from 1979-81.

At Wis-Oshkosh volleyball was the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champ and Ralston was named the league's Coach of the Year in 1982.

From 1976-81 she was volleyball and softball coach at Mount Assumption Institute in Plattsburgh winning the league and sectional volleyball championship all five years.

In 1978 she participated in a volleyball clinic in Russia, and was the head volleyball coach for the women's open division at New York's 1979 Empire State Games.

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Ralston is a graduate of Plymouth State College, received her master's at Wisconsin-Oshkosh and has done graduate course work at Concordia University in Montreal and NY-Plattsburgh.