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### 08/27/1982 - Field Hockey Unofficially Opens Season

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# Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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Aug. 27, 1982  
LS-Hometowns

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's field hockey Panthers unofficially open the season Saturday (Sept. 4) in College Day non-regulation competition at Western Illinois University.

Coach Beth Reichel, starting her second season, began practice with 17 members reporting.

The Panthers begin the regular season, their first as a NCAA Division I member, at Valparaiso on Friday, Sept. 10. The first home date is Saturday, Sept. 18 hosting Principia and SIU-Carbondale.

The Panthers return eight starters from last year. They are Ann Bohannon (Pana), Karen Berry (Edwardsville), Gail Niebur (Edwardsville), Deb Seybert (Edwardsville), Colleen Fletcher (Mascoutah), Mary Ohl (Mascoutah), Barb Stelk (Park Ridge-Maine East) and Judy Waterbury (Hoffman Estates-Conant).

Four other returning members are Debbie Bohannon (Pana), Nancy Fanta (Western Springs-LaGrange Lyons), Diane Johnson (Belvidere) and Kathy Sherer (Rockford-West).

"I'm excited to begin the season," says Reichel. "We have a strong group of returning starters, four others that saw a good deal of playing time and five talented newcomers."

The five include freshmen Sue Bielsky (McHenry), Jill Harland (Antioch), Cheryl Holthaus (Pana) and Laurie Pieler (Homewood-Flossmoor). Liz Wiechern (South Holland-Thornwood), who was on the badminton team last year, will handle the goaltending duties along with Waterbury. "Liz is really learning the position very well with just a few days of drills.

"Our starters are very strong and will be a major factor in how much success this team has . . . we're anxious to begin," Reichel said.

EIU FIELD HOCKEY  
ADD 1

Seybert was EIU's leading scorer in '81 with 21 goals and 10 assists. Niebur was tied for No. 2 on the team with 10 goals. Waterbury was 7-3-0 in the goal with an exceptional 1.08 goals against average. She stopped 80 shots and allowed just 13 goals.

The Panthers have joined nine other institutions as charter members of the Gateway Collegiate Athletic Conference. They are Bradley, Drake, Illinois State, Indiana State, Northern Iowa, SIU-Carbondale, Southwest Missouri, Western Illinois and Wichita State.