

10-19-1983

10/19/1983 - Volleyball Opens Conference Season

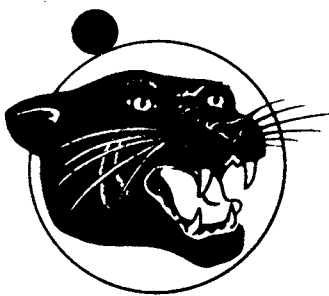
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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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Oct. 19, 1983

LS-Volleyball

72

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--The season is just beginning for Eastern Illinois University's volleyball team.

The Lady Panthers have competed in 25 matches already this fall, winning 19 of them, but the real test will begin Friday (Oct. 21) when they open the Gateway Collegiate Athletic Conference season.

"We've been preparing for the Gateway for the last six weeks," EIU coach Betty Ralston said. "It really wouldn't matter if we were 19-6 or 6-19. How we play the rest of the season will determine whether we have a successful year or not."

Eastern and first-year coach Ralston will be aiming to qualify for the league's final-four playoff, which is scheduled for November 18-19. A berth in the playoff game opens the door to the NCAA national tournament as the Gateway champion will be awarded an automatic bid to nationals.

All 10 Gateway members will play each other in the coming weeks with round-robin standings determining the final four qualifiers. Eastern's first test will be the conference runner-up in 1982, Southwest Missouri State.

"We definitely will be tested in our first conference match," Ralston said. "Southwest Missouri is a perennial powerhouse and we will quickly find out if we can compete with the top teams in the conference.

"I believe we can go in there (Springfield, MO, home of SWMS) Friday and pull off a major upset, but it will take a great effort from everyone," she added.

The Panthers boast a great deal of experience, with four seniors, a junior and a sophomore seeing most of the playing time.

Seniors Stacy Cook (Lincoln/Illinois Central) and Bonnie Fisk (Evansville, IN-Castle) rank as the top two hitters and blockers, with senior Kathy Briggs (Bartonville-Limestone/Illinois Central) adding offensive punch and steady, unrelenting defense.

Sophomore Judy Planos (Evanston Township) and junior Donna Uhler (Glen Ellyn-Benet Academy) add power to the front line and boast the height to help stop the opposition at the net.

Senior Gretchen Braker acts as setter in Eastern's 6-1 offense and has shown the ability for the job, as she did when dishing out a team-high 62 assists Tuesday (Oct. 18) in Eastern's win over the University of Illinois.

The victory over the Illini gave the Panthers a boost into conference play and showed the spikers' ability to rally from seemingly unsurmountable deficits.

Illinois took the first two games from Eastern, but the Panthers turned the match around and came away with a 13-15, 10-15, 15-10, 15-8, 15-8 victory, their first five-game triumph of 1983.

A major factor in Eastern's come-from-behind victory was the take-charge play of Cook, who contributed 21 kills to raise her team-leading total to 254.

"I was really proud of the way Stacy took over when we needed direction," Ralston said. "We need all our seniors to do that if we are going to continue winning through the conference season."

25-MATCH EASTERN ILLINOIS WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL STATISTICS: (19-6) (Home: 3-1) (Away: 5-2) (Neutral: 11-3)

| No. | Name | G | K (/G) | E | TA | Pct. | SA(/G) | BS | BA(B/G) | DG(/G) | AS(/G) | RE | BE | SE | BHE |
|-----|--------------------------------|----|-----------|----|-----|------|----------|----|----------|-----------|-----------|----|----|----|-----|
| 8 | Bonnie Fisk, Sr., Hitter..... | 82 | 249(3.04) | 76 | 547 | .316 | 43(.524) | 43 | 35(1.48) | 208(2.54) | 41(0.50) | 36 | 21 | 29 | 1 |
| 10 | Stacy Cook, Sr., Hitter..... | 82 | 254(3.10) | 87 | 577 | .289 | 30(.366) | 34 | 34(1.24) | 256(3.12) | 29(0.35) | 23 | 26 | 25 | 5 |
| 13 | Kathy Briggs, Sr., Hitter..... | 82 | 213(2.60) | 74 | 598 | .232 | 22(.269) | 3 | 15(0.26) | 258(3.15) | 21(0.26) | 28 | 3 | 7 | 8 |
| 18 | Judy Planos, So., Hitter..... | 73 | 172(2.36) | 70 | 482 | .212 | 34(.466) | 3 | 8(0.19) | 197(2.70) | 11(0.15) | 18 | 4 | 10 | 5 |
| 7 | Ellen Karcher, Fr., Hitter.... | 64 | 9(0.14) | 7 | 25 | .080 | 19(.297) | 0 | 1(0.02) | 77(1.20) | 5(0.08) | 13 | 0 | 16 | 5 |
| 20 | Donna Uhler, Jr., Set/Hitter.. | 61 | 53(0.87) | 19 | 156 | .218 | 12(.197) | 8 | 7(0.38) | 136(2.23) | 399(6.54) | 3 | 7 | 8 | 20 |
| 9 | Maura LeFevour, Fr., Hitter... | 60 | 58(0.97) | 22 | 192 | .188 | 0(.000) | 0 | 19(0.32) | 28(0.47) | 8(0.13) | 4 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| 30 | Misty Buckhold, So., Hitter... | 59 | 37(0.63) | 24 | 142 | .092 | 13(.220) | 4 | 10(0.31) | 81(1.37) | 42(0.71) | 11 | 2 | 5 | 2 |
| 25 | Gretchen Braker, Sr., Setter.. | 55 | 38(0.69) | 17 | 116 | .181 | 4(.073) | 4 | 10(0.33) | 108(1.96) | 416(7.56) | 0 | 4 | 10 | 15 |
| 3 | Debra Buesking, So., Hitter... | 10 | 9(0.90) | 3 | 18 | .333 | 2(.200) | 2 | 1(0.50) | 2(0.20) | 1(0.10) | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 12 | Krista Embry, Fr., Hitter..... | 6 | 8(1.33) | 6 | 23 | .087 | 1(.167) | 0 | 0(0.00) | 4(0.67) | 2(0.33) | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |

EIU TOTALS: 83 1,100 405 2876 .242 180 101 140 1,355 975 137 70 114

EIU TEAM AVERAGES: 13.25 kills, 2.17 aces, 4.12 blocks, 16.33 digs and 11.75 assists per game

SEASON MARKS:

TEAM

Most Kills: 82 v. Ferris State
 Most Errors: 40 v. Cincinnati
 Most Attempts: 217 v. Illinois
 Best Percentage: .474 v. Wisconsin-Oshkosh
 Most Service Aces: 15 v. Cincinnati
 Most Solo Blocks: 10 v. Iowa #2
 Most Block Assists: 12 v. Wisconsin, Eastern Michigan
 Most Digs: 104 v. Iowa #1
 Most Assists: 72 v. Ferris State, Illinois
 Most Reception Errors: 14 v. Illinois-Chicago
 Most Blocking Errors: 9 v. Ferris State
 Most Service Errors: 10 v. Wisconsin, Iowa #1
 Most Ball Handling Errors: 10 v. Cincinnati

INDIVIDUAL

Most K: 25, Cook v. Ferris State
 Most E: 12, Cook v. Wisconsin and Cincinnati
 Most TA: 53, Planos v. Illinois
 Best Pct.: .800, Cook v. Wisconsin-Oshkosh (min. 10 TA)
 Most SA: 7, Fisk v. Illinois-Chicago
 Most BS: 5, Fisk v. Iowa #2
 Most BA: 4, Fisk v. Eastern Michigan and Ferris State
 Cook v. Wisconsin-Milwaukee #2
 Most DG: 25, Briggs v. Ferris State
 Most AS: 62, Uhler v. Ferris State
 Braker v. Illinois
 Most RE: 7, Fisk v. Wisconsin
 Most BE: 5, Cook v. Ferris State
 Most SE: 4, Karcher v. Wisconsin
 Fisk v. Illinois
 Most BHE: 3, Uhler v. Ferris State and Iowa #2
 Braker v. Eastern Kentucky and Cincinnati

EIU SEASON RESULTS (19-6)

| Date | W-L | NCAA Div | Opponent | Result (EIU Score First) | Games W-L |
|------|-----|----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| S 3 | L | I | UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN | 17-15, 14-16, 10-15, 16-18 | 1-3 |
| S 3 | W | I | NORTHERN ILLINOIS | 15-0, 15-7, 15-13 | 4-3 |
| S 9 | W | I | University of Akron @ | 15-4, 15-8, 15-11 | 7-3 |
| S 9 | W | I | Eastern Michigan @ | 15-10, 15-9, 15-17, 15-10 | 10-4 |
| S 10 | W | II | Wisconsin-Milwaukee#1 @ | 15-10, 15-7, 15-8 | 13-4 |
| S 10 | L | II | Ferris State College @ | 12-15, 15-3, 15-10, 15-17, 8-15 | 15-7 |
| S 16 | W | I | Northern Iowa + | 15-1, 15-10, 15-2 | 18-7 |
| S 16 | L | I | University of Iowa#1 + | 15-2, 15-17, 15-12, 11-15, 5-15 | 20-10 |
| S 17 | W | II | Lewis University#1 + | 15-7, 15-13, 15-2 | 23-10 |
| S 17 | W | II | Lewis University#2 + | 15-7, 15-5, 15-4 | 26-10 |
| S 17 | L | I | University of Iowa#2 + | 9-15, 13-15, 10-15 | 26-13 |
| S 23 | W | I | University of Evansville | 15-8, 15-5, 15-9 | 29-13 |
| S 24 | W | II | Kentucky State University & | 15-2, 15-0, 15-3 | 32-13 |
| S 24 | W | I | Eastern Kentucky & | 15-9, 15-12, 14-16, 15-8 | 35-14 |
| S 30 | W | III | University of Dubuque % | 15-3, 15-10 | 37-14 |
| O 1 | W | III | Wisconsin-Oshkosh % | 15-1, 15-11 | 39-14 |
| O 1 | W | II | Northern Michigan#1 % | 15-11, 15-9 | 41-14 |
| O 1 | W | II | Wisconsin-Milwaukee #2 % | 15-6, 15-4, 15-4 | 44-14 |
| O 1 | W | II | Northern Michigan#2 % | 15-3, 15-13, 15-5 | 47-14 |
| O 7 | L | I | Drake University \$ | 15-17, 13-15, 3-15 | 47-17 |
| O 7 | W | II | Northeastern Illinois \$ | 15-7, 15-12, 15-9 | 50-17 |
| O 8 | W | I | Illinois-Chicago \$ | 15-9, 15-13, 16-14 | 53-17 |
| O 8 | L | I | University of Cincinnati \$ | 16-14, 15-7, 11-15, 9-15, 10-15 | 55-20 |
| O 14 | W | I | LOYOLA UNIVERSITY | 15-0, 16-14, 15-10 | 58-20 |
| O 18 | W | I | UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS #1 | 13-15, 10-15, 15-13, 15-8, 15-8 | 61-22 |

HOME GAMES ALL CAPS

@ at Eastern Michigan Tournament, Ypsilanti, MI (Champion)

+ at Hawkeye Invitational, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA (Second place)

& at Eastern Kentucky Classic, Richmond, KY (Champion)

\$ at Windy City Invitational, University of Illinois-Chicago, Chicago, IL (Final four)

% at Wisconsin-Milwaukee Invitational, Milwaukee, WI (Champion)

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

| | | |
|---------|--|-----------|
| O 21 | at Southwest Missouri * | 7:30 p.m. |
| O 22 | at Wichita State * | 7:30 |
| O 26 | at Southern Illinois * | 7:30 |
| O 28 | WESTERN ILLINOIS * | 7:30 |
| O 29 | BRADLEY * | 7:30 |
| N 2 | at University of Illinois | 7:00 |
| N 4 | at Northern Iowa * | 7:30 |
| N 5 | at Drake * | 7:30 |
| N 8 | at Indiana University | 7:30 |
| N 11 | ILLINOIS STATE * | 7:30 |
| N 12 | INDIANA STATE * | 7:30 |
| N 18-19 | Gateway conference final four playoff--TBA | |

HOME MATCHES PLAYED IN LANTZ GYM

* Denotes Gateway Collegiate Athletic Conference Contests