

11-11-1982

11/11/1982 - Wrestlers Approach Season

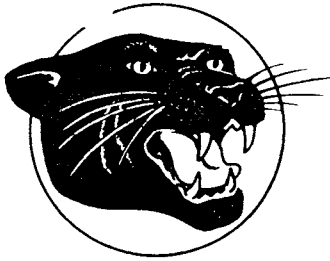
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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

DAVID KIDWELL, *Sports Information Director*

OFFICE: (217) 581-2920

HOME: (217) 345-4166

Nov. 11, 1982

LS-AS-WRESTLING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Three Eastern Illinois University wrestlers who reached the NCAA I national tournament, All-American Derek Porter (126), Mark Gronowski (167) and Dennis McCormick (177), will lead another strong Panther contingent this winter.

EIU, long a power in NCAA Division II, moved up to major college status last year finishing 19th in the nation qualifying seven for the national tournament.

The Panthers open the season Friday and Saturday (Nov. 19-20) at the St. Louis Open. The first home match is Friday, Dec. 10 against SIU-Edwardsville.

Porter (Mims, FL-Titusville), the lone returning All-American, was eighth last year at 126 lbs. finishing with a 27-6-1 record and winning four regular season tournaments including the regional title.

"Derek's got it all, strength, quickness and speed," said Coach Ron Clinton. "We're expecting another high finish, possibly in the top four if he puts it all together."

Gronowski (Titusville, FL) may be the best wrestler with 70 career wins, most of any returning wrestler. He has wrestled at 167 lbs. in two Division I meets although did not place, and won the 1981 Division II title.

"Mark is the most consistent wrestler we have . . . he came on at Midlands Tournament last year and was almost unbeatable from then on," said Clinton. "He's capable of finishing high at nationals and we hope will really go for it this year."

McCormick (Springfield), 21-7 last season, won the 177 class at the Midwest Regional but then lost the first match at nationals however can be expected to challenge again.

"After midseason last year he developed into one of our better wrestlers so we are hopeful he can get another shot at the national tournament," said CLinton.

The only other returning starter is Bernie Ruettiger (Joliet-Providence) at 134 lbs. Ruettiger was 11-6 last year but won five straight matches toward the end of the season.

Tom Gerdes (Oak Forest), a transfer from Northern Illinois who sat out last year, started for the Huskies at 142 and is a likely challenger for national honors.

EIU WRESTLING
ADD 1

EIU was extremely weak at heavyweight the past two years but Clinton has bolstered this class with the recruitment of Duane Clark (Waverly, IA-Shell Rock/Waldorf JC), a two-time national junior college All-American who also won the 1981 Junior World Pan-Am games in Venezuela.

"On paper we look good although we are inexperienced losing half our lineup to graduation. I do think it will take a strong dual meet team to beat us if we stay free of injuries.

"I'd like to get a set lineup but I expect it will fluctuate because we have a lot of closely contested classes . . . it may be February right before nationals when we determine who's best," Clinton explained.

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1982-83 EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY WRESTLING SCHEDULE

Fri.-Sat., Nov. 19-20	at St. Louis Open	St. Louis
Fri.-Sat., Nov. 26-27	at Southern Open	Chattanooga
Mon., Nov. 29	at Kentucky	Lexington
Fri.-Sat., Dec. 3-4	at Illinois Open	Champaign
Fri., Dec. 10 (7:00)	SIU-EDWARDSVILLE	Lantz Gym
Wed.-Thurs., Dec. 29-30	at Midlands Tournament	Evanston
Mon., Jan. 10	at Tennessee	Knoxville
Fri., Jan. 14 (7:00)	SOUTHWEST MISSOURI	McAfee Gym
Sat., Jan. 15	at SIU-Edwardsville, TN-Chattanooga	Edwardsville
Sun., Jan. 16 (2:00)	NORTHERN IOWA	Lantz Gym
Fri.-Sat., Jan. 21-22	at Southwest Missouri Tournament	Springfield, MO
Sat., Jan. 29	at Illinois	Champaign
Sun., Jan. 30	at Purdue	West Lafayette, IN
Thurs., Feb. 3	at Northern Illinois	DeKalb
Sun., Feb. 6	at Missouri	Columbia
Fri.-Sat., Feb. 11-12	at Association of Mid-Continent Universities Championship	TBA
Wed., Feb. 16 (7:30)	INDIANA	Lantz Gym
Fri.-Sat., Feb. 25-26	NCAA Midwest Regional	Lexington, KY
Thurs.-Sat., March 10-12	NCAA National Championship	Oklahoma City, OK

1982-83 ROSTER

<u>NAME</u>	<u>WT.</u>	<u>YR.</u>	<u>HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL/JC)</u>
Tom Anderson	158	Fr.	Joliet (West)
Kevin Bement *	158	Jr.	Cahokia
Ken Blackman **	150	Sr.	River Grove (East Leyden)
John Bonello	158	Fr.	Bloomington (Lake Park)
Tom Borich **	190	Jr.	Parkersburg, WV
Duane Clark	Hwt.	Jr.	Shellrock, IA (Waldorf JC)
Jeff Cummings	177	Jr.	Glenview (Maine North)
Paul Cysewski	126	Fr.	Glenview (Glenbrook South)
Jeff Dillman	177	Sr.	Joliet (West)
Rory Drake	190	Fr.	Chicago Heights (Bloom Trail)
Jim Fink	Hwt.	Fr.	Gibson City
Mark Farrahar	167	Fr.	Palatine (Fremd)
Pat Flynn	118	Fr.	Crystal Lake (Round Lake)
Tom Gerdes	142	Sr.	Oak Forest
Tom Goodwin	150	Fr.	Springfield
Mark Gronowski ***	167	Sr.	Titusville, FL
Bruce Hanson	190	Fr.	Carpentersville (Crown)
Dan Hickey	167	Fr.	Chicago (Kennedy)
Tom Huffman	134	Fr.	Mattoon
Paul Johnson *	134	Jr.	Rock Island (Alleman)
Jeff Jenkins	150	Sr.	Lake Villa (Grant)
Jesse Lopez	158	Fr.	Palos Hills (Stagg)
Dennis McCormick **	177	Sr.	Springfield
Chris McFarland	150	Fr.	E. Chicago Hts. (Bloom Trail)
Kelly McGillvary	142	Fr.	Englewood, OH
Dan Noll	177	Fr.	Galesburg
Derek Porter ***	126	Sr.	Mims, FL (Titusville)
Ozzie Porter	150	Fr.	Chicago (Dunbar)
Keith Presley	134	Fr.	Chicago (Julian)
Don Rowden	150	So.	Round Lake (Grant)
Bernie Ruettiger *	142	Jr.	Joliet (Providence)
Mark Ruettiger *	134	So.	Joliet (Providence)
Bob Ryan *	150	So.	Wooddale (Fenton)
Dan Sanko *	158	Jr.	Ingleside (Grant)
Mitch Sheppard	118	Fr.	Palatine
Robert Turner	Hwt.	Fr.	Ft. Sheridan (Highland Park)
Tom Vickers *	126	So.	Lake Villa (Grant)
Robert Warren	118	Fr.	Roxana
Rodney Woods	142	Fr.	Titusville, FL
Ron Wozniak	190	Jr.	Rantoul
Paul Wright	142	Jr.	East St. Louis (Lincoln)

* Lettermen