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02/13/1986 - Volleyball Signs Donna Sicher

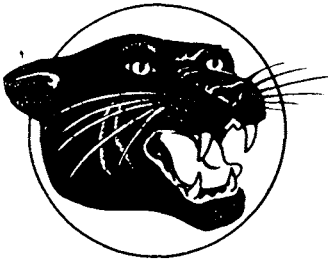
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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, ILL (February 13, 1986)--Oak Forest, Ill. native DONNA SICHER has signed a national letter of intent to play volleyball at Eastern Illinois University next fall.

The Oak Forest High School senior was a starter for the Bengals who finished third in the 1985 IHSA State Volleyball Tournament . The 5-foot-6 setter was a two-time All-SICA-CENTRAL Conference selection for the 38-5 Bengals. She also received all-area honors from the Southtown Economist and Star-Tribune as a senior.

Sicher was an integral part of the Oak Forest squad that finished eighth in the Midwest in the final rankings by Midwest Volleyball Magazine. Oak Forest traditionally has one of the premier volleyball programs in the state. She is a veteran of the USVBA Open Ball season while competing for Windy City and presently, Chicago Power.

"I'm thrilled Donna decided to pick Eastern Illinois," explains Eastern Illinois volleyball coach Betty Ralston. "She is a hard-working player who gets the most out of her ability. Our number one priority this season was to get a setter...and Donna was number one on our list all year. She has the intangible traits an excellent setter needs...leadership, intelligence, and great court sense.

"Besides being an outstanding volleyball player, Donna is a tremendous individual. She is smart and wants to succeed at whatever she does. Donna comes from a close-knit family and I think she liked it that we are only three hours from home. I firmly believe she was one of the top setters in the state. I think our program is starting to be able to compete for some of the better players around."

The versatile performer is also an excellent student. She ranks 12th in her class with a grade point average of 5.2 out of 5.0. Sicher also toils as a pitcher for Oak Forest's softball team and is a member of the Bengal Hall of Fame for her volleyball and softball achievements. She plans to enroll in Eastern's highly-acclaimed College of Business.