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05/01/1986 - Dave Stein

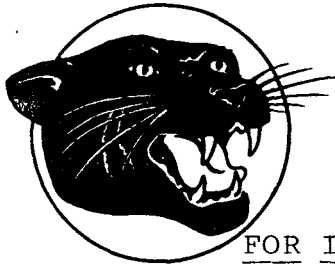
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Panther Sports News

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CHARLESTON, ILL (May 1, 1986)--Crete-Monee, IL native **DAVE STEIN** has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball next season for Eastern Illinois University.

The 6-6, 195-pound power forward played the past two seasons at Parkland College (Champaign, IL) and led the Cobras to the National Junior College II national title in 1985-86. He was named Most Valuable Player at the national championship--culminating a banner final campaign.

Stein averaged 21 points and 7.5 rebounds a game for the 31-7 Cobras. The sharp-shooter also knocked down .570 (298-521) from the field and an even more impressive .860 (201-234) from the charity stripe. He scored a career-high 44 points against Lincoln Land in the regional tournament this past season while also hauling down a career-best 17 boards during the tourney.

"Dave is really a pressure player," states Parkland head coach Tom Cooper. "He really excels in the big games and wants the last shot. One of the amazing things about Dave is that he has continually improved while here at Parkland...he was doing things toward the end of the year we have never seen him do before. This year everytime he got the ball in the lane...he either scored ...got fouled...or both."

The intense performer was also named first-team all-region and honorable mention All-American as a sophomore. Stein averaged 11.5 ppg and 5.9 boards as a freshman while shooting almost .580 from the field.

"The first time we saw Dave play we knew he could fit into our system and excel at Eastern Illinois," explains Eastern Illinois head coach Rick Samuels. "I'm really excited about his decision...I feel he will make an immediate impact on our program. Dave is accustomed to winning and is really competitive. He has an outstanding shooting touch around the basket."

The Crete-Monee High School graduate aspires for a career in coaching upon completion of his physical education degree.

"I'm really pleased with Dave's decision," notes Cooper. "Number one...I have the utmost respect for Coach Rick Samuels and Steve Yount (EIU assistant) as a staff. They do a fine job at Eastern...Dave couldn't have found a a more ideal match of staffs and schools...it was an excellent choice. Number two...he wants to coach after getting a degree in physical education and Eastern Illinois has one of the best programs around."