

1-5-1987

01/05/1987 - Bob Spoo Chosen As Football Coach At EIU

University Marketing and Communications

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1987

Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "01/05/1987 - Bob Spoo Chosen As Football Coach At EIU " (1987). 1987. 511.
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1987/511

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Press Releases at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in 1987 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.



Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY - Charleston, IL 61920
217/581-5981

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Jan. 5)

LS-AS-FB OPP-
FB STATE

CHARLESTON, IL.--BOB SPOO, 49, quarterback coach at Purdue University for the past nine years, has been chosen head football coach at Eastern Illinois University.

The announcement was made by EIU Athletic Director R.C. Johnson Monday (Jan. 5) with SPOO'S appointment effective immediately. He replaces Al Molde who was recently named head coach at Western Michigan University.

SPOO has been the offensive coordinator the past two years at Purdue with specific coaching responsibility for quarterbacks, running backs and wide receivers during all nine years on the staff. He also handled much of the recruiting in Chicago, St. Louis and the rest of Illinois.

He tutored Purdue quarterbacks Mark Herrmann, Scott Campbell and Jim Everett, who rank among the top 10 all-time passers in the Big Ten and now are all on pro football rosters.

"There are two things that really impressed me most about the position at Eastern," said SPOO. "First, the incredible support for the program . . . that's evident from President (Stan) Rives, (Athletic Director) R.C. Johnson and everyone I came in contact with in the community.

"Secondly, I was most impressed with my predecessor. Al Molde did things right and I feel very comfortable that he left the program on solid footing. The players know what it takes to win and I'm very pleased there is no upheaval . . . I don't come in expecting problems.

"These items are even more important than facilities, salary, etc. The opportunity exists to proceed to play the same type of football that people have come to expect."

During his nine years at Purdue, the Boilermakers played in the Peach Bowl twice, Liberty Bowl and Bluebonnet Bowl.

more

page 2

SPOO lettered at QB three years (1956-58) for the Boilermakers. After replacing NFL great Len Dawson as the starter he guided Purdue to a 11-5 record in '57-58. He co-captained the 1958 Blue team in the Blue-Gray All-Star game.

He also ranks as one of Illinois's most successful prep coaches as he was head coach at Loyola Academy in Wilmette from 1967-72 directing it to a 51-9-2 record and the 1969 Chicago City Championship. He was the 1970 National High School Athletic Coaches Association Football 'Coach of the Year', 1969 Illinois 'Coach of the Year' and 1972 Chicago 'Coach of the Year'.

Prior to Purdue, he was an assistant at Wisconsin under John Jardine from 1973-77. He was a prep all-stater at Chicago St. Rita HS graduating in 1955.

-30-

STATEMENT BY EASTERN ILLINOIS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR R.C. JOHNSON:

"Bob Spoo comes very highly recommended . . . as a person and a coach. We checked with a number of sources and the consensus of opinion focused on his knowledge of the game, positive relationship with the student-athlete, his dedication to fair play and honesty, and an ability to organize and lead.

"While at Purdue he has been directly associated with one of the most respected passing games in the nation and a program that has been quite successful with four bowl appearances during his nine years with the University. Also, through his prior affiliation and success coaching prep teams in Illinois, he is very familiar with midwest recruiting. . . particularly in this state where Eastern obviously focuses most of its attention."

"Consequently we're very pleased to introduce him today to the University, the Charleston-Mattoon communities and area fans and alumni as our new head football coach."

BOB SPOO
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

EDUCATION

Purdue University, 1955-60, B.S. in Physical Education
Purdue University, 1982-Present, Completing M.S. in Educational Administration
Graduate of Chicago St. Rita High School

PLAYING

Purdue University, 3-Year letterman at QB (1956-58), Started 1957-58,
Co-Captain Blue Squad, 1958 Blue-Gray All-Star Game
Quarterback, Chicago Hornets Semi-Pro Team, 1961 (MVP, Tri-State League)

COACHING

1985-86 . . . Purdue University, Offensive Coordinator & QB Coach
1978-84 . . . Purdue University, QB, WR and RB Coach
1973-77 . . . University of Wisconsin, QB Coach
1967-72 . . . Head Coach, Loyola Academy, Wilmette, IL ('69 City Champions)
1963-66 . . . Assistant Coach, Loyola Academy, Wilmette, IL
1961-62 . . . Assistant Coach, Fenwick HS, Oak Park, IL
1960 . . . Physical Instructor, Chicago Park District

AWARDS

1985 . . . Assistant Coach, Blue-Gray All-Star Game
1980 . . . Elected to Chicago Catholic League 'Hall of Fame'
1977 . . . Elected to St. Rita HS 'Hall of Fame'
1972 . . . Chicago 'Coach of the Year'
Chicago Catholic League 'Coach of the Year'
1970 . . . National HS Coaches Association Football 'Coach of the Year'
Chicago Catholic League 'Coach of the Year'
1969 . . . Illinois 'Coach of the Year'
Chicago Catholic League 'Coach of the Year'
Chicago Prep Sports Writers Association 'Coach of the Year'
Northwestern University 'N' Men's Club Athletic Achievement Award