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11/25/1980 - North Colorado

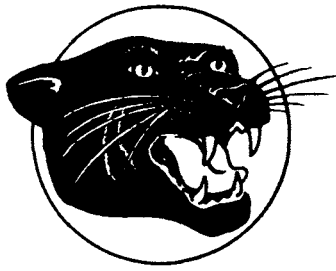
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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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Nov. 25, 1980
LS-AS-FB-FB OPP

EASTERN ILLINOIS vs. NORTHERN COLORADO

THE GAME: Eastern Illinois University (9-2) hosts Northern Colorado (7-3), 12:30 p.m. CST, Saturday, Nov. 29 at EIU's O'Brien Stadium, Charleston, IL.

THE OCCASION: This is a first round game in the NCAA II Playoffs. The Panthers were national champions in 1978 while it's the first appearance for Northern Colorado. The semifinals will be played on Saturday, Dec. 6 with the Zia Bowl championship game on Saturday, Dec. 13 at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

PLAYOFF SYSTEM: Eight teams are chosen to represent four regions (East, South, Midwest, West). Besides EIU-UNC, the other pairings are No. 3 North Alabama (9-1) hosting No. 5 Virginia Union (9-1-1), No. 4 Cal Poly/SLO (8-2) hosting No. 6 Jacksonville (AL) State (8-2) and No. 7 Santa Clara (8-2) hosting No. 2 Northern Michigan (9-1).

The winner of the EIU-UNC game will meet the winner of the North Alabama-Virginia Union contest at the site of one of the participants. If Eastern wins it is the likely host based on its No. 1 ranking.

THE SERIES: This is the first meeting between these two schools.

THE COACHES: Eastern's Darrell Mudra, in his 19th season, is 138-58-2 with the second most victories among active Division II coaches. He is just one behind Jim Malosky of Minn-Duluth. Mudra's three year record at Eastern is 28-8.

Northern Colorado's Bob Blasi is 90-49-2 in 14 seasons. He previously was line coach of the Bears for 11 years.

EIU FACTS: Eastern set or tied 14 individual and team records as it finished the regular season 9-2 (eight straight) and ranked No. 1 in NCAA II . . . the Panthers also won their first outright Mid-Continent Conference title with a perfect 4-0 mark . . . Scott McGhee was the main offensive cog catching 44 passes for 763 yards . . . he set records for most career TD pass receptions (27), most season TD pass receptions (16), and tied season records for most points (96) and most TDs (16) . . . the defense set a team record with 31 pass interceptions and also recovered 21 fumbles to average nearly five turnovers per game . . . although final NCAA II stats haven't been released, EIU is likely to rate as the No. 5 passing team with 247 yards per game, No. 3 in scoring with a 31.9 average . . . Don Manzke (Normal-University High) will rank in the top five in punting with a 40.6 average, McGhee (Palos Heights-Sandburg) is fifth in scoring with an 8.7 average . . . McGhee also concluded his career with 109 pass receptions (tied for second on all-time list), and 1920 yards (second best on all-time list) . . . he led the MCC in scoring and punt returns (5.7 yards p/return) . . . other MCC individual leaders were Manzke in punting and Kevin Gray (Chicago-Hyde Park/Kennedy-King) with seven pass interceptions for 150 yards and one TD.

EIU FOOTBALL
ADD 1

WRIGHT AND CHRISTENSEN: An incredible comparison (see stats) between these two EIU quarterbacks, Chuck Wright and Jeff Christensen. In almost every category they are just a few attempts, yards, percentage points, etc. apart. Wright will definitely start but Christensen will see plenty of playing time.

UNC FACTS: Northern Colorado's season sounds familiar to EIU's 1978 drive to the title . . . the Bears were 2-8 last year, picked to finish 5th in the North Central Conference . . . instead they won the NCC in their maiden season in the league and ended up ranked No. 8 in NCAA II with a 7-3 record . . . the Panthers and Bears have two common opponents . . . EIU downed Augustana 52-13 while the Bears whipped them 38-23 . . . EIU beat South Dakota, 34-21, while UNC defeated them 40-0 . . . this is UNC's first winning season since 1976 . . . before that they had 10 straight winning seasons . . . the Bears are primarily a running team with 204 yards per game compared to 108 passing . . . they are averaging 24 points while allowing just 14 . . . their biggest win was 13-7 over nationally ranked Neb-Omaha which propelled them into first place in the NCC . . . the quarterback, Al Winslow, was a defensive back two years ago . . . the leading rusher is a freshman, Chris Coppa, who has run for 690 yards . . . his backup, Jim Bright, has 681 so the tailback position is producing over 1300 yards per game . . . Larry Sage is the leading pass receiver with 30 catches for 428 yards.

DARRELL MUDRA SAYS: "If this is a repeat of the '78 season, then Northern Colorado is the team to beat . . . they're the darkhorse, similar to what we were two years ago . . . I think they are a much better team than a No. 8 ranking . . . we're disappointed to host them because we feel they are one of the stronger teams in the country . . . they beat a very sound Nebraska-Omaha team to earn this bid . . . so we're going to have a fight on our hands but maybe it's better this way . . . to prepare for a tough team right off the bat . . . they're very tough defensively . . . they barely lost to Cal/Poly (17-16), another tournament team . . . but we'll be ready . . . we're as healthy as we have been for some time . . . we used these two weeks to heal some people . . . and since we just decided who's going to play, in some instances, this was an opportunity to refine some of our segment play . . . we traded film with each other so we have a pretty good idea of what to expect . . . they get a lot of mileage out of their tailback play . . . I think over 1300 yards from a couple people."

SEASON RECORDS:

	<u>Eastern Illinois (9-2)</u>	<u>Northern Colorado (7-3)</u>
34 21	SOUTH DAKOTA	15 3 at Morningside College *
35 37	at Southern Illinois	16 17 CAL POLY/SLO
0 14	at Indiana State	27 22 NORTH DAKOTA *
41 7	NORTHEAST MISSOURI	7 17 at North Dakota State *
31 14	ILLINOIS STATE	33 22 at Eastern New Mexico
40 15	at Central State (OH)	40 7 SOUTH DAKOTA STATE *
37 7	at Western Illinois *	38 23 AUGUSTANA COLLEGE *
32 7	YOUNGSTOWN STATE *	40 0 at South Dakota *
35 28	at Northern Michigan *	13 30 at Northern Arizona
14 9	NORTHERN IOWA *	13 7 NEBRASKA-OMAHA *
52 13	AUGUSTANA	

* 1st-Mid-Continent Conference

* 1st-North Central Conference

PROBABLE STARTING LINEUPS

<u>Eastern Illinois</u>		<u>Offense</u>		<u>Northern Colorado</u>	
90	Otis Grant (6-2, 175, Sr.)	SE	SE	21	Rick Yager (5-10, 175, Sr.)
64	Carl Dobrich (6-6, 260, Sr.)	LT	LT	75	Mark Mostek (6-5, 245, So.)
79	Steve Parker (6-4, 255, Sr.)	LG	LG	71	Glenn Vinhal (6-1, 240, So.)
76	George Tuzil (6-4, 230, So.)	C	C	66	Ron Peterson (6-0, 225, Jr.)
62	Blair Brown (6-1, 245, Sr.)	RG	RG	64	Mark Dayhoff (6-3, 245, So.)
70	Clinton Davenport (6-4, 245, Sr.)	RT	RT	77	James Gibson (6-2, 247, Sr.)
81	Rob Mehalic (6-2, 215, Jr.)	TE	TE	81	Josh Briddle (6-3, 190, So.)
14	Chuck Wright (6-1, 205, Sr.)	QB	QB	11	Al Winslow (6-1, 200, Sr.)
8	Kevin Staple (5-8, 170, Fr.)	HB	FB	45	Mike Raines (5-11, 220, So.)
45	Rod Slaughter (6-1, 210, Sr.)	FB	TB	22	Chris Coppa (6-0, 185, Fr.)
25	Scott McGhee (5-10, 170, Sr.)	FL	FL	25	Larry Sage (6-3, 195, Jr.)
		<u>Defense</u>			
86	Keith Wojnowski (6-3, 230, So.)	LE	LE	52	Deacon Nauslar (6-4, 220, Jr.)
73	Randy Melvin (5-11, 250, Sr.)	LT	LT	76	Steve Sierros (6-4, 260, So.)
66	Charlie Krutsinger (6-4, 260, Sr.)	RT	MG	90	Todd Volkart (6-1, 235, Sr.)
83	Pete Catan (6-3, 250, Sr.)	RE	RT	78	Duane Hirsch (6-2, 250, Jr.)
46	Ira Jefferson (5-9, 225, Jr.)	OLB	RE	54	Bruce McClaran (6-1, 220, So.)
51	Alonzo Lee (5-11, 225, Sr.)	MLB	LLB	53	Mike Horton (6-0, 218, Sr.)
57	Tom Murray (6-2, 220, Jr.)	OLB	RLB	88	Bob Knapton (6-1, 210, Jr.)
44	Rich Brown (5-11, 175, Sr.)	LCB	LCB	24	Tony Davis (5-11, 185, Sr.)
20	Wilbert James (6-1, 175, Jr.)	RCB	RCB	37	Tom Covington (6-0, 183, Sr.)
12	Don Pittman (5-11, 190, Sr.)	SS	LS	43	Ray Sperger (6-0, 175, Jr.)
10	Kevin Gray (6-1, 180, Jr.)	FS	RS	41	Shawn Pinon (6-1, 200, Sr.)
		<u>Specialists</u>			
26	Don Manzke (6-2, 200, So.)	P		24	Tony Davis (5-11, 185, Sr.)
24	Ray DeLong (6-0, 205, So.)	PK		1	Kevin Jelden (6-0, 160, Fr.)
8	Kevin Staple (5-8, 170, Fr.)	KR		5	Donnie James (5-11, 180, So.)
10	Kevin Gray (6-1, 180, Jr.)			22	Chris Coppa (6-0, 185, Fr.)
25	Scott McGhee (5-10, 170, Sr.)				

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY ELEVEN-GAME FOOTBALL STATISTICS (9-2)

<u>Rushing</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>ATT</u>	<u>GAIN</u>	<u>LOST</u>	<u>NET</u>	<u>P/GAME</u>	<u>P/CARRY</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Rod Slaughter	11	99	367	30	337	30.6	3.4	3	21(SD)
Laurent Baker	9	66	173	14	159	17.7	2.4	7	16(SIU)
Tyrone Davis	9	55	217	9	208	23.1	3.8	2	26(CSU)
Chuck Wright	11	21	41	78	-37	-	-	1	14(SD)
Kevin Staple	11	138	630	54	576	52.4	4.2	1	30(NMU)
Keith McFadden	5	30	130	16	114	22.8	3.8	1	24(CSU)
Jeff Christensen	11	40	82	108	-26	-	-	-	12(YSU)
Darryon White	3	13	55	14	41	13.7	3.1	1	32(AC)
Ricky Davis	5	7	51	0	51	10.2	7.3	-	17(AC)
Scott McGhee	11	2	0	6	-6	-	-	-	-
Doug Harris	1	1	2	0	2	2.0	2.0	-	2(SD)
EIU TOTALS	11	472	1748	329	1419	129.0	3.0	16	32(AC)
OPPONENTS	11	492	1797	572	1225	111.4	2.5	12	60(ISU)

<u>Passing</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>CPL</u>	<u>ATT</u>	<u>INT</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>PCT</u>	<u>P/GAME</u>	<u>P/CPL</u>	<u>P/ATT</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Chuck Wright	11	91	196	14	1337	.464	121.5	14.7	6.8	14	58(UNI)
Jeff Christensen	11	94	194	10	1340	.484	121.8	14.2	6.9	13	61(YSU, NMU)
Rod Slaughter	11	-	1	-	-	.000	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-
Dirk Androff	2	1	5	1	42	.200	21.0	42.0	8.4	1	42(AC)
EIU TOTALS	11	186	396	25	2719	.470	247.2	14.6	6.9	28	61(YSU, NMU)
OPPONENTS	11	140	338	31	1480	.414	134.5	10.6	4.4	10	54(AC)

<u>Pass Receiving</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>P/CATCH</u>	<u>P/GAME</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>	<u>TEAM TOTALS</u>	<u>EIU</u>	<u>OPP</u>
Scott McGhee	44	763	17.3	69.4	16	53(NMU)	FIRST DOWNS	202	157
Otis Grant	32	651	20.3	59.2	4	61(YSU)	by Rushing	75	69
Laurent Baker	11	92	8.4	10.2	-	19(SD)	by Passing	116	68
Rob Mehalic	36	579	16.1	52.6	5	61(NMU)	by Penalty	11	20
Scott Weber	10	137	13.7	13.7	1	22(ISU)	TOTAL OFFENSE	4138	2705
Rod Slaughter	27	264	9.8	24.0	1	33(ISU)	Per Game	376.2	245.9
Ricky Davis	3	33	11.0	6.6	-	20(ISU)	Total Plays	868	830
Kevin Staple	5	34	6.8	3.1	-	15(NMU)	Yds. p/play	4.8	3.2
Mike Magee	4	42	10.5	8.4	-	15(CSU)	Penalties	87	56
Darryon White	1	0	0.0	0.0	-	-	Penalty Yds.	885	477
Keith McFadden	1	6	6.0	1.2	-	6(YSU)	Fumbles/Lost	41/18	40/21
Mike Murray	2	21	10.5	7.0	-	11(AC)			
Tyrone Davis	9	102	11.3	11.3	1	42(AC)			
Doug Harris	1	-5	-	-	-	-			
EIU TOTALS	186	2719	14.6	247.2	28	61(YSU, NMU)			
OPPONENTS	140	1480	10.6	134.5	10	54(AC)			

<u>Punting</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>LONG</u>	<u>SCORE BY QUARTERS</u>				
Don Manzke	65	2641	40.6	78(UNI)					
Jeff Christensen	7	276	39.4	52(UNI)	EIU	68	116	67	100-351 (31.9)
EIU TOTALS	72	2917	40.5	78(UNI)	OPP	77	23	22	50-172 (15.6)
OPPONENTS	95	3402	35.8	78(SD)					

<u>Returns</u>	<u>KO</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>	<u>PT</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Kevin Staple	20	446	22.3	1	80(SIU)	-	-	-	-	-
Rod Slaughter	1	25	25.0	-	25(WIU)	-	-	-	-	-
Tyrone Davis	1	15	15.0	-	15(AC)	-	-	-	-	-
Doug Harris	1	4	4.0	-	4(SD)	-	-	-	-	-
Rick Shipbaugh	1	0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Darryon White	1	28	28.0	-	28(AC)	-	-	-	-	-
Charles Person	-	-	-	-	-	7	49	7.0	-	20(AC)
Ricky Davis	1	8	8.0	-	8(ISU)	-	-	-	-	-
Laurent Baker	1	9	9.0	-	9(NMU)	-	-	-	-	-
Chris Merenowicz	1	0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kevin Gray	-	-	-	-	-	17	39	2.3	-	15(WIU)
Mike Schell	2	0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scott McGhee	-	-	-	-	-	16	91	5.7	-	22(SIU)
EIU TOTALS	30	535	17.8	1	80(SIU)	40	179	4.5	-	22(SIU)
OPPONENTS	45	718	15.9	-	39(ISU)	28	166	5.9	-	31(SD)