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## 11/07/1980 - Eastern Illinois Versus Northern Iowa

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EASTERN ILLINOIS vs. NORTHERN IOWA

11/4/80  
LS/AS/~~DB~~FB +  
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THE GAME: Eastern Illinois University (7-2) vs. University of Northern Iowa (6-2),  
1:30 CST, O'Brien Stadium, Charleston, IL.

THE OCCASION: Parents Weekend . . . expect crowd in excess of 10,000

THE SERIES: Northern Iowa leads this brief series, 3-1.

1975 UNI, 14-8	1978 EIU, 38-22
1976 UNI, 31-21	1979 UNI, 10-7

MCC GAME: This game will determine the Mid-Continent Conference championship. EIU is atop the standings with a 3-0 record. Northern Iowa is 2-1 and Northern Michigan has closed at 3-1. A Panther victory would give EIU undisputed claim to the title. A UNI victory would throw it into a three way tie.

MCC STANDINGS

	<u>League</u>	<u>Overall</u>
Eastern Illinois	3-0	7-2
Northern Michigan	3-1	8-1
Northern Iowa	2-1	6-2
Western Illinois	0-3	3-5
Youngstown State	0-3	0-7-1

LAST WEEK: Eastern defeated Northern Michigan, 35-28, and will undoubtedly earn the No. 1 ranking in NCAA II. Trailing 21-0 after the first quarter, EIU went to reserve QB Jeff Christensen and he responded with a school record 370 yards passing for three TDs to launch the comeback. EIU intercepted four passes to tie the single season record of 25. Rich Brown (Akron, OH-Buchtel) had two interceptions to set a new career mark at 15.

Northern Iowa blasted winless Youngstown State, 38-17, to keep the pressure on the Panthers. QB Steve Sandon was 20-34 for 294 yards and three TDs. One TD pass was a 74 yarder to Kirk Hobbs. It was the fourth straight win for UNI.

LAST YEAR: Northern Iowa upset Eastern, 10-7, at the UNI-Dome. UNI cornerback Mike Smiley was the main culprit. He intercepted three Steve Turk passes. He returned one for a 70 yard TD on the last play of the first half, and then intercepted Turk in the endzone with just seconds to play. EIU had more total yards, 259-125, but the only consolation was Poke Cobb's 113 yards rushing.

UNI QUICK FACTS: The UNI Panthers enter this game with a four game winning streak. They are led by QB Steve Sandon who is No. 2 in Division II in passing efficiency, based primarily on a 63% completion average. He has thrown 142-226 for 1861 yards, 16 TDs and 16 interceptions. He has five receivers who have caught more than 200 yards. In order they are Ken Harvey (30-566), Kirk Hobbs (19-306), Ken McNeail (20-255), Jeff Girdner (22-234), Kevin Thorp (17-232). The big loss was running back Kelly Ellis, who is being redshirted this year after a disabling leg injury. Ellis set a record last year with 382 yards rushing against WIU, the most in a single game for any NCAA division. His replacement is freshman Chris Miliner who has run for 520 yards. As a team Northern Iowa ranks fourth in total offense (400.8).

EIU QUICK FACTS: EIU has won six straight and will undoubtedly assume the No. 1 ranking in NCAA II. A victory over Northern Iowa would almost assuredly wrap up a berth in the NCAA II playoffs for the second time in three years. Setting six school records last week, the Panthers are on the verge of breaking more this week. QBs Jeff Christensen and Chuck Wright are just five short of a new mark for team pass attempts in a season; Scott McGhee needs just one TD pass reception for a single season record; the defense needs just one interception for a season record; and just 18 pass completions for team season record.

COMPARING STATS:

	<u>EIU</u>	<u>UNI</u>
Rushing For	128	151.8
Rushing Allowed	119.1	109.4
Passing For	241.1	249
Passing Allowed	126.4	149
Total Offense	369.1	400.8
Scoring For	31.6	27.5
Scoring Against	16.7	13.8

NCAA II STATS: Eastern is ranked No. 3 in scoring offense with a 31.6 average. Scott McGhee is 7th in scoring with a 9.3 average. UNI's Steve Sandon is second in passing efficiency at 141.9. Sandon is sixth in total offense at 223.7. UNI is fourth in total offense at 400.8.

DICKERSON SAYS: EIU defensive coordinator Chuck Dickerson says, "Northern Iowa is the type of team that employs a lot of formations and motion . . . they've stressed this as a confusion factor for the defense when really they have limited their offense to a few plays . . . the critical thing for us is to find the key that unlocks their theory . . . Sandon is a high percentage thrower . . . he will sprint out to get away from the rush, but not to run . . . they've only used six dropbacks in the last three games . . . they'll send three receivers to one side and run a combination of routes with these . . . so this motion will take us out of our blitz game cause it's tough to get Sandon . . . plus Northern has a running game . . . they like to hand the ball deep to their backs so he can pick his lanes . . . it gives them a power attack and forces us to deal with a two-dimensional offense."

COACH DARRELL MUDRA SAYS: In anticipation of being ranked No. 1 in NCAA II after defeating Northern Michigan, head coach Darrell Mudra said, "I always think it's a plus to be No. 1 . . . you're anxious to reach the top because it represents an unbiased attempt to evaluate a team. I still think the best is ahead of us . . . particularly with the offensive line. We're still experimenting there a bit. I anticipate we'll move Blair Brown to guard (he played at tackle at NMU) and we'll switch Steve Watson to tackle. (Carl) Dobrich will start but Watson will see a lot of duty."

"I think Northern Iowa is much improved over last year. They picked up some players from U.S. International when they dropped football, and that has added a couple solid starters to their team. Plus Sandon has really progressed at quarterback . . . it'll be an extremely competitive game."

PROBABLE STARTING LINEUPS

OFFENSE

Eastern Illinois

90	Otis Grant (6-2, 175, Sr.)	SE
64	Carl Dobrich (6-6, 260, Sr.)	LT
79	Steve Parker (6-4, 255, Sr.)	LG
76	George Tuzil (6-4, 230, So.)	C
62	Blair Brown (6-1, 245, Sr.)	RG
70	Clinton Davenport (6-4, 245, Sr.)	RT
81	Rob Mehalic (6-2, 215, Jr.)	TE
14	Chuck Wright (6-1, 205, Sr.)	QB
8	Kevin Staple (5-8, 170, Sr.)	HB TB
45	Rod Slaughter (6-1, 210, Sr.)	FB
25	Scott McGhee (5-10, 170, Sr.)	FL

Northern Iowa

9	Ken Harvey (6-3, 175, Jr.)
79	Rick Reimer (6-4, 240, Sr.)
55	Mike Gau (6-1, 228, Sr.)
74	Kevin Webster (6-2, 238, So.)
60	Skip Eckhardt (6-1, 251, Sr.)
64	Roger Schultz (6-5, 241, Jr.)
81	Al Sanders (6-2, 210, Jr.)
12	Steve Sandon (6-3, 200, Jr.)
26	Chris Miliner (5-10, 190, Fr.)
44	Jeff Girdner (6-0, 200, Jr.)
17	Ken McNeail (5-9, 172, Sr.)

DEFENSE

86	Keith Wojnowski (6-3, 230, So.)	LE
73	Randy Melvin (5-11, 250, Sr.)	LT
66	Charlie Krutsinger (6-4, 260, Sr.)	RT
83	Pete Catan (6-3, 250, Sr.)	RE
46	Ira Jefferson (5-9, 225, Jr.)	OLB
51	Alonzo Lee (5-11, 225, Sr.)	MLB NG
57	Tom Murray (6-2, 220, Jr.)	OLB
44	Rich Brown (5-11, 175, Sr.)	RCB
20	Wilbert James (6-1, 175, Jr.)	LCB
12	Don Pittman (5-11, 190, Sr.)	SS
10	Kevin Gray (6-1, 180, Jr.)	FS

99	Jerry Griffith (6-4, 219, Jr.)
70	Dave Ramthun (6-3, 267, Sr.)
75	Owen Dockter (6-4, 245, Sr.)
96	Ed Stratton (6-2, 212, Sr.)
46	Larry Formanek (6-0, 215, Sr.)
93	Mark Salz (6-1, 201, So.)
38	Joe Anderson (5-11, 212, So.)
35	Jon Neuwohner (5-11, 173, Sr.)
4	Mike Smiley (6-1, 170, Sr.)
39	Danny Todd (6-0, 193, Sr.)
40	John Root (6-1, 175, So.)

SPECIALISTS

26	Don Manzke	P
24	Ray DeLong	PK
8	Kevin Staple	KR
10	Kevin Gray	PR
25	Scott McGhee	

14	Brad Zumbach
2	Steve Schonert
88	Craig Nordlie
17	Ken McNeail
17	Ken McNeail

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY NINE-GAME FOOTBALL STATISTICS (7-2)

<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	9	95	354	30	324	36.0	3.4	3	21(SD)
Laurent Baker	8	56	149	14	135	16.9	2.4	7	16(SIU)
Tyrone Davis	7	43	165	9	156	22.3	3.6	1	26(CSU)
Chuck Wright	9	15	36	77	-41	-	-	1	14(SD)
Kevin Staple	9	109	531	46	485	53.9	4.4	1	30(NMU)
Keith McFadden	5	30	130	16	114	22.8	3.8	1	24(CSU)
Jeff Christensen	9	36	71	95	-24	-	-	-	12(YSU)
Darryon White	2	10	21	14	7	3.5	0.7	-	9(WIU)
Scott McGhee	9	2	0	6	-6	-	-	-	-
Doug Harris	1	1	2	0	2	2.0	2.0	-	2(SD)
EIU TOTALS	9	397	1459	307	1152	128.0	3.0	14	30(NMU)
OPPONENTS	9	415	1496	424	1072	119.1	2.6	11	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	9	72	146	9	990	.493	110.0	13.7	6.8	11	42(YSU)
Jeff Christensen	9	77	161	10	1180	.478	131.1	15.3	7.3	11	61(YSU, NMU)
Rod Slaughter	8	-	1	-	-	.000	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
Dirk Androff	1	-	3	1	-	.000	0.0	0.0	-	-	-
EIU TOTALS	9	149	311	20	2170	.479	241.1	14.6	7.0	22	61(YSU, NMU)
OPPONENTS	9	114	262	25	1138	.435	126.4	10.0	4.3	8	39(SD)

<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>		
Scott McGhee	37	666	18.0	74.0	14	53(NMU)	<u>FIRST DOWNS</u>	<u>EIU</u>	<u>OPP</u>
Otis Grant	26	514	19.8	57.1	3	61(YSU)	by Rushing	63	61
Laurent Baker	8	77	9.6	11.0	-	19(SD)	by Passing	95	52
Rob Mehalic	29	462	15.9	51.3	3	61(NMU)	by Penalty	9	15
Scott Weber	6	82	13.7	10.2	1	22(ISU)	<u>TOTAL OFFENSE</u>	<u>3322</u>	<u>2210</u>
Rod Slaughter	23	216	9.3	24.0	1	33(ISU)	<u>Per Game</u>	<u>369.1</u>	<u>245.5</u>
Ricky Davis	3	33	11.0	11.0	-	20(ISU)	<u>Total Plays</u>	<u>708</u>	<u>677</u>
Kevin Staple	5	34	6.8	3.8	-	15(NMU)	<u>Yds. p/play</u>	<u>4.7</u>	<u>3.3</u>
Mike Magee	4	42	10.5	10.5	-	15(CSU)	<u>Penalties</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>46</u>
Keith McFadden	1	6	6.0	1.2	-	6(YSU)	<u>Penalty Yds.</u>	<u>706</u>	<u>399</u>
Mike Murray	1	10	10.0	10.0	-	10(WIU)	<u>Fumbles/Lost</u>	<u>34/15</u>	<u>34/17</u>
Tyrone Davis	5	33	6.6	4.7	-	11(SD, YSU)			
Doug Harris	1	-5	-	-	-	-			
EIU TOTALS	149	2170	14.6	241.1	22	61(YSU, NMU)			
OPPONENTS	114	1138	10.0	126.4	8	39(SD)			

<u>Punting</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>LONG</u>	<u>SCORE BY QUARTERS</u>						
Don Manzke	52	2083	40.0	58(ISU)							
Jeff Christensen	6	224	37.3	48(SIU)	EIU	54	109	54	68-285	(31.6)	
EIU TOTALS	58	2307	39.8	58(ISU)	OPP	77	17	22	34-150	(16.7)	
OPPONENTS	73	2609	35.7	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)	-	-	-	-	-
Doug Harris	1	4	4.0	-	4(SD)	-	-	-	-	-
Rick Shipbaugh	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charles Person	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1.0	-	1(WIU)
Ricky Davis	1	8	8.0	-	8(ISU)	-	-	-	-	-
Laurent Baker	1	9	9.0	-	9(NMU)	-	-	-	-	-
Kevin Gray	-	-	-	-	-	12	36	3.0	-	15(WIU)
Mike Schell	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scott McGhee	-	-	-	-	-	16	91	5.7	-	22(SIU)
EIU TOTALS	26	492	18.9	1	80(SIU)	29	128	4.4	-	22(SIU)
OPPONENTS	37	634	17.1	-	39(ISU)	24	152	6.3	-	31(SD)