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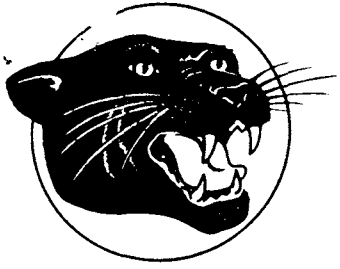
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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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Sept. 20, 1983
LS-AS-FB STATE
-FB OPP 245

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's football Panthers will go on the road for the third time in four games playing at Northeast Missouri State Saturday, (Sept. 24).

Game time is 1:30 p.m. CDT at Stokes Stadium in Kirksville.

EIU is 2-1 after beating Grand Valley State 35-21 in the opener. Northeast Missouri won its first game last Saturday, 20-10 over Minn-Duluth, after two opening losses.

"I'm very familiar with the quality of the Northeast program after playing them the past few years while I was at Central Missouri," said EIU coach Al Molde.

"They were in the Division II playoffs last year and return quite a few skill people plus I understand it took quite a comeback for Eastern to beat them here last season. We are fully expecting a tight ball game."

The Panthers running game, sluggish until Saturday, looks considerably more impressive following Kevin Staple's (Markham-Thornwood) record setting 283 yard day.

That performance broke Nate Anderson's 10 year mark of 268 and also boosted Staple's career totals to 2642, second on the all-time EIU list.

"The blocking improved but Kevin also deserves a lot of credit because he broke some tackles with some second effort and worked for a lot of that yardage in the open field," said Molde.

Staple is now averaging 118 yards a game and his colleague, fullback Wes Nixon (Lorain, OH-Illinois Valley CC), is at 62 yards a game.

**** NOTES ****

GAME: Eastern Illinois University (2-1) at Northeast Missouri State (1-2), 1:30 p.m. CDT, Saturday, Sept. 24, Stokes Stadium, Kirksville.

RADIO: Hear all the action on 50,000 watt WLBH-FM, 97 on the dial, Mattoon with Ken Wooddell calling play-by-play and commentary by Doug Bock.

SERIES STANDING: EIU leads the series 6-5. The first game was in 1952 with NEMO winning 27-19. Since the series was renewed on a regular basis in 1976, the Panthers have won five of the last seven games.

LAST YEAR: Kevin Staple rushed for 125 yards scoring two fourth quarter touchdowns on runs of eight and ten yards as the Panthers came back from a 17-0 halftime deficit to pull out an 18-17 win. Both Staple TDs were set up by fumble recoveries, one by Ortega Jackson and the other by Keith Wojnowski.

LAST WEEK: Staple's record 283 yards and four touchdowns of 1, 4, 41 and 77 placed EIU to a 35-21 win over Grand Valley State. QB John Rafferty completed a 16 yard toss to Wes Nixon for the other score. The Panthers had 525 yards total offense of which 384 was rushing.

NEMO's Tom Hayes completed a 17 yarder to Mark Egofske with only 45 seconds left to give the Bulldogs a 20-19 come-from-behind win over Minn-Duluth. Egofske caught nine for 99 yards. Hayes tied a school record throwing 52 passes and completing 31 for 317 yards.

ABOUT EIU: Eastern is running for 205 a game and passing for 149 and if that trend continues it would be the first time since 1979 that EIU has rushed for more yards than it's passed. Although the defense gave up 103 yards rushing last week it still should rank among the top ten in NCAA stats with a 41.7 average. Eastern's pass defense will get a test this week following NEMO QB Tom Hayes's 52 attempts Saturday. Eight different EIU players have caught passes this year although Staple and Wes Nixon account for over half, catching 22 of the 41 receptions. With Henry Castellanos out another week with a knee injury, Pat Blair is scheduled to punt.

ABOUT NEMO: The passing combination of Tom Hayes to Rich Otte or Mark Egofske led the Bulldogs to a 9-2 record and Division II tournament berth last year as NEMO led NCAA II in scoring with 40 points a game. Those three are back again for new coach Jack Ball, formerly an assistant at St. Louis Parkway Central HS. Since taking charge of the QB spot two years ago Hayes has directed the team to a 15-5 record and set eight new school records including most total offense in a season (2328). Otte holds the NEMO career pass receiving record for most receptions (140) and yards (1971). However this fall Egofske is the team leader with 18 receptions for 157 yards. Otte has caught 15 for 196. Thus far Hayes has completed 69 of 120 for 725 yards, an average of 242 per game.

MORE NIXON & STAPLE: This backfield duo has racked up 692 all-purpose yards, 425 for Staple and 267 for Nixon, to account for 230 yards per game. The entire team has 1214 all-purpose yards so those two are getting 57% of the total.

AND MORE STAPLE: As a freshman Staple averaged 52.4 yards per game, had 77.8 as a sophomore and 92 last season. His career average is 77.8 with 2642 yards in 34 games. Maybe more significant is that he averages 4.7 yards per carry, and 115 yards all-purpose running per contest.

MOLDE ON EIU: "I was pleased with the offensive performance Saturday. We were able to sustain some long drives, got the sweep working pretty good and able to accomplish some things that we needed to be able to do to develop a balanced offense. I don't know that we did much different other than to gain more experience with our system and consequently the more you run it the more confidence the players get. We're still short some key people due to injuries but we came out of that last game in pretty good shape."

EIU FOOTBALL
ADD 2

MOLDE ON NEMO: "Tom Hayes is an excellent passer so I expect they'll be putting the ball up most of the time . . . especially since it's been difficult to move the ball on the ground against our defense. So we need to be ready for an aerial show. They beat us two years ago over there and quite a few players remember that plus, looking at last year's film, they executed their offense as well as anyone against us so we certainly can't take them lightly."

NEXT WEEK: The Panthers host Youngstown State on Oct. 1 in a 1:30 p.m. Homecoming contest at O'Brien Stadium. YSU is 1-1 this season losing to defending I-AA national champ Eastern Kentucky 28-23 and then winning 34-22 at Tennessee Tech.

MCC STANDINGS:	MCC Games			Overall		
	W	L	Points	W	L	Points
Southwest Missouri	2	0	56-22	2	0	56-22
Eastern Illinois	0	0	0-0	2	1	87-45
Western Illinois	0	1	9-21	1	2	46-73
Northern Iowa	0	1	13-35	1	2	47-71

OPPONENTS: Illinois State (1-2) at Drake
 Southern Illinois (3-0) at Northern Iowa (1-2)
 Grand Valley (1-1) at Central State
 Youngstown State (1-1) hosts Western Illinois (1-2)
 Akron (3-0) at Eastern Kentucky
 Indiana State (2-1) hosts Central Missouri
 Southwest Missouri (2-0) at Lincoln University
 Western Kentucky (0-2) at Austin Peay

EIU STARTERS: OFFENSE

SE 9 Jerry Wright (5-11, 170, Jr.)
 LT 70 Brad Mars (6-3, 310, Jr.)
 LG 50 Kent Lawrence (6-1, 240, Sr.)
 C 68 Teddy Coopwood (5-11, 220, Sr.)
 RG 79 Mike Kuhn (6-1, 240, Jr.)
 RT 65 Alvin McMurray (6-2, 260, Sr.)
 TE 82 Dirk Androff (6-7, 240, Sr.)
 QB 10 John Rafferty (6-2, 185, So.)
 HB 8 Kevin Staple (5-8, 180, Sr.)
 FB 3 Wes Nixon (5-7, 170, Sr.)
 FL 81 Jim Schmidt (5-10, 170, Jr.)

DEFENSE

LE 66 Greg Duncan (6-1, 205, Sr.)
 LT 71 Dean Magro (6-0, 235, Fr.)
 RT 76 Chris Nicholson (6-0, 240, Sr.)
 RE 85 Tom Moskal (6-1, 220, So.)
 SSB 55 Ortega Jackson (6-0, 200, Sr.)
 ILB 33 Tyrone Covington (5-11, 210, Jr.)
 ILB 59 Dave Fergurson (6-2, 220, Jr.)
 WLB 5 Reggie Taylor (5-11, 195, Sr.)
 LCB 12 Doyle Foster (5-9, 155, So.)
 RCB 42 Gary Bridges (5-11, 180, Sr.)
 FS 28 Robert Williams (5-11, 190, Sr.)

Punter: 2 Pat Blair (5-10, 180, Sr.)
 Kicker: 36 Hector Techera (5-11, 190, Jr.)
 Returns: 18 Charlie Person (5-8, 160, Sr.), 42 Gary Bridges (5-11, 180, Sr.)
 Holder: 81 Jim Schmidt (5-10, 170, Jr.)
 Long Snapper: 54 Chuck Bingham (5-10, 220, So.)

1983 EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL STATISTICS (2-1)

<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>
Kevin Staple	3	57	364	10	354	118.0	6.2	5	77(GUS)
Wes Nixon	3	48	195	9	186	62.0	3.9	-	14(ISU)
Tyrone Davis	3	12	77	-	77	25.6	6.4	-	18(ISU, GUS)
Roy Ellis	2	8	77	-	77	25.6	9.6	-	19(ISU, GUS)
John Rafferty	3	17	10	82	-72	-	-	-	7(GUS)
Sean Payton	1	2	11	-	11	11.0	5.5	1	10(ISU)
Team	-	1	-	16	-16	-	-	-	-
EIU TOTALS	3	145	734	117	617	205.6	4.3	6	77(GUS)
OPPONENTS	3	100	312	187	125	41.7	1.2	4	35(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>
John Rafferty	3	40	67	4	441	.597	147.0	11.0	6.6	4	44(ISU)
Gary Scott	1	1	3	0	5	.333	5.0	5.0	1.7	-	5(GUS)
Sean Payton	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EIU TOTALS	3	41	72	5	446	.569	148.7	10.9	6.2	4	44(ISU)
OPPONENTS	3	41	101	6	526	.406	175.3	12.8	5.2	1	44(SIU)

<u>PASS RECEIVING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>REC</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>
Jerry Wright	3	5	111	22.2	37.0	1	37(ISU)	First Downs	53	40
Wes Nixon	3	12	69	5.7	23.0	3	16(GUS)	by Rushing	31	10
Dirk Androff	3	4	91	22.8	30.3	-	44(ISU)	by Passing	20	23
Kevin Staple	3	10	58	5.8	19.3	-	13(ISU)	by Penalty	2	7
Pat Blair	3	3	34	11.3	11.3	-	14(ISU)	TOTAL OFFENSE	1063	651
Jim Schmidt	3	4	67	16.7	22.3	-	22(GUS)	per game	354.3	217.0
Tyrone Davis	2	2	11	5.5	5.5	-	8(SIU)	total plays	217	201
Roy Ellis	2	1	5	5.0	2.5	-	5(GUS)	yds. p/play	4.9	3.2
EIU TOTALS	3	41	446	10.9	148.7	4	44(ISU)	PENALTIES/YDS	35/296	25/177
								FUMBLES/LOST	6/3	9/6

<u>PUNTING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>YDS</u>	<u>AVE</u>	<u>RET</u>	<u>NET</u>	<u>NET AVE</u>	<u>LONG</u>
Henry Castellanos	2	13	501	38.5	86	415	31.9	59(ISU)
Pat Blair	3	7	270	38.6	37	233	33.3	51(GUS)
Hector Techera	1	2	47	23.5	-	47	23.5	30(GUS)
Team	-	1	0	-	-	-	-	-
EIU TOTALS	3	23	818	35.6	123	695	30.2	59(ISU)
OPPONENTS	3	26	1024	39.4	74	950	36.5	50(SIU)

<u>RETURNS</u>	<u>G</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>
Jerry Wright	3	4	49	12.2	-	18(GUS)	-	-	-	-	-
Charlie Person	3	-	-	-	-	-	11	51	4.6	-	11 (SIU)
Wes Nixon	3	1	12	12.0	-	12(SIU)	-	-	-	-	-
Gary Bridges	3	-	-	-	-	-	4	23	5.7	-	6 (GUS)
Pat Blair	3	1	3	3.0	-	3(GUS)	-	-	-	-	-
Kevin Staple	3	1	13	13.0	-	13(SIU)	-	-	-	-	-
EIU TOTALS	3	7	77	11.0	-	18(GUS)	15	74	4.9	-	11(SIU)
OPPONENTS	3	5	103	20.6	-	25(GUS)	17	138	8.1	-	21(ISU)

<u>SCORING</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>PAT/K</u>	<u>PAT/R-P</u>	<u>FG</u>	<u>SAF</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
Henry Castellanos	2	-	5-6	-	3-3	-	14
Wes Nixon	3	3	-	-	-	-	18
Kevin Staple	3	5	-	-	-	-	30
Sean Payton	1	1	-	-	-	-	6
Team Safety	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
* Chris Nicholson	3	1	-	-	-	-	6
Jerry Wright	3	1	-	-	-	-	6
Hector Techera	1	-	5-5	-	-	-	5
Dave Strauch	1	-	-	-	0-1	-	-
EIU TOTALS	3	11	10-11	-	3-4	1	87(29 ppg)
** OPPONENTS	3	6	4-5	1-1	1-1	-	45(15 ppg)

* Intercepted Fumble

** Includes blocked punt in end zone

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>AT</u>	<u>SACKS</u>	<u>TFL(yds)</u>	<u>FF</u>	<u>FR</u>	<u>INT/YDS/TD</u>	<u>FG</u>	<u>PAT</u>	<u>PASS</u>	<u>PUNT</u>
Tyrone Covington	3	11	23	2½(-20)	1½(-3)	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Dave Ferguson	3	7	13	½(-5)	½(-1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reggie Taylor	3	9	10	1½(-20)	½(-1)	-	-	1/6/0	-	1	-	-
Ortega Jackson	3	2	11	1(-10)	-	-	1	1/5/0	-	-	1	-
Robert Williams	3	12	7	-	1(-1)	-	-	2/63/0	-	-	1	-
Greg Duncan	3	7	6	2(-11)	2(-3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chris Nicholson	3	14	7	4½(-32)	2(-4)	1	2	1/76/1 *	-	-	-	-
Elvin Carmichael	1	1	1	½(-10)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tom Moskal	3	2	2	½(-13)	1(-2)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Frank Walsh	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dan Fallon	3	6	5	1(-6)	-	-	-	1/0/0	-	-	-	-
Gary Bridges	3	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Doyle Foster	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brian Newby	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charlie Person	3	4	2	-	-	-	-	1/12/0	-	-	-	-
Dean Magro	3	2	4	1½(-16)	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-
Ira Thompson	3	1	3	1(-15)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Robert DeVita	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greg Coopwood	3	1	2	1(-6)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jerry Jackson	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

* includes 76 yard intercepted fumble

KEY: T(tackles) AT(assisted tackles) SACKS(QB only) TFL(tackles for loss) FF(forced fumble) FR(fumble recoveries)

1983 RESULTS (2-1)

38 7 at Illinois State (6864)
 14 17 at Southern Illinois (12,800 est)
 35 21 Grand Valley State (6400 est)