

1-20-1981

01/20/1981 - EIU starting guard Rico Ellis tied a school and lantz building record by making 15 free throws in saturday 72-67 win over chicago state

University Marketing and Communications

Follow this and additional works at: [http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press\\_releases\\_1981](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1981)

---

#### Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "01/20/1981 - EIU starting guard Rico Ellis tied a school and lantz building record by making 15 free throws in saturday 72-67 win over chicago state" (1981). 1981. 398.  
[http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press\\_releases\\_1981/398](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1981/398)

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 1981 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact [tabruns@eiu.edu](mailto:tabruns@eiu.edu).

Jan. 20, 1981  
HT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University starting guard Rico Ellis (Chicago Heights-Bloom/Joliet JC) tied a school and Lantz Building record by making 15 free throws in Saturday's 72-67 win over Chicago State.

Ellis, a 6-2 senior, moved into the starting lineup in the seventh game of the season due to an injury to Warren Patten.

Since then he has scored in double figures in six of the eight games with a high of 19 in the Chicago State win. He made 15 of 18 free throws to tie a 1969 record by Greg Beenders.

Ellis, averaging 9.4 points, earlier this year scored 16 against last year's NCAA II Great Lakes Regional champs, Northern Michigan.

"Rico has really been valuable for us . . . early he came off the bench to spark us and then made the transition to starting guard with little difficulty," said first year coach Rick Samuels.

"When you don't get a lot of playing time, you're confidence suffers some. I think now that Rico's starting, he realizes that he's a very capable player.

"He has given us total leadership on the floor, and his scoring is an unexpected plus . . . I don't know where we'd be without him," Samuels commented.

Eastern, 7-7, concludes its season with ten of its final 13 games at home with Mid-Continent Conference rival Youngstown State here Saturday (Jan. 24) night.