

1-12-1983

## 01/12/1983 - Al Molde Named Head Football Coach

University Marketing and Communications

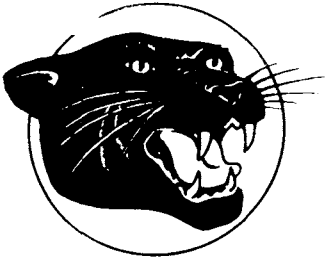
Follow this and additional works at: [http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press\\_releases\\_1983](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1983)

---

### Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "01/12/1983 - Al Molde Named Head Football Coach" (1983). 1983. 422.  
[http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press\\_releases\\_1983/422](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1983/422)

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 1983 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact [tabruns@eiu.edu](mailto:tabruns@eiu.edu).



# **Panther Sports News**

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

DAVID KIDWELL, *Sports Information Director*

OFFICE: (217) 581-2920

HOME: (217) 345-4166

Jan. 12, 1983  
LS-AS-General-  
FB State-FB Pros

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Al Molde, 39, who has developed three collegiate football teams into winners, most recently at Central Missouri State, has been named head football coach at Eastern Illinois University.

The announcement was made by EIU Athletic Director R. C. Johnson at a Wednesday (January 12) press conference. Molde, also the AD at Central Missouri, replaces Darrell Mudra, who resigned to accept the head position at Northern Iowa.

Molde has had nine winning seasons and three NCAA playoff teams in 12 years as a head coach at Central Missouri, Minnesota-Morris and Sioux Falls College. His 74-42-6 record (63%) is 14th best among active NCAA II coaches.

"I'm very excited about the opportunity to coach at Eastern Illinois. I'm anxious to begin assembling a staff, meeting the squad and getting to work as we certainly hope to uphold the strong football tradition that has been developed the past few years," Molde said.

"This is a great opportunity to coach on the I-AA level. I was attracted by the challenge of a larger and more established program and my relationship with R. C. Johnson. I know he has had a positive impact on the program and I look forward to working with him."

At Central Missouri Molde turned around a program that had not had a winner in ten years going 6-3-1 in his first season (1980), followed by 4-3-3 and 7-3 records for a three year combined mark of 17-9-4.

Previously he was the head coach and athletic director (1973-79) at Minnesota-Morris leading the Cougars into three NCAA III playoffs in his final three seasons and reaching the semifinals in 1977 with a 10-2 mark.

He had a 52-21-1 record in seven years there with the 1975, 1976 and 1978 teams each losing just one game.

At Minnesota-Morris he was the Northern Intercollegiate Conference 'Coach of the Year' four consecutive seasons as it won four straight undefeated conference titles.

-more-

EIU FOOTBALL  
ADD 1

For two years Molde was head coach at Sioux Falls College with a 5-12-1 record. The first year SFC was 0-8-1 but rebounded with a 5-4 mark in 1972.

"Al Molde is a proven winner at every level with considerable head coaching experience, and we're most pleased that he has accepted our offer to direct Eastern's football program," said Johnson.

"I have been acquainted with Al for some time, have seen his teams in action when I was at Mankato State and Northern Iowa and consequently have nothing but the highest regard for him as a person and coach.

"He has a broad background in the type of public relations and administrative skills necessary for a collegiate coach, and has recruited Illinois high schools whose talent is paramount to our continued success."

Originally from Montevideo, MN, Molde earned a bachelor's degree from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1966, a master's from South Dakota State in 1970 and a Ph.D. in exercise physiology from the University of Utah in 1971. While earning his doctorate, he assisted the Utah football staff.

He and his wife, Ingrid, have four sons, Michael (13), Brian (11), Matthew (6) and Evan (4).

Molde will inherit a program that has the best overall record (57-15-1) among Illinois state supported institutions the past five years and has been to three NCAA playoffs.

The Panthers return eight starters each on offense and defense next season. Eastern opens the season September 3 at Illinois State.

AL MOLDE'S RECORD

Central Missouri State, Head Football and Athletic Director

1982 7-3  
1981 4-3-3  
1980 6-3-1

Minnesota-Morris, Head Football and Athletic Director

1979 9-3 NCAA III Quarterfinals  
1978 11-1 NCAA III Semifinals, Northern Intercollegiate Conference champ  
1977 10-2 NCAA III Quarterfinals, Northern Intercollegiate Conference champ  
1976 8-1-1 Northern Intercollegiate Conference champ  
1975 8-1 Northern Intercollegiate Conference champ  
1974 3-7  
1973 3-6

Sioux Falls College, Head Football

1972 5-4  
1971 0-8-1

Totals 74-42-6 (63%)

EDUCATION

Ph. D., Exercise Physiology, University of Utah, 1971

M.S., Physical Education, South Dakota State, 1970

B.A., Biology and Physical Education, Gustavus Adolphus College, 1966