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## 05/03/1983 - Blue Versus White Game

University Marketing and Communications

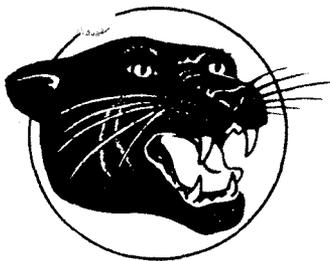
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# Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

DAVID KIDWELL, *Sports Information Director*

OFFICE: (217) 581-2920 HOME: (217) 345-4166

May 3, 1983  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--It'll be Nos. 1 vs. 2 when the Eastern Illinois University Panthers complete their spring football drills with the annual Blue-White game Saturday (May 7).

The contest will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Charleston High School's Trojan Field.

"We'll use the No. 1 offense and defense against the No. 2 units," said Coach Al Molde.

"We'll have no scrimmage kicks . . . rather put the ball on the 35 and whenever a team scores or a drive is stopped, just move the ball 35 yards and give it to the other team. Other than that it'll be a regulation game."

The personnel pieces are starting to fall into place although Molde explained that "we're still sorting out some positions."

At this point the quarterback competition has narrowed to three people, JC transfers Gary Scott (Inglewood, CA-Los Angeles City CC) and Tom Peterson (Inver Grove Heights, MN-Inver Hills CC) plus redshirt freshman Sean Payton (Naperville-Central).

"Scott's starting for the No. 1 team," said Molde. "He has the strongest passing arm and is catching up as far as play calling and directing the team."

"Peterson has been down with an injury but should be ready to practice this week. He got hit in the rib cage which hampered his throwing so we want to give him a good look yet."

"Payton was No. 1 for a couple weeks and is still in our top group making a fight of it."

Molde says the offense is coming around and looked better in last week's scrimmage at Bartonville Limestone HS. "We ran from our base sets and the defense didn't blitz so it offered a better opportunity for the offense. Right now we're banged up from all the scrimmage hitting. We need to heal some."

With offensive lineman Alvin McMurray sidelined all spring with a broke ankle, that has opened a spot for some younger people to display their talents.

Molde says Del Pittman (Valparaiso, IN), 6-3, 280 junior, has moved into the starting job at left tackle with veteran Brad Mars (Marshall) going to the right side. Kent Lawrence

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(Coal Valley-Moline) is still at his normal left guard position with McMurray shifting from right tackle to replace graduated Bob Norris at right guard.

Teddy Coopwood (Gary, IN) has the edge at center but "he's a tad light right now . . . he still needs to bulk up some," said Molde. Steve Martin (Schaumburg) is Coopwood's No. 1 challenger.

Defensive coordinator Cal Jones says Tom Moskal (Lake Zurich) is the heir apparent to replace Keith Wojnowski. "He's one of the four linemen but whether he's at end or tackle we still don't know and may not until fall. We've played Tom and (Greg) Duncan at both positions this spring."

All-American Robert Williams (Chicago-Dunbar) has been moved from strong safety to free safety. "We've always tried to get our best athlete at free safety because that's the middle of the defense where he can be around the ball. Therefore, it was a logical move to get someone of Williams ability in that situation," said Assistant Rick Schachner.

Dan Fallon (Crystal Lake-Grant) and Rick Martin (Chino, CA-Glendale CC) are competing at strong safety with Fallon starting on the No. 1 unit Saturday.

Linebackers David Fergurson (Alton) and Ortega Jackson (Washington, DC-Cardoza) are unable to play this spring so that group is short on numbers. The three starters, according to new coach Sheldon Herd, are Tyrone Covington (Chicago-Morgan Park) in the middle and Reggie Taylor (Apopka, FL-Arizona Western CC) and Al Jennings (Chicago-Collins) on the outside.