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01/16/1987 - Four Football Players All American

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Panther Sports News

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LS-AS-Hts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Jan. 16)

CHARLESTON, IL.--Four EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY football players received I-AA All-American honors from FOOTBALL NEWS and the ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WR ROY BANKS (DETROIT, MI-KING) was picked FIRST TEAM by both the FOOTBALL NEWS and AP. This makes him a consensus All-American on the I-AA level as he earlier was picked First Team by the Kodak sponsored American Football Coaches Association A-A squad.

WR CALVIN PIERCE (ROBBINS-OAK LAWN RICHARDS) was chosen SECOND TEAM by the NEWS and HONORABLE MENTION by AP. QB SEAN PAYTON (NAPERVILLE-CENTRAL) and DT JOHN JURKOVIC (CALUMET CITY-THORNTON FRACTIONAL NORTH) were named HONORABLE MENTION to both the NEWS and AP teams. JURKOVIC is a sophomore while the rest are seniors.

Twenty three Panthers have been chosen to I-AA All-American teams in the past six years, several more than once. BANKS is the fifth consensus All-American in school history including both Division I-AA and II. He and PAYTON join PETE CATAN as the only three time All-Americans.

BANKS holds most EIU pass catching records including career marks for receptions (138), yards (3177) and touchdowns (38). This past year he was 53 for 1014 and 11 TDs. He is one of just five I-AA receivers to surpass 3000 yards career yards.

PIERCE is right behind BANKS in career stats with 163 catches for 2629 yards. In 1986 he caught 65 for second most yardage (1200) in the nation.

PAYTON finished as the No. 3 all-time NCAA passer, regardless of division, with 10,655 yards. This year he led the country in yardage (3456) and was No. 2 in total offense (308.8 p/game).

JURKOVIC led the team with 13 QB sacks, had 14 other tackles for loss and No. 4 on the team with 93 tackles.