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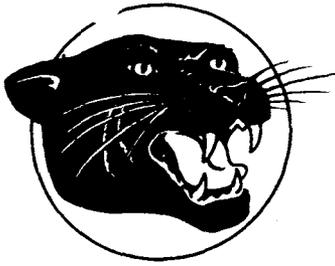
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Panther Sports News

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LS-AS-Hometowns

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Defensive Line (Sixth in a Series)

CHARLESTON, IL--Tom Moskal (Lake Zurich), Eastern Illinois University's defensive end, has put forth that extra effort to become a quality mid-major college lineman.

In turn, Moskal's effort has caused an equal amount of extra effort on the part of opposing coaches who must expend more energy to devise ways to stop his pursuit of quarterbacks.

Only a junior, Moskal was a second team all-MCC choice last year but still has been playing in the shadows of some all-americans on EIU's last two NCAA I-AA playoff teams.

He won't anymore. Reporting to fall camp in prime condition at 6-2, 240 and able to bench over 400 lbs., Moskal will anchor an inexperienced defensive line.

This fall, though, the Panthers will have just three down linemen as new defensive coordinator Larry Edlund has switched to a base 50 alignment.

"Tom is an aggressive, strong player who has adjusted well to different alignments and techniques by moving inside," says segment coach Bill Bye. "He's now more straight up on opposing tackles . . . however, there's still room for improvement with regard to his agility."

Playing opposite him at the other end will likely be Randy Harms (Wildwood-Warren), a 6-2, 210 senior who sat out the last two years but has returned for his final year to play a prominent role.

"Randy is light but the quickest lineman," says Bye. "He's a good pass rusher, knows how to fend off pressure and come off the block . . . but he's just a little over 200 pounds."

Bye says JC transfer Derold Walls (Oxnard, CA-Ventura CC) is "also right in

there with Harms. He's about 6-4, 240 and with that size is definitely a nice addition. He has quick feet and gives us some much needed depth. As he learns the system, he'll see more playing time."

The nose positions are yet to be settled. Three players are competing with sophomore Pete Schaub (Lisle-Benet) slightly leading the pack. He was redshirted last year after knee surgery so this is his first opportunity. Schaub is 6-0, 270 and the strongest on the team benching 450 lbs.

Dean Magro (Joliet-West) lettered last year as a freshman but underwent shoulder surgery so is coming back slowly. "Dean is a strong young man and except for Moskal has more experience than any other lineman so once he gets back in shape will really push Schaub," Bye said.

The third player in contention is Carl Parker (Evanston), a redshirt freshman who "got a lot of reps last spring which put him in the picture this fall."

Frank Walsh (Chicago-Brother Rice) was injured in the first game at Illinois State last fall and underwent knee surgery so also is easing back into strenuous drills. If he's ready it's an added plus for a thin corps.

"We have some talent but, other than Moskal, it's unproven in game situations . . . no different than most segments this fall. We've spent a lot of time teaching a new system . . . but we simply can't afford to get anyone hurt," Bye stressed.