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10/18/1983 - Football To Play WIU

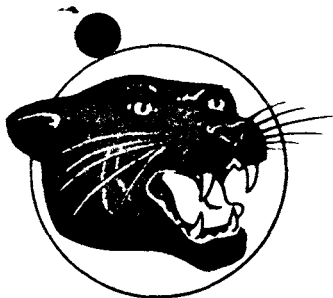
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Panther Sports News

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Oct. 18, 1983
LS-AS-FB STATE-
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's NCAA I-AA 9th ranked football Panthers put their five game winning streak on the line hosting Western Illinois at 1:30 p.m. Saturday (Oct. 22) at O'Brien Stadium.

The Panthers are 6-1 overall and moved up to a tie for the 9th spot with Idaho State in the weekly NCAA I-AA poll. Western Illinois, which has won two straight, is 3-4.

This is also a Mid-Continent Conference contest. A victory for EIU, now 1-0 in league play, would set up a championship match with Southwest Missouri in two weeks (Nov.5). A loss would give the SWMO Bears, 2-0 in the MCC, a tie Saturday.

A win would also give the Panthers a school record 12 straight victories at home. Twice in the last six years the Panthers have won 11 in a row at O'Brien Stadium only to be defeated in the next outing.

Western Illinois was the first to ruin the streak downing the Panthers 10-7 in an 1979 ABC regionally televised game. Then in 1981 Indiana State stopped the streak with a 27-14 victory.

"We're certainly aware of the rivalry between these two schools and that won-lost records mean very little when Eastern and Western meet. We'll remind the players that Western came over here in 1979 and beat them so they can't take anything for granted at this point," said coach Al Molde.

"Although it's nice to be rated in the top 10, the only poll that counts is at the end of the season. While our players want to prove they belong in the rankings, the opponent will also play at a higher level of emotion to knock you off."

In the last four games the Panther defense has asserted itself by shutting out two opponents, Northeast Missouri and Northern Iowa, and limiting Akron to just one TD. Youngstown State is the only team to get substantially more than 250 yards total offense this year.

*****GAME NOTES*****

THE GAME: Eastern Illinois University (6-1) hosts Western Illinois University (3-4) at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, October 22, O'Brien Stadium, Charleston.

RADIO: All the action can be heard on 50,000 watt WLBH-FM Mattoon, 97 on the dial, with Ken Wooddell calling play-by-play and Doug Bock providing commentary. The broadcast will commence at 1:15 with the Al Molde Show.

SERIES STANDING: WIU leads the series, 30-15-4, however the Panthers have won three straight and four of the last five games. The scores since

1978:	EIU 40	WIU 12
1979:	WIU 10	EIU 7
1980:	EIU 37	WIU 7
1981:	EIU 20	WIU 8
1982:	EIU 31	WIU 7

COACHES RECORD: EIU's Al Molde, in his first year, has an 80-43-6 record, the 14th best winning percentage (63%) among active I-AA coaches. He's had nine winning seasons and three NCAA playoff teams in 12 years as head coach at Central Missouri, Minnesota-Morris and Sioux Falls College.

WIU's Bruce Craddock, also in his first year, is 3-4 with the Leathernecks. In four years at Northeast Missouri he was 24-19, including 15-6 in his final two. Last fall NEMO was 9-2 and earned a spot in the NCAA II playoffs. He previously served as an assistant at Northeast Missouri (1970-71, 1975-78), and at Vermont (1972-74).

LAST YEAR: Kevin Staple rushed for 100 yards scoring two TDs on runs of nine and 25 yards. Jeff Christensen threw touchdown passes for 87 yards. EIU sacked the Leatherneck quarterback six times with five more tackles for loss limiting WIU to just 42 yards rushing.

LAST WEEK: EIU shutout Northern Iowa 13-0 as the defense limited the purple Panthers to just 13 yards rushing and 119 yards total offense. Cornerback Gary Bridges (S. Belmer, NJ-Arizona Western CC) blocked two field goal attempts of 31 and 37 yards, and Robert Williams (Chicago-Dunbar) and Charlie Person (Chicago-Dunbar) each picked off a pass. Henry Castellanos (Lawndale, CA-El Camino CC) kicked 30 and 32 yard field goals, and Staple ran for a five yard TD.

WIU QB Mark Bloom completed 12 of 20 passes for 111 yards and two TDs before leaving in the third quarter as the Leathernecks defeated Wisconsin-Whitewater 28-14. The Western defense limited Whitewater to 38 yards rushing, -1 in the second half, and only 251 total offense.

BRIDGES MCC

'PLAYER OF THE WEEK': Cornerback Gary Bridges (South Belmar, NJ-Manasquan-Arizona Western CC) was named the Mid-Continent Conference Defensive 'Player of the Week'. Bridges blocked two field goals, a first quarter 31 yard attempt and 37 yard third quarter try by UNI's Mike Molsted. He also had four tackles including three solos, and returned three punts for 34 yards. It's the second defensive player honored this fall and the seventh straight week a Panther has been chosen either offensive or defensive player of the week.

STAPLE'S STATS: Kevin Staple (Markham-Thornwood) went over 3000 career yards last Saturday with his game total 51. He now has 3003 in his four year career, and this fall is averaging 102 per game which ranks him No. 9 in NCAA I-AA stats. He also is averaging 120 all-purpose yards per game but has dropped out of the top 20 national figures.

TURNOVER MARGIN: The Panther defense has intercepted 17 passes and recovered 10 fumbles for 27 turnovers, second most among NCAA I-AA teams. The team record for season pass interceptions is 21 (1980), turnovers is 52 (1980).

DEFENSIVE RANKING: The defense has moved back among the I-AA rankings after last week's effort against UNI. The scoring defense is No. 6 with a 10.3 average, total defense is No. 8 with 231.8 yards allowed per game, and rushing defense is No. 11 at 90.4 yards.

HOME WINNING STREAK: As mentioned previously the Panthers are going for an O'Brien Stadium consecutive winning streak of 12 games Saturday. Twice previously in the last six years they've won 11 straight. The first streak started with a 17-0 win over Evansville in the 1977 season finale, followed by seven wins in the 1978 NCAA II championship, continued with three straight in 1979 before WIU won 10-7. The next streak began with a 34-21 1980 season opening win over South Dakota as the Panthers went 7-0 in that NCAA II second place season and concluded following four in a row in 1981 when Indiana State won the next to the last home game, 27-14. This streak then began in the 1981 season finale 24-16 win over Delaware State, continued with all seven games last year and now the first three this season.

NCAA I-AA POLL:	1.	Eastern Kentucky	5-0	80
	2.	Southern Illinois	7-0	75
	3.	Jackson State	7-0	71
	4.	Holy Cross	6-0	70
	5.	South Carolina State	6-1	63
	6.	Northeast Louisiana	5-1	57
	7.	North Texas State	5-2	52
	8.	Furman	4-1-1	47
	T9.	EASTERN ILLINOIS	6-1	45
		Idaho State	5-1	45
	11.	Middle Tennessee	5-1	43
	12.	Tennessee State	4-1-1	42
	13.	Colgate	4-2	30
	14.	Indiana State	5-2	28
	15.	Delaware State	5-1	22

MOLDE VS. CRADDOCK: EIU's Al Molde and WIU's Bruce Craddock are no strangers having coached against each other the previous three years while Molde was at Central Missouri and Craddock at Northeast Missouri. Craddock won two of the three meetings. Molde's CMS team won the first game 20-7 in 1980 but Craddock's NEMO outfit won the next two, 20-10 in 1981 and 23-20 last fall.

ABOUT WIU: 1983 To-Date (3-4)

<u>WIU</u>	<u>OPP</u>	<u>GAME REMAINING</u>
6	38 Southern Illinois	Oct. 22 at Eastern Illinois
9	21 Southwest Missouri	Oct. 29 at Illinois State
31	14 Drake	Nov. 5 Northern Michigan
14	42 at Youngstown State	
26	32 Northern Iowa	
26	19 at Central Missouri	
28	14 Wis-Whitewater	

The 'Necks are led by QB Mark Bloom who took over the signal calling spot five games back and has thrown for 1027 yards completing 86 of 185 for eight TDs. Even more impressive is that he's thrown only one interception in his last 185 pass attempts, and holds the MCC record for 107 consecutive passes without interception. Fifteen receivers have caught passes but the three favorites are TE Mark Searcy (19 for 158), WR Randy Cleary (17 for 251) and Kevin Perkins (17 for 108). Perkins is also the leading rusher with 84 carries for 333 yards. The top defensive player is MG Chris Gunderson who leads the team with 11 tackles for loss, six QB sacks and four fumble recoveries. DB Earl Thompson, a two-time MCC defensive 'player of the week' pick, intercepted his fifth pass of the season against UW-Whitewater and now has made a major defensive play that has led to a score five straight weeks. WIU is rushing 85 yards a game, passing for 185 for a 270 total average. Opponents are rushing 135 yards a game, passing 186 for a 321 total offense average.

MOLDE ON EIU: "Our defense has played exceptionally well the past few weeks and will need a similar effort as Western has started to put some points on the board the past few games. We have been able to come up with the big play when needed. (Gary) Bridges blocked two field goals last week and almost intercepted a pass, Dan Fallon knocked down a pass in the endzone, Charlie Person intercepted one to set up a score. We're getting solid play from a lot of different people."

MOLDE ON WIU: "Since Mark Bloom has been installed as the quarterback Western has won three of the five games and is getting something like four touchdowns a game. He'll run more than the quarterbacks we've seen in recent weeks so that presents a few more problems but we need to keep the pressure on him so that he doesn't have time to get set. They got 26 points on Northern Iowa and we only got 13 so that's an indication they're capable of scoring. Hopefully we can move the football better than we did against Northern Iowa so that we can keep our defense off the field and control the clock better."

MID-CONTINENT STANDINGS:

	<u>MCC GAMES</u>			<u>OVERALL</u>		
	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Points</u>
Southwest Missouri	2	0	56-22	4	2	145-77
Eastern Illinois	1	0	13-0	6	1	173-72
Northern Iowa	1	2	45-74	3	4	129-162
Western Illinois	0	2	35-53	3	4	140-180

OPPONENTS THIS WEEK: Illinois State (3-3-1) at Nicholls State
Southern Illinois (7-0) at Indiana State (5-2)
Grand Valley State (2-4) hosts Hillsdale
Northeast Missouri (2-5) at Northwest Missouri
Youngstown State (4-2) at Northern Iowa (3-4)
Akron (4-3) hosts Murray State
Southwest Missouri (4-2) at Drake
Western Kentucky (1-5) at Eastern Kentucky

EIU STARTERS: OFFENSE

SE 9 Jerry Wright (5-11, 170, Jr.) *
LT 70 Brad Mars (6-3, 310, Jr.) **
LG 50 Kent Lawrence (6-1, 240, Sr.) ***
C 68 Teddy Coopwood (5-11, 220, Sr.) *
RG 79 Mike Kuhn (6-1, 240, Jr.) **
RT 65 Alvin McMurray (6-2, 260, Sr.) ***
TE 82 Dirk Androff (6-7, 240, Sr.) ***
QB 10 John Rafferty (6-2, 185, So.)
HB 8 Kevin Staple (5-8, 180, Sr.) ***
FB 3 Wes Nixon (5-7, 170, Sr.) *
FL 81 Jim Schmidt (5-10, 170, Jr.) *

DEFENSE

LE 66 Greg Duncan (6-1, 205, Sr.) **
LT 71 Dean Magro (6-0, 235, Fr.)
RT 76 Chris Nicholson (6-0, 240, Sr.) *
RE 85 Tom Moskal (6-1, 220, So.)
SSB 55 Ortega Jackson (6-0, 200, Sr.) **
ILB 59 Dave Ferguson (6-2, 220, Jr.) **
WLB 5 Reggie Taylor (5-11, 195, Sr.) *
LCB 12 Doyle Foster (5-9, 155, So.)
RCB 42 Gary Bridges (5-11, 180, Sr.) *
FS 28 Robert Williams (5-11, 190, Sr.) **
SS 26 Dan Fallon (5-10, 180, Jr.) *

PUNTER: 1 Henry Castellanos (5-11, 180, Jr.), 2 Pat Blair (5-9, 185, Sr.)
KICKER: 1 Henry Castellanos (5-11, 180, Jr.), 36 Hector Techera (5-11, 190, Jr.)
RETURNS: 42 Gary Bridges (5-11, 180, Sr.), 18 Charlie Person (5-8, 160, Sr.)
8 Kevin Staple (5-8, 180, Sr.)
HOLDER: 81 Jim Schmidt (5-10, 170, Jr.)
LONG SNAPPER: 56 Barry Wolfe (6-2, 250, So.)

* Lettermen on offense and defense

RUSHING	G	ATT	GAIN	LOST	NET	P/GAME	P/CARRY	TD	LONG
Kevin Staple	7	153	757	42	715	102.1	4.7	7	77 (GVS)
Wes Nixon	7	83	337	11	326	46.6	3.9	-	14 (ISU)
Tyrone Davis	7	26	132	-	132	18.8	5.1	-	18 (ISU, GVS)
Roy Ellis	4	17	120	-	120	30.0	7.0	-	22 (NEMO)
John Rafferty	7	33	39	134	-95	-	-	-	14 (UNI)
Sean Payton	2	3	11	-	11	5.5	3.7	1	10 (ISU)
Gary Scott	2	3	1	11	-10	-	-	1	1 (NEMO)
Calvin Pierce	2	1	4	-	4	4.0	4.0	-	4 (NEMO)
Henry Castellanos	5	1	19	-	19	3.8	19.0	-	19 (UNI)
Team	-	1	-	16	-16	-	-	-	-
EIU TOTALS	7	321	1420	214	1206	172.3	3.7	9	77 (GVS)
OPPONENTS	7	260	948	315	633	90.4	2.4	5	35 (ISU)

PASSING	G	CPL	ATT	INT	YDS	PCT	P/GAME	P/CPL	P/ATT	TD	LONG
John Rafferty	7	95	162	9	1171	.586	167.3	12.3	7.2	10	59 (YSU)
Gary Scott	2	2	8	1	32	.250	16.0	16.0	4.0	-	5 (GVS)
Sean Payton	2	1	3	1	60	.333	30.0	60.0	20.0	1	60 (NEMO)
Kevin Staple	7	0	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EIU TOTALS	7	98	174	11	1263	.563	180.4	12.9	7.2	11	60 (NEMO)
OPPONENTS	7	80	208	17	990	.385	141.4	12.4	4.7	4	44 (SIU)

PASS RECEIVING	G	REC	YDS	P/CATCH	P/GAME	TD	LONG	TEAM TOTALS	EIU	OPP
Jerry Wright	7	28	468	16.7	66.8	5	59 (YSU)	First Downs	115	94
Wes Nixon	7	18	116	6.4	16.7	3	16 (GVS)	by Rushing	60	37
Dirk Androff	7	10	207	20.7	29.6	1	44 (ISU)	by Passing	48	43
Kevin Staple	7	16	96	6.0	13.7	-	18 (NEMO)	by Penalty	7	14
Pat Blair	7	7	72	10.3	10.3	-	17 (YSU)	TOTAL OFFENSE	2469	1623
Roger Holoman	7	6	77	12.8	11.0	-	27 (NEMO)	per game	352.7	231.8
Roy Banks	2	1	60	60.0	30.0	1	60 (NEMO)	total plays	495	468
Jim Schmidt	5	8	144	18.0	28.0	1	54 (YSU)	yds. p/play	5.0	3.5
Tyrone Davis	6	2	11	5.5	1.8	-	8 (SIU)	PENALTIES/YDS	67/617	52/393
Roy Ellis	4	1	5	5.0	1.2	-	5 (GVS)	FUMBLES/LOST	8/5	19/10
Darryon White	1	1	7	7.0	7.0	-	7 (UNI)			
EIU TOTALS	7	98	1263	12.9	180.4	11	60 (NEMO)			

PUNTING	G	NO	YDS	AVE	RET	NET	AVE	LONG
Henry Castellanos	5	31	1157	37.3	110	1057	34.1	72 (UNI)
Pat Blair	7	8	298	37.2	37	261	32.6	51 (GVS)
Hector Techera	4	5	161	32.2	3	158	31.6	46 (NEMO)
Team	-	1	0	-	-	-	-	-
EIU TOTALS	7	45	1616	35.9	165	1451	32.2	72 (UNI)
OPPONENTS	7	54	2043	37.8	211	1832	33.9	54 (UNI)

SCORE BY QUARTERS				
	1	2	3	4
EIU	38	46	48	41 - 173
OPP	7	13	17	35 - 72

RETURNS	G	KO	YDS	AVE	TD	LONG	PT	YDS	AVE	TD	LONG
Jerry Wright	7	4	49	12.2	-	18 (GVS)	-	-	-	-	-
Charlie Person	6	-	-	-	-	-	12	57	4.7	-	11 (SIU)
Wes Nixon	7	1	12	12.0	-	12 (SIU)	-	-	-	-	-
Gary Bridges	7	-	-	-	-	-	19	154	8.1	-	18 (NEMO)
Pat Blair	7	1	3	3.0	-	3 (GVS)	-	-	-	-	-
Calvin Pierce	2	1	5	5.0	-	5 (NEMO)	-	-	-	-	-
Kevin Staple	7	2	28	14.0	-	15 (YSU)	-	-	-	-	-
Tom Fendley	2	1	3	3.0	-	3 (UA)	-	-	-	-	-
Darryon White	1	1	15	15.0	-	15 (UNI)	-	-	-	-	-
EIU TOTALS	7	11	115	10.4	-	18 (GVS)	31	211	6.2	-	18 (NEMO)
OPPONENTS	7	18	324	18.0	-	30 (NEMO)	24	165	6.9	-	21 (ISU)

SCORING	G	TD	PAT/K	PAT/R-P	FG	SAF	POINTS
Henry Castellanos	5	-	7-8	-	6-6	-	25
Wes Nixon	7	3	-	-	-	-	18
Kevin Staple	7	7	-	-	-	-	42
Dirk Androff	7	1	-	-	-	-	6
Sean Payton	2	1	-	-	-	-	6
Team Safety	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Team	-	-	-	-	0-1	-	-
* Chris Nicholson	7	1	-	-	-	-	6
Jerry Wright	7	5	-	-	-	-	30
Roy Banks	2	1	-	-	-	-	6
Jim Schmidt	5	1	-	-	-	-	6
Hector Techera	4	-	14-14	-	0-5	-	14
Doyle Foster	6	1	-	-	-	-	6
Gary Scott	2	1	-	-	-	-	6
Dave Strauch	1	-	-	-	0-1	-	-
EIU TOTALS	7	22	21-22	-	6-13	1	173 (24.7 ppg)
** OPPONENTS	7	10	7-8	1-2	1-4	-	72 (10.3 ppg)

* Intercepted Fumble
 ** Includes blocked punt in end zone

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

NAME	G	T	AT	SACKS	TFL (yds)	FF	FR	INT/YDS/TD	FG	BLOCKS		PUNT
										PAT	PASS	
Tyrone Covington	6	17	39	2½(-20)	2½ (-7)	-	-	1/4/0	-	-	1	-
Dave Fergurson	7	14	34	2½(-24)	2½ (-4)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Reggie Taylor	7	24	32	3½(-34)	2 (-4)	-	-	1/6/0	-	1	-	-
Ortega Jackson	7	11	28	1 (-10)	-	-	1	1/5/0	-	1	1	-
Robert Williams	7	28	26	-	1 (-1)	-	1	5/105/0	-	-	1	-
Greg Duncan	7	19	21	5½(-52)	3 (-5)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Chris Nicholson	7	28	22	6½(-37)	5 (-10)	1	3	1/76/1 *	-	-	-	-
Elvin Carmichael	1	1	1	½ (-10)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tom Moskal	6	14	21	½ (-13)	1 (-2)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Frank Walsh	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dan Fallon	7	8	16	1 (-6)	-	-	-	2/19/0	-	-	1	-
Gary Bridges	7	12	9	-	-	-	-	2/31/0	2	-	-	-
Doyle Foster	6	10	9	-	-	-	-	2/38/1	-	-	-	-
Brian Newby	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charlie Person	6	10	5	-	-	-	-	2/32/0	-	-	-	-
Dean Magro	7	9	9	2½(-20)	1(-5)	1	1	-	-	-	2	-
Ira Thompson	6	4	7	1 (-15)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Robert DeVita	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greg Coopwood	7	1	7	1 (-6)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jerry Jackson	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reggie Drew	5	4	2	-	-	-	-	1/2/0	-	-	-	-
Scott Roberts	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pete Schaub	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ed Mathis	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

* includes 76 yard intercepted fumble

KEY: T(tackles) AT(Assisted tackles) SACKS(QB only) TFL(tackles for loss) FF(forced fumble) FR(fumble recoveries)

1983 RESULTS (6-1)

38 7 at Illinois State (6864)
 14 17 at Southern Illinois (12,800 est)
 35 21 Grand Valley State (6400 est)
 42 0 at Northeast Missouri (4000 est)
 21 20 Youngstown State (9400 est)
 10 7 at Akron (6113)
 13 0 Northern Iowa (7100 est)