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11/02/1982 - Players Of The Week

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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's Jerry Wright (Chicago-Collins) and Robert Williams (Chicago-Dunbar) were named Mid-Continent Conference 'Players of the Week'.

The duo led the Panthers to a 20-7 victory over Southern Illinois which kept intact an 8-0-1 unbeaten record solidifying a No. 7 ranking in the NCAA I-AA poll.

Wright, a sophomore wide receiver, was the offensive honoree by catching six passes for 157 yards and a 21 yard touchdown pass. It was both his and the Panthers best pass receiving performance this year.

"Jerry played a great game Saturday, made a couple outstanding catches and did some fine running after getting the ball," said offensive coordinator Chuck Dickerson. "This is an example of making the most of an opportunity when given the chance because he's only been in the starting lineup for three games."

Williams, a junior strong safety, led a stout defensive effort with ten tackles, including seven solos, two pass interceptions and a fumble recovery on the SIU 22 that led to a 39 yard Panther field goal.

"Robert has played exceptionally well all year and we're pleased the league has recognized this effort against one of the toughest opponents anyone in the MCC will play," said segment coach Rick Schachner.

Williams has been named Eastern's secondary 'player of the game' four times and leads the team in solo tackles with 52. Ironically his fumble recovery and interceptions Saturday were his first turnovers of the year.