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11/20/1984 - Eleven Football Players Selected To Conference

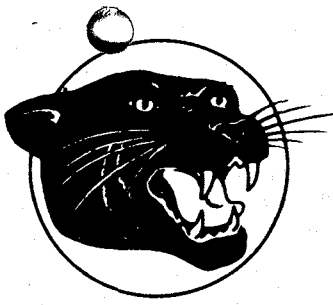
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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eleven Eastern Illinois University football players, led by Sean Payton's offensive 'player of the year' honor, were selected either First or Second Team All-Mid-Continent Conference.

Just a sophomore, Payton became the fifth EIU player in the seven year history of the league to be awarded the top offensive award. His quarterbacking led the Panthers to a 6-5 record, their seventh straight winning season, and co-championship of the MCC.

He set nine EIU game and season records, 16 Mid-Continent records and is the No. 2 quarterback in several NCAA I-AA categories.

His 1984 stats are 270-473-15 passing for 3483 yards and 28 TDs, and most noteworthy school records are for passing yardage in a game (486) and season (3843) and touchdowns in a season (28).

Other First Team picks were wide receivers Jerry Wright and Roy Banks, offensive guard Bob Benning and linebackers Tyrone Covington and Ed Nailon.

Covington and Wright are both First Team repeaters. Covington set a school record with 172 season tackles and 25 in a game. Wright caught a season record 76 passes for 1029 yards.

Second team selections were defensive end Tom Moskal, who was a second team choice in '83, defensive end Randy Harms, free safety Reggie Drew, offensive tackle Steve Bonnes and kicker Steve Berryman.

Head coach Al Molde was chosen 'co-coach of the year' along with Northern Iowa's Darrell Mudra.