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3

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Bob Norris (Pittsfield) was a First Team All-Mid-Continent Conference offensive guard for Eastern Illinois University's football Panthers who reached the NCAA I-AA quarterfinals.

A senior, Norris started on the right side for the No. 5 ranked Panthers who finished 11-1-1. They were eliminated by Tennessee State 20-19 last Saturday (Dec. 4) in a quarter-final game after EIU had advanced with a 16-13 round win over Jackson State.

It's the second straight year Norris has been picked First Team all-conference.

"Bob did a great job for us. He was strong, had the quickness to pull and lead our sweep game which was very effective for us," said offensive coordinator Chuck Dickerson.

"We set a number of school records for offense and the line deserves considerable credit. They gave Jeff Christensen (quarterback) good protection with few offside and illegal procedure penalties so we didn't beat ourselves."

This was the third time in the past five years the Panthers have competed in a post-season tournament. During this stretch EIU, under the direction of Head Coach Darrell Mudra, has a 47-15-1 record, best among Illinois' seven universities that are Division I or I-AA.