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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Editor's Note - The following are hometown football wrapups on Eastern Illinois University pass receivers.)

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University's football Panthers finished the 1984 campaign with a seventh straight winning season by once again obliterating the record book.

EIU finished 6-5 and won three of its last four games by averaging 30 points and nearly 400 yards passing in that stretch. Eastern set 17 individual records, six team marks and tied two others. The Panthers also tied Northern Iowa for the Mid-Continent Conference title, the fifth straight year EIU has either won or shared the MCC championship.

Pass receivers who have contributed to the team's success are:

JERRY WRIGHT (Chicago-Collins), 5-11, 175 senior split end, was named First Team All-Mid-Continent Conference for the third straight year . . . he set a single season school record with 76 catches, and a career yardage mark of 2522 . . . altogether this fall he has 1029 yards and seven TDs . . . he's also No. 2 on the career reception list with 150 and tied for third in career touchdown receptions with 20 . . . he ranks third in the NCAA I-AA with 7.6 catches per game.

JIM SCHMIDT (DeKalb), 5-10, 170, junior slotback, earned his third letter this fall finishing with 35 catches for 506 yards and two TDs . . . his best game was his last when he caught six passes for 106 yards and a 44 yard TD . . . earlier this fall he had nine catches for 99 yards against Toledo . . . Schmidt ranks fifth in the Mid-Continent Conference with 3.5 catches per game . . . his career totals are 55 catches for 804 yards and three TDs.

CALVIN PIERCE (Robbins-Oak Lawn Richards), 6-0, 205 sophomore tight end, started the year at running back but was switched to tight end starting six games altogether . . . he was the team's third leading receiver with 38 for 529 yards and two TDs . . . he rushed nine times for 67 yards through the first three games so had 596 all-purpose running.

CHARLIE VINSON (Monticello), 6-0, 205, sophomore tight end, started five games after a knee injury in mid-year limited his playing time . . . returned to the lineup the last few games and finished with 16 catches for 152 yards including a 53 yard pass reception against conference co-champ Northern Iowa.

SCOTT SANDERSON (Pittsfield), 6-2, 205, sophomore slotback, played in a reserve role this fall catching eight passes for 76 yards including a 15 yard TD pass against defending NCAA I-AA champ Southern Illinois . . . Sanderson started the season at tight end but switched to slotback behind senior Jim Schmidt . . . he started one game when Schmidt was injured and with a strong spring practice will challenge for the starting job.