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Panther Sports News

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

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.

Offensive linemen who contributed to the team's success are:

BOB BENNING (Streator), 6-0, 235 sophomore offensive guard, was chosen First Team All-Mid-Continent Conference . . . he earned his first letter starting all 11 games at left guard, just one of two offensive linemen able to start every contest . . . was twice picked 'lineman of the week' for his efforts against Toledo and Northern Iowa.

STEVE BONNES (Waukegan-West), 6-3, 245, sophomore offensive tackle, was chosen Second Team All-Mid-Continent Conference starting at right tackle . . . replaced Barry Wolfe as the starter after the first game and was solidly entrenched at RT during the last ten games . . . three times chosen the 'lineman of the week', the only player picked more than twice.

JIM MITEFF (Libertyville), 6-0, 215, freshman right guard, started the last two games of the season in the 27-17 and 50-19 wins over Northern Iowa and Western Kentucky, respectively . . . was picked the team's 'lineman of the week' for his efforts earlier in a 14-0 win over Western Illinois.

DEL PITTMAN (Valparaiso, IN), 6-3, 275, junior left tackle, started ten of 11 games missing just one game due to a back injury . . . although hampered all season by a chronic back injury, earned his third letter . . . he is just one of seven current players to have earned at least a third letter this fall . . . was picked offensive 'lineman of the week' in the opening win over Grand Valley State.

TIM WYATT (Phoenix, AZ-Moon Valley/Phoenix CC), 6-0, 235, junior center, started all 11 games this fall after transferring from Phoenix CC . . . was picked once as the offensive 'lineman of the week' for his efforts against Northeast Missouri.

MIKE KUHN (Downers Grove-North), 6-2, 245, senior offensive guard, started eight of the 11 games this fall earning a fourth letter at right guard . . . was the team's only four year letterman.

MARK PETERSEN (Momence), 6-2, 235 freshman offensive tackle, served as a reserve tackle this fall . . . he did start the Southern Illinois game due to an injury to Del Pittman, and responded by earning offensive 'lineman of the week' honors.