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12/08/1982 - Kevin Staple First Team All-Mid-Continent Conference Honors

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Dec. 8, 1982

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Kevin Staple (Markham-Thornwood) has earned First Team All-Mid-Continent Conference honors leading Eastern Illinois University's Panthers to one of its greatest seasons ever.

The 5-8, 185 junior halfback led the No. 5 ranked Panthers to the NCAA I-AA quarter-finals with an 11-1-1 record. After winning a 16-13 first round game over Jackson State, the Panthers season came to a close with a 20-19 loss at Tennessee State last Saturday (Dec. 4).

Staple became only the sixth EIU runner to gain over 1000 yards in a single season as he rushed for 1012 this season averaging 92 yards a game.

He also caught 25 passes for an additional 198 yards, returned two kickoffs for 36 yards accounting for 1246 all-purpose yards, 113 per game.

He set a school record for most pass receptions by a running back (67) and with 2588 career rushing yards is well on his way to finishing No. 2 in that department next year. He currently ranks fourth behind Poke Cobb (5042), Mark Stettner (2635) and Nate Anderson (2516).

"If he could stay healthy, this is the type of season we predicted he was capable of achieving," said running back coach Mike Williams. "He stayed healthy and contributed greatly to our success.

"Kevin was a workhorse. He carried the ball twice as much as any other back so became the one opponents knew they had to stop . . . that makes his totals even more impressive considering so much defensive pressure was applied towards stopping him."

Twice this season he was chosen the MCC 'Player of the Week'. His top game was against Youngstown State when he rushed for 159 yards, caught two passes for 11 yards and returned two kickoffs for 36 accounting for 206 all-purpose yards.

This is 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.

KEVIN STAPLE CAREER TOTALS

1980

OPPONENT	ATT	Rushing			Pass Receiving			Kick Returns			ALL PURPOSE
		YDS	AVE	TD	NO	YDS	TD	NO	YDS	TD	
South Dakota	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	70	-	70
Southern Illinois	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	145	1	145
Indiana State	5	35	7.0	-	-	-	-	3	66	-	101
Northeast Missouri	17	114	6.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	114
Illinois State	23	116	5.0	-	2	13	-	2	45	-	174
Central State	11	31	2.8	1	-	-	-	3	49	-	80
Western Illinois	20	42	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
Youngstown State	15	109	7.3	-	1	2	-	2	38	-	150
Northern Michigan	18	38	2.1	-	2	19	-	2	33	-	90
Northern Iowa	15	50	3.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Augustana (SD)	14	41	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
11-GAME TOTALS	138	576	4.2	1	5	34	-	20	446	1	1056

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South Dakota	26	146	5.6	-	3	27	-	-	-	-	163
Southwest Missouri	14	66	4.7	-	3	44	-	-	-	-	110
Northeast Missouri		Injured - did not play									
Central State		Injured - did not play									
Illinois State	12	19	1.6	-	6	54	-	-	-	-	73
Western Illinois	11	66	6.0	-	3	37	-	1	0	-	103
Youngstown State	13	39	3.0	-	6	41	-	2	37	-	117
Northern Iowa	16	58	3.6	1	3	33	-	3	74	-	165
Ferris State	8	95	11.9	2	3	55	-	-	-	-	150
Indiana State	18	103	5.7	-	6	34	-	1	17	-	154
Delaware State	20	95	4.7	-	4	40	-	1	4	-	139
9-GAME TOTALS	137	700	5.1	3	37	365	-	8	132	-	1197
TWO-YEAR TOTALS	275	1276	4.6	4	42	399	-	28	578	1	2253

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Illinois State	24	141	5.9	1	2	21	-	-	-	-	162
Northeast Missouri	22	125	5.7	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	125
Wayne State	26	65	2.5	-	1	9	-	-	-	-	74
Northern Iowa	12	43	3.6	-	4	25	-	-	-	-	68
Youngstown State	27	159	5.8	1	2	11	-	2	36	-	206
Akron	11	65	6.1	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	69
Indiana State	22	85	3.9	-	5	28	-	-	-	-	113
Western Illinois	24	100	5.1	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	101
Southern Illinois	28	92	3.3	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	95
Southwest Missouri	15	74	4.9	1	1	16	-	-	-	-	90
Kentucky State	18	63	3.5	2	4	80	3	-	-	-	143
11-GAME TOTALS	229	1012	4.4	10	25	198	3	2	36	-	1246
THREE-YEAR TOTALS	504	2288	4.5	14	67	597	6	30	614	1	3499