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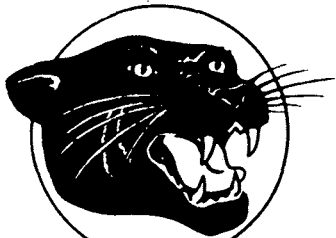
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Panther Sports News

Dec. 8, 1982

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Randy McCue (Aurora-East) earned First Team All-Mid-Continent Conference honors for one of Eastern Illinois University's greatest ever football teams.

The Panthers compiled an 11-1-1 record, ranked No. 5 in the final NCAA I-AA poll and reached the quarterfinals of the I-AA playoff before Tennessee State eliminated them with a 20-19 loss Saturday (Dec. 4). EIU had won a 16-13 first round game over Jackson State to advance to the quarterfinals.

McCue, a 5-11, 175 junior free safety, led the Panthers by recovering ten turnovers on a team high seven pass interceptions and three fumble recoveries.

He was in on 49 tackles including 30 solos, forced one fumble and blocked one punt.

Maybe his most important turnover was in the first round playoff game when, with the score tied at 13-13 in overtime, he recovered a fumble to stop a Jackson State scoring threat. EIU then kicked a field goal on its first possession for a dramatic overtime victory.

"Randy did a great job for us . . . he's an aggressive player who has that natural instinct for always being around the football," said secondary coach Rick Schachner.

"We're disappointed that Randy's graduating. This was his first opportunity as a starter and he made the most of it."

This was the third time in the past five years that 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.