

2-13-1985

02/13/1985 - EIU Signs 19 Football Players

University Marketing and Communications

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1985

Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "02/13/1985 - EIU Signs 19 Football Players" (1985). 1985. 1076.
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1985/1076

This is brought to you for free and open access by the Press Releases at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in 1985 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.

Feb., 1985

Select

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL.--Eastern Illinois University has signed ¹⁹ high school and four junior college football recruits to national letters of intent, head football coach Al Molde announced Wednesday (February 13).

"This is the best recruiting class we've signed since I've been here," said Molde. "But it should be because we've had no staff changes therefore for the first time we've been able to go at the recruiting process full steam from May through February.

"Our whole approach was better because we were able to get in early on most of these young men, and that had a lot to do with signing them.

"The competition was intense . . . we beat some mid-major institutions so we're pleased and excited about this group . . . several have outstanding credentials.

"Mostly we went after defensive players . . . linemen and linebackers, and believe we've added some depth," Molde said.

The two top recruits are wide receiver Santonio Dyer, 5-9, 175 from Chicago Harper, and two-way lineman Ivan (John) Jurkovic, 6-2, 240 from Calumet City (Thornton Fractional North).

Both were First Team All-State choices by the Chicago Tribune and Sun-Times . Dyer also was selected to the Champaign News-Gazette All-State team while Jurkovic was a News-Gazette special mention pick.

"Dyer's been rated one of the top three or four receivers in the state . . . we're fortunate to sign him," said Molde. "Jurkovic has been tabbed the No. 1 lineman in the SICA Central Conference, and was an all-league choice on both lines so he's a bona fide prospect, also."

Dyer set a state record with 37 career touchdown receptions, and this past year caught 47 for 901 yards and 19 touchdowns. In addition, he also returned five punts for TDs.

Add 1

Jurkovic had 92 solo tackles, 97 assisted tackles and 13 quarterback sacks as a senior. He will probably play as a defensive lineman for the Panthers.

Reggie Richardson, an offensive lineman from Elgin, is 6-3, 235 and considered the top lineman in the Upstate Eight, according to some newspaper reports. "He moves particularly well," said Molde, "and is very aggressive."

Richardson was named to the Chicago Sun-Times 44-man All-Area team, and the News-Gazette Special Mention All-State squad.

A fourth Sun-Times All-Area pick to sign is Jeff Mills, a 6-2, 210 linebacker from Winnetka New Trier. He is a two-time all-league choice, and a News-Gazette special mention all-stater.

"Jeff has been listed in some quarters as the No. 1 player in the Central Suburban South league. We think he's a real hitter . . . definitely one of our top recruits," Molde said.

Another with impressive credentials from the Chicago area is Eddie Doxy, a 6-2, 240 defensive lineman from Chicago Heights Bloom, who was a two-way all-conference pick, a Sun-Times special mention all-area and News-Gazette special mention all-state choice.

The staff signed two St. Louis preps picking up Dave Swingler, a 6-1, 190 defensive back from Beaumont High School, who was named to the Post-Dispatch All-Metro Honorable Mention list.

"He was one of the two best DBs in St. Louis . . . a Robert Williams type player," said Molde.

Greg Heggs, also of Beaumont, is a 6-2, 180 wide receiver, who is the state sprint champ winning the 100 meter dash in 10.7.

Eastern also signed Tyrone Covington's brother, Jerome, a 5-11, 210 linebacker from Chicago Morgan Park, who was a Third Team All-City selection.

Two central Illinois products signed were Matt Murphy, a 6-3, 230 offensive guard from Marshall, and Jeff Rolson, a 6-1, 260 defensive tackle from Farmer City-Mansfield.

Three other Chicago area players who were mentioned in a Sun-Times article on the top recruited athletes have signed with the Panthers. They are Mike Bollan, a 6-3, 230 defensive lineman from Villa Park Willowbrook, Eugene Humphrey, 6-0, 180 defensive back from Chicago Julian, and Mel Nevels, 6-1, 205 linebacker from Chicago Harper.

-30-

1985 EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL RECRUITS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POS</u>	<u>High School</u>		<u>HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL)</u>
		<u>HT.</u>	<u>WT.</u>	
Mike Bollan	DT	6-3	230	Villa Park (Willowbrook)
George Boykin	LB	6-2	205	Chicago (Vocational)
Jerome Covington	LB	5-11	210	Chicago (Morgan Park)
Eddie Doxy	DT	6-2	240	Chicago Heights (Bloom)
Santonio Dyer	WR	5-9	175	Chicago (Harper)
Brent Fischer	DT	6-5	240	Quincy (Notre Dame)
Greg Heggs	WR	6-2	180	St. Louis, MO (Beaumont)
Eugene Humphrey	DB	6-0	180	Chicago (Julian)
John Jurkovic	DT	6-2	240	Calumet City (Thornton Fr. North)
Tyrone McGee	DT	6-3	250	Chicago (Kennedy)
Jeff Mills	LB	6-2	210	Winnetka (New Trier)
Matt Murphy	OG	6-3	230	Marshall
Mel Nevels	LB	6-1	205	Chicago (Harper)
Phil Nevitt	DE	6-2	245	LaSalle (LaSalle-Peru)
Reggie Richardson	OT	6-3	235	Elgin
Jeff Rolson	DT	6-1	260	Farmer City (Farmer City-Mansfield)
Martin Sally	DB	6-1	185	East St. Louis (Lincoln)
Terry Shaw	LB	6-4	195	Peoria (Woodruff)
Dave Swingler	DB	6-1	190	St. Louis, MO (Beaumont)
 <u>Junior College</u>				
Butch Brzeski	OT	6-3	255	Chicago (Lane Tech/Triton JC)
Phil Mason	OG	6-1	240	Lansing (Thornton Fr. South/Thornton CC)
Scott Pilkerton	DT	6-2	225	San Diego, CA (Grossmount CC)
Byron Winston	DB	5-10	180	Chicago (Mendel Catholic/Triton JC)