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# Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY - Charleston, IL 61920  
217/581-5981

LS-AS-FB STATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Dec. 3, 1986)

CHARLESTON, IL.--Eastern Illinois University football players ROY BANKS (DETROIT-KING) and SEAN PAYTON (NAPERVILLE-CENTRAL) were honored Wednesday as the first of several expected postseason awards were announced.

BANKS, a senior flanker, was chosen I-AA First Team All-American by the American Football Coaches Association. Kodak sponsors this A-A squad. He is the 8th EIU player in the last 15 years to be chosen to this particular team.

PAYTON, a senior quarterback, was picked the Gateway Conference Offensive 'Player of the Year'. It's the second time in three years he has received this honor.

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These two will lead the Panthers into Saturday's (Dec. 6) NCAA I-AA Quarterfinal game vs. Eastern Kentucky. Eastern hosts the Colonels with kickoff at 1 p.m. at O'Brien Stadium

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BANKS is one of just five I-AA players to surpass 3000 yards in receptions as he finished his career with an EIU record 3177. He also set career marks with 184 catches for 38 TDs. This fall he had 53 receptions for 1014 yards and 11 touchdowns.

PAYTON is the NCAA No. 3 all-time passer, regardless of division, with 10,655 yards, and this year was the No. 1 passer in I-AA with 3456 yards. He holds 14 of EIU's 15 passing and total offense records.

Coach AL MOLDE was chosen 'Coach of the Year' as he directed the Panthers to their sixth league championship or co-championship in the last seven years. This is the 7th in the last 12 years Molde has won or shared an award of this type.

The Panthers two other First Team All-Gateway selections were WR CALVIN PIERCE (ROBBINS-OAK LAWN RICHARDS) and DT JOHN JURKOVIC (CALUMET CITY-THORNTON FRACTIONAL NORTH).

PIERCE, an AP Honorable Mention All-American last year, was chosen for the second time after leading the league with 65 catches for 1200 yards. He was No. 2 in I-AA receiving yards, and set a school record with 238 yards in a game vs. Southwest Missouri.

JURKOVIC, just a sophomore, was the Panthers No. 4 tackler with 93 but led in QB sacks with 13 and second in tackles for loss with 14.

Second Team All-Gateway honors went to RB JAMES MARABLE (CHICAGO-SCHURZ), OT STEVE BONNES (WAUKEGAN-WEST), PK RICH EHMKE (EL CAJON, CA-VALHALLA/GROSSMONT CC), DT AARON THOMAS (MARKHAM-TINLEY PARK/MORAIN VALLEY CC), SS BOB BRONAUGH (RANTOUL) AND CB ROD REYNOLDS (DETROIT, MI-KING).

Two players received Honorable Mention, C SEAN O'BRIEN (JOLIET-CATHOLIC) and OG JIM MITEFF (LIBERTYVILLE).

ALL-GATEWAY CONFERENCE

OFFENSE

DEFENSE

QB SEAN PAYTON, EASTERN ILLINOIS	DL Todd Auer, Western Illinois
RB Carl Boyd, Northern Iowa	DL John Kropke, Illinois State
RB Mel Kirksy, Southern Illinois	DL Jeff Bealles, Northern Iowa
TE Brian Baker, Northern Iowa	DL JOHN JURKOVIC, EASTERN ILL.
WR ROY BANKS, EASTERN ILLINOIS	LB Brian Gant, Illinois State
WR CALVIN PIERCE, EASTERN ILLINOIS	LB Mark Farley, Northern Iowa
C Frank Winters, Western Illinois	LB Mike Hryn, Western Illinois
OT Mike Simmonds, Indiana State	DB Jeff Smith, Illinois State
OT Ralph Van Dyke, Southern Illinois	DB Marcus Ballard, Western Ill.
OG Chris Tayrien, Southwest Missouri	DB Ira Davis, Southern Illinois
OG Keith Blue, Western Illinois	DB Steve McKeel, Indiana State

Offensive 'Player of the Year'-- QB SEAN PAYTON, QB EASTERN ILLINOIS

Defensive 'Player of the Year' - Brian Gant, LB Illinois State

Coach of the Year - AL MOLDE, EASTERN ILLINOIS

EIU 2nd Team All-Gateway - James Marable, RB; Steve Bonnes, OT; Rich Ehmke, PK; Aaron Thomas, DL; Bob Bronaugh, DB; Rod Reynolds, DB.

EIU HM All-Gateway - Sean O'Brien, C; Jim Miteff, OG.