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Panther Sports News

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, Charleston, IL 61920

DAVID KIDWELL, Sports Information Director

OFFICE (217) 581 2920 HOME (217) 345 4166

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Eastern Illinois University junior quarterback SEAN PAYTON (Naperville-Central) has been chosen First Team All-Gateway Conference for the second straight year by a vote of league coaches.

He set seven individual school records and tied another leading the Panthers to a 6-5 record and eighth straight winning season.

For the second straight year he threw for over 3000 yards finishing with 3146, fifth most in the nation for NCAA I-AA quarterbacks. His season stats were 256-494-23 with 22 TD passes, 286.0 yards p/game, 12.3 yards p/completion, 6.4 yards p/attempt, and led the league in passing and total offense.

His most impressive record was for career passing yards as he now has 7199 and is within reach of 10,000, a figure eclipsed by only a handful of collegians at all levels.

Payton's record 52nd career touchdown pass led the Panthers to a season ending come-from-behind 14-13 victory over Western Kentucky.

He also ranked 8th in I-AA total offense with 3005 yards, an average of 273.2 p/game. His career passing stats are 534-985-40, 7199 yards, 52 TD passes, 288 yards p/game, minus 298 rushing for 6901 total offense and 276 yards p/game.

"We're pleased that the league coaches again recognized Sean's abilities as a quarterback and leader of our team," said Coach Al Molde. "After setting all sorts of records as a sophomore, we knew it would be difficult to duplicate that effort but he again topped 3000 yards and did so against defenses that were keyed to stop the pass . . . we often had as many as eight defenders dropping off the line of scrimmage and Sean was still able to accumulate considerable yardage."