

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL

2024 Early National Signing Day - 12/20/23

Coach Wilkerson - 2024 Early National Signing Day Quote:

"We are thrilled to have an outstanding group of talented student-athletes signed in this first signing period. Our coaching staff has done an amazing job identifying and connecting with this phenomenal group and we can't wait for them to get to campus! This group will undoubtedly have an amazing impact both on and off the field and will arrive ready to make a difference. They will continue to solidify our foundation and complement our roster tremendously. I couldn't be more excited to have such high character, quality young men become Panthers. We are thrilled about them joining our FAMILY! The future of EIU Football is bright!"

Ajose	Daniel	WR	6-6	210	Akron, OH	St. Vincent - St. Mary HS
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Quote from Kyle Derickson (EIU Offensive Coordinator/Associate Head Coach):

"Daniel will add much needed size to our offensive skill positions and specifically at WR. The athleticism he has shown on the field and basketball court will make him a constant mis-match for CBs and Safeties."

Ajose	David	WR	6-5	210	Akron, OH	St. Vincent - St. Mary HS
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Quote from Kyle Derickson (EIU Offensive Coordinator/Associate Head Coach):

"David brings great versatility to the WR position. His aggressive nature will make him a force on offense and special teams."

Brown	Allen	CB	5-11	180	St. Louis, MO	Eureka High School
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Quote from Maurice Fleming (EIU Cornerback Coach):

"Allen's athletic skill set and potential caught the program's eye. We see him as a key piece in our future successes - making plays and making a difference."

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Quote from Maurice Fleming (EIU Cornerback Coach):

“Dillion is coming from a great program with an underdog mentality. He is definitely looking to leave a positive mark here at EIU. He is determined to come in and compete with his ability to leave his jersey in a better place. Fired up to have him join the Panther Family.”

<u>Quote from Turner Pugh (EIU Running Back Coach):</u> “Jacarre’ is a speedy and explosive home run hitter that runs strong and breaks a ton of tackles. Truly excited to bring him into our room.”

Quote from Fred Wyatt (EIU Defensive Line Coach):

“Isaiah is a do it all defensive lineman. Has the strength to dominate the run game and the quicks to get to the QB in pass rush”

<u>Quote from Maurice Fleming (EIU Cornerback Coach):</u> “Isaiah is a hardworking, high energy player who is on a mission. I believe he has the talent and character to make a significant impact on our program.”
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Quote from John Cannova (EIU Offensive Line Coach):

“Kwan Johnson is coming to EIU from Blue Island, IL and Eisenhower High School. He was a 4 sport athlete at Eisenhower. Kwan competed in football, basketball, volleyball, and track. Kwan brings versatility and athleticism to the line of scrimmage. Kwan has the exact traits we are looking to develop as a tackle.”

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Katumbusi	Rahfeeq	OL	6-2	325	Chicago, IL	Mount Carmel HS
<u>Quote from John Cannova (EIU Offensive Line Coach):</u> “Rahfeeq Katumbusi is coming to EIU from Chicago, IL and Mount Carmel High School. He was a team captain, two year starter, and a two time 7A State Champion. Rahfeeq brings a physicality, attitude, and intensity to everything he does. He embodies our Lead From the Front Mentality. Excited to have him join the Family.”						

McConnel	Chase	TE	6-5	205	Lebanon, TN	Watertown HS
<u>Quote from Jordan Walsh (EIU Tight End Coach):</u> “Chase is a multi-sport athlete, coming from Watertown High school, in Tennessee. Chase is a physical Tight End that also has a long range of ability in the pass game. As well as a focused and determined mindset. He will add value to the team as well as the offense as a whole. Excited to have him join the Tight End room!”						

Ross	Tray	DL	6-3	220	Danville, IN	Danville Community HS
<u>Quote from Fred Wyatt (EIU Defensive Line Coach):</u> “Tray is a dynamic athlete that provides length and explosiveness to the edge position. He has a very high ceiling and I'm excited to see what the future has in store for him.”						

Schiller	Drew	K	6-0	165	New Lenox, IL	Lincoln Way Central HS
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Quote from Kyle Derickson (EIU Offensive Coordinator/Associate Head Coach):

“Drew has grown over the past couple years to be one of the best kickers in the country. His work ethic and consistency could bring an immediate impact to our kicking game.”

Smith	King	DL	6-1	310	Decatur, IL	Douglas MacArthur HS
<u>Quote from Fred Wyatt (EIU Defensive Line Coach):</u> “King is going to wreak havoc on opposing offensive lineman. His size and strength are going to be huge assets for the Defensive Line room.”						

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Quote from Collin Geier (EIU Linebacker Coach):

“We are extremely excited about Jordy joining our Linebacker room. He is someone who represents what EIU football is all about. Smart, Physical, Tough and has the WE NOT ME mentality.”

Quote from Kyle Derickson (EIU Offensive Coordinator/Associate Head Coach):

“Collin has proven speed and playmaking ability. He’ll be able to take the top off of any defense and be dangerous with the ball in his hands.”

Quote from Kyle Derickson (EIU Offensive Coordinator/Associate Head Coach):

“Connor is an outstanding Quarterback with great mechanics and the intangibles your want in a QB. He is a leader, a winner, and will fit well in the Panther Culture.”