



EASTERN ILLINOIS PANTHER FOOTBALL

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GAME 8



COACHES:

Chris Wilkerson (Eastern Illinois, 1995)
 EIU Record.....6-12 (2nd)
 OVC Record.....1-6 (2nd)
 Career Record.....57-39 (11th)
 vs. Bryant First Meeting

Chris Merritt (Indiana, 1992)
 Bryant Record20-24 (5th year)
 OVC Record.....1-0 (1st)
 Overall Record.....Same
 vs. Eastern Illinois.....0-0

SERIES

First Meeting

Last: N/A

RANKINGS

Eastern Illinois / ---
 Bryant..... / ---
 *STATS Media/AFCAs Coaches*

RADIO

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 Hit Mix 88.9 FM, WTIM 870 AM,
 WHOW 1520 AM & WMKR 94.3 FM
www.network1sports.com/station/wsvz
www.weiu.net/hitmix/
 Play-by-Play..... Mike Bradd
 Analyst Dave Kidwell

TELEVISION

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Panthers Host Bryant For Hall Of Fame Game

Eastern Illinois vs. Bryant

O'Brien Field (10,000) • Charleston, Ill.

October 21, 2023 • 2 p.m. • TV: ESPN+

NOTES TO KNOW

• Eastern Illinois returns home to face Bryant for the Panthers Hall of Fame Game on Saturday afternoon. The Panthers lost at Southeast Missouri on Saturday as a pass was knocked down in the end zone on the final play of the game. It marked the second straight week EIU's game has come down to the final play of the contest as the Panthers fell to 4-3 overall, 0-2 in the Big South-OVC Football Association. Bryant enters at 3-3, 1-0 in the Big South-OVC after a win over Robert Morris last weekend.

• Pierce Holley passed for 346 yards and two touchdowns on Saturday at Southeast Missouri putting up his second straight 300-yard passing performance. Last week against UT Martin he passed for 359 yards and four touchdowns earning Big South-OVC Football Offensive Player of the Week honors. He has currently passed for 1,905 yards this season which ranks fifth in the FCS. He added two touchdown passes to his season total with his 13 touchdowns currently 12th in the FCS. Holley has been sharp most of the season with a completion percentage of 62.1 percent going 167-of-269 with five interceptions. The last EIU quarterback with back-to-back 300-yard passing games was Jimmy Garoppolo during the 2013 season against Tennessee State (410 yds / Oct. 26) and Tennessee Tech (399 yards / Nov. 2).

• Pierce Holley was dialed in to not one but two receivers on Saturday at Southeast Missouri as Justin Thomas and DeAirious Smith both finished with more than 100 yards receiving in the game. Thomas had five catches for 103 yards and a touchdown with a long reception of 43 yards. Smith hauled in four passes for 118 yards with a long reception of 46 yards. It marked the 21st time in school history that EIU had two receivers finish with more than 100 yards receiving in a game. The last time was Oct. 6, 2018 when Alexander Hollins and Aaron Gooch both had more than 100 yards receiving against Murray State.

• Safety Blake Ruffin had his second big game for the Panthers defense over the last three weeks as he finished with ten tackles Saturday at Southeast Missouri. In the Panthers road win at Northwestern State on Sept. 30, Ruffin had 13 tackles with an interception earning Big South-OVC Football Defensive Player of the Week honors. This past week Ruffin added his third interception of the season setting up EIU's first touchdown of the game. Ruffin later added a big tackle for loss on third down stopping a SEMO drive and giving EIU the ball for one final drive. Ruffin's three interceptions rank him 14th in the FCS while his 48 tackles are second on the EIU team.

Eastern Illinois (4-3, 0-2 Conf.)

Date	Opponent	Score/Time
Aug. 31	at Indiana State	W 27-0
Sept. 9	at Bowling Green	L 15-38
Sept. 16	#25 ILLINOIS STATE	W 14-13
Sept. 23	McNEESE	W 31-28
Sept. 30	at Northwestern State	W 19-10
Oct. 7	• UT MARTIN (HC)	L 27-28 (ot)
Oct. 14	• at Southeast Missouri	L 28-35
Oct. 21	• BRYANT	2 pm
Nov. 4	• at Lindenwood	2 pm
Nov. 11	• TENNESSEE STATE	12 pm
Nov. 18	• at Robert Morris	11 am

• Big South-OVC Game All Times Central

Bryant (3-3, 1-0 Conf.)

Date	Opponent	Score/Time
Sept. 2	at UNLV	L 14-44
Sept. 9	LONG ISLAND UNIV.	W 21-10
Sept. 16	BROWN	L 25-29
Sept. 23	at Princeton	W 16-13 (ot)
Sept. 30	at Rhode Island	L 26-49
Oct. 14	• ROBERT MORRIS	W 43-24
Oct. 21	• at Eastern Illinois	2 pm
Oct. 28	• at Charleston Southern	3 pm
Nov. 4	• GARDNER-WEBB	12 pm
Nov. 11	• at Lindenwood	1 pm
Nov. 18	• SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	12 pm

• Big South-OVC All Times Central

STATS FCS MEDIA TOP 25
(October 16)

Rk.	Team	Record
1.	South Dakota State (56)	6-0
2.	Montana State	5-1
3.	Sacramento State	5-1
4.	Furman	5-1
5.	Incarnate Word	5-1
6.	South Dakota	5-1
7.	Delaware	5-1
8.	Western Carolina	6-1
9.	Montana	6-1
10.	Idaho	5-2
11.	North Dakota	4-2
12.	Southern Illinois	5-1
13.	William & Mary	4-2
14.	North Dakota State	4-2
15.	Holy Cross	4-2
16.	North Carolina Central	5-1
17.	UT Martin	5-1
18.	Harvard	5-0
19.	Florida A&M	5-1
20.	Central Arkansas	5-2
21.	Chattanooga	5-2
22.	Villanova	5-2
23.	UC Davis	4-3
24.	Austin Peay	4-2
25.	Youngstown State	3-3

FCS COACHES TOP 25
(October 16)

Rk.	Team	Record
1.	South Dakota State (26)	6-0
2.	Montana State	5-1
3.	Furman	5-1
4.	Sacramento State	5-1
5.	Incarnate Word	5-1
6.	Montana	6-1
7.	Delaware	5-1
8.	Idaho	5-2
9.	North Dakota	4-2
10.	North Carolina Central	5-1
11.	Holy Cross	4-2
12.	Southern Illinois	5-1
13.	William & Mary	4-2
14.	Western Carolina	5-1
15.	North Dakota State	4-2
16.	South Dakota	5-1
17.	Harvard	5-0
18.	Florida A&M	5-1
19.	UT Martin	5-1
20.	Chattanooga	5-2
21.	Central Arkansas	5-2
22.	New Hampshire	3-3
23.	UC Davis	4-3
24.	Austin Peay	4-2
25.	Illinois State	4-2

• Eastern Illinois defense added two more turnovers to its season total on Saturday at Southeast Missouri with a Blake Ruffin interception and fumble recovery by Russell Dandy. The Panthers now have five games with multiple turnovers gained this season and lead the FCS with 19 total takeaways. EIU has been diplomatic in types of turnovers forced this year ranking second in the nation in both interceptions (10) and fumble recoveries (9). Montana is the national leader in interceptions with 11 while Marist leads the nation in fumble recoveries with ten.

• Justin Bowick hauled in his fifth touchdown pass of the season on Saturday at Southeast Missouri as he finished the game with two receptions for ten yards. It marked the third straight game the sophomore wide receiver has caught a touchdown pass as he ranks 11th in the FCS in touchdown receptions this season. The five touchdown receptions are the most in a season for an EIU receiver since 2018 when Alexander Hollins hauled in 16 touchdowns to earn All-American honors. Bowick has 23 catches for 335 yards this year.

• Joel Barrows was in on one of the Panthers two team sacks on Saturday at Southeast Missouri. Barrows was EIU's returning leader in sacks from last season with three. This year the defensive end has a team high 2.5 sacks as the Panthers have registered 11 sacks as a team. No other player on the EIU roster has more than one sack this season. Barrows has added 21 tackles with two forced fumbles to his stat line this season.

• Russell Dandy did not have a pass break-up at Southeast Missouri but did add two solo stops with a fumble recovery to his season stats. Dandy has been one of the top corners in the Big South-OVC this season ranking ninth in the FCS in passes defended with ten pass break-ups and one interception. The ten pass break-ups rank the fifth year player tied for eighth on the EIU single season list. Dandy has 23 tackles this year.

• Running back MJ Flowers continues to be one of the more dynamic freshmen in the FCS this season as he currently leads the Panthers with 409 rushing yards while ranking second with 27 pass receptions. He has amassed 552 all-purpose yards this season which ranks seventh nationally among FCS freshmen. He is fourth nationally among FCS freshman in rushing yards with a season-high 272 yards against McNeese. Flowers has been named the Big South-OVC Football Freshman of the Week three times and once was named the FCS National Freshman of the Week.

• Kevin Daniels plowed in for a one-yard touchdown at Southeast Missouri as part of his 28 yard day on the ground. A transfer from Northern Arizona where he earned All-American honors, Daniels now has 12 career touchdowns with 1,521 career rushing yards. Daniels has rushed for 238 yards this season at EIU missing one game due to injury. He rushed for a season high 78 yards in week two at Bowling Green.

• Justin Thomas hauled in a touchdown in the fourth quarter on Saturday as part of his 103 yard receiving day at Southeast Missouri. A former Division III All-American, Thomas now has 3,114 career yards and 201 career receptions which rank him tenth among active football players and second at the FCS level. He has caught at least one pass in 32 straight games and Saturday was his ninth career 100-yard receiving day. Thomas has four touchdowns this season which ranks him 21st in the FCS while he has 46 career touchdown receptions.

• DeAirious Smith had four catches for 118 yards on Saturday against Southeast Missouri. It was the second career 100-yard receiving day for the junior who caught six passes for 109 yards as a freshman against Tennessee Tech. This season Smith has 18 receptions for 349 yards with his 18.4 yards per catch average ranking 25th in the FCS.

• Linebacker Elijahah Tolbert added eight tackles to his season total on Saturday at Southeast Missouri. The junior linebacker leads EIU with 61 tackles this season which is second in the Big South-OVC and 39th in the FCS. He is tied for the team lead with four tackles for loss adding 1.5 TFL last Saturday. Tolbert was a first team All-OVC linebacker last season and earned FCS National Defensive Player of the Week honors following the Panthers week one shutout win over Indiana State.

• Due to an injury in the defensive backfield, Collin Tyson had increased playing time on Saturday at Southeast Missouri. Normally a starter on the Panthers special teams units, Tyson finished with four tackles, a half tackle for loss and two pass break-ups. Tyson had one total tackle on special teams in six games prior to his extended playing time on Saturday.

• Transfer defensive lineman Nicholas Oliviera-Chace continues to make an impact up front for EIU this season. He has been the only defensive lineman to start in all seven games making seven tackles with a sack and tackle for loss on Saturday at Southeast Missouri. He currently ranks fifth on the team with 27 tackles and leads the Panthers with five tackles for loss (ranks 10th in the Big South-OVC).

• Eli Mirza continues to be a top receiving target for the Panthers offense with five catches for 78 yards on Saturday at Southeast Missouri. Mirza is EIU's leader on the season with 40 receptions for 445 yards. He currently ranks 25th in the FCS and second in the Big South-OVC in receptions.

• Mark Aitken added two more kick returns to his career total on Saturday as he now has 205 return yards on 11 kick returns this season for a 18.6 yards per return average. Aitken was a second team All-OVC kick returner last season and has 613 career kick return yards. As a team captain on defense, Aitken is fourth on the team with 30 tackles with one interception and one forced fumble.

2023 Big South-OVC Football Standings

Team	CONF	Pct	All	Pct
UT Martin	2-0	1.000	5-1	.833
Southeast Missouri	2-0	1.000	2-4	.333
Bryant	1-0	1.000	3-3	.500
Charleston Southern	1-0	1.000	3-3	.500
Tennessee State	1-1	.500	4-2	.667
Gardner-Webb	1-1	.500	2-4	.333
Lindenwood	1-2	.333	3-4	.429
Tennessee Tech	0-1	.000	2-4	.333
Eastern Illinois	0-2	.000	4-3	.571
Robert Morris	0-2	.000	2-5	.286

This Week In Big South-OVC Football

Saturday - October 21

- * Southeast Missouri at Tennessee Tech - 1:30 pm
- * Bryant at Eastern Illinois - 2 pm
- * Charleston Southern at UT Martin - 2 pm
- Lincoln at Tennessee State - 2 pm
- Eastern Kentucky at Gardner-Webb - 5 pm

Idle

Lindenwood, Robert Morris

- * Big South-OVC Football Association Games

Eastern Illinois Captains

- 2 - Mark Aitken
- 4 - Justin Thomas
- 53 - Stone Galloway
- 56 - Tre'jon Lewis
- 67 - Chad Strickland

Big South-OVC Order Of Finish

1. Southeast Missouri (6)
2. Gardner-Webb (2)
3. UT Martin (1)
4. Tennessee Tech (1)
5. Tennessee State
6. Bryant
7. Lindenwood
8. Eastern Illinois
9. Charleston Southern
10. Robert Morris



Eastern Illinois Players On Preseason Team

- 1 - Elijahwah Tolbert (LB)
- 2 - Mark Aitken (KR)
- 3 - Russell Dandy (DB)
- 4 - Justin Thomas (WR)
- 8 - Juwon Farri (RB)
- 12 - Nick Coates (NICK)
- 13 - Cooper Willman (PR)
- 53 - Stone Galloway (K)
- 66 - Jack Valente (LS)
- 67 - Chad Strickland (OL)

• Last season Eastern Illinois lost the services of veteran offensive lineman Elkhanan Tanelus in the second game of the season against Chattanooga. Tanelus has started 25 career games during his Panthers career between the center and guard position. He returned for the first time this season on Saturday at Southeast Missouri. Tanelus now gives the Panthers some added depth on the line after they lost the services of starting guard Max Stineman to injury two weeks ago.

• Eastern Illinois has been able to add depth to its defensive front line as the season has progressed after losing a couple of players during fall camp. Zed Asowata has joined the team up front during the past three games making five tackles with one tackle for loss. EIU also had starting lineman Colby Smith return this week after missing the last couple of games with injury. Smith has nine tackles with a tackle for loss and forced fumble this season.

• Eastern Illinois continues to be among the nation's best in time of possession as the Panthers are averaging 31:43 minutes per game which ranks 28th in the FCS. The Big South-OVC has four teams ranked in the Top 30 of the FCS in time of possession led by Tennessee Tech in 22nd, Southeast Missouri in 23rd and Robert Morris in 24th. UT Martin and Bryant rank just behind in 32nd and 33rd with both averaging more than 31 minutes per game.

• Eastern Illinois welcomes Bryant to O'Brien Field for this year's 2023 EIU Athletic Hall of Fame Game. This year's Hall of Fame Class will be inducted at a banquet on Friday evening and then honored once again at halftime of Saturday's home football game. The 2023 HOF Class includes former football All-American offensive lineman Collin Seibert along with two-time U.S. Olympian Lauren Doyle, All-American high jumper Haleigh Knapp, OVC Baseball Player of the Year Jordan Kreke, OVC Softball Pitcher of the Year Hanna Mennenga and Division II National Champion Wrestler Mark Gronowski.

• Eastern Illinois offensive lineman Chad Strickland has been named a semifinalist for the NFF Campbell Trophy, the academic Heisman Trophy. Strickland, a preseason All-Big South-OVC Football selection, earned his undergraduate degree in pre-physical therapy with a 3.82 GPA and is currently enrolled in the master's program. He was one of 39 players selected from the FCS level and one of three from the Big South-OVC Football Association joining William McRainey from Gardner-Webb and Bradley Clark from Tennessee Tech.

• The Ohio Valley Conference and Big South Conference have merged into a joint conference for the sport of football with ten member schools for the 2023 season. The new Big South-OVC Football Association features OVC member schools Eastern Illinois, Lindenwood, Southeast Missouri, Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech and UT Martin. The Big South is represented by Charleston Southern and Gardner-Webb with affiliate members Bryant and Robert Morris (Pa.) also playing previously in the Big South. Next season (2024) will again see membership change with Western Illinois joining as a football playing member and Bryant exiting the conference.

• Eastern Illinois has several legacy players on its roster this season with offensive lineman Carson Fichtel, linebacker Jared Pilson and defensive lineman Peyton Wilkerson. Fichtel's father Brad was an All-American lineman for the Panthers in the early 1990's. Pilson's father Jamie was a running back for the Panthers in the early 1990's while Wilkerson's father Chris is the Panthers head coach and a former EIU defensive lineman in the 1990's. All three were teammates under head coach Bob Spoo.

• Eastern Illinois football has expanded its international pool of players as part of their 2023 roster. Already returning to the team was Daniel Luoma who is from Finland and Jaxson Isaac from Canada. The last two seasons Luoma was a reserve tight end and served as the Panthers kickoff specialist averaging 59.2 yards per kick with eight touchbacks in 2021. Isaac, another tight end, joined the roster last season using a redshirt season after playing in four games. Isaac is from Regina, Saskatchewan and played at the College of DuPage in 2021. The newest international Panther is punter Jacob Horvath from Australia. Prior to Luoma the last European player on the EIU roster was Pascal Matla from Holland in the early 2000's. The last EIU player from Canada was Conrad Praamsma in the mid-1990's. The last player from Australia to play for the Panthers was long snapper Bryce Coulson in 2019.

• Eastern Illinois has announced its team captains for the 2023 season with five players in total selected. Mark Aitken (SAF) and Chad Strickland (OL) were voted team captains in the spring following the spring game. Joining that list following fall camp are Justin Thomas (WR), Stone Galloway (K) and Tre'jon Lewis (DL).

• Eastern Illinois football has 12 players on its current roster that already have earned their undergraduate degree as they prepare to play this upcoming season. The seven graduate players are Alex Alteus, Zed Asowata, DeWayne Cooks Jr., Russell Dandy, Juwon Farri, Pierce Holley, Anthony Imperio, Jonah O'Brien, Sebastian Pares, Chad Strickland, Elkhanan Tanelus and Justin Thomas.

EIU HEAD COACH CHRIS WILKERSON

Chris Wilkerson was hired as the 26th head coach in Eastern Illinois football history on Jan. 26, 2022. A former player and assistant coach at Eastern Illinois, Wilkerson returned home and became the first EIU alumnus to serve as the Panthers head football coach. Wilkerson played and coached under OVC/EIU Hall of Fame Coach Bob Spoo. A 1995 graduate of EIU, Wilkerson coached at EIU until the 2001 season. He had assistant stops at San Jose State and Dartmouth before serving the last ten years as the head coach at the University of Chicago. Wilkerson has a 57-38 career record. Complete Coach Chris Wilkerson bio available on page 6 of EIU game notes...

BRYANT HEAD COACH CHRIS MERRITT

Chris Merritt is in his fifth season as the head coach at Bryant leading the program through its transition in conferences. Bryant was originally a member of the Northeast Conference before moving to the Big South and part of its merger to the Big South-OVC Football Association. Next season Bryant heads to the Colonial Athletic Association. Merritt played football at Indiana and began his coaching career as an assistant at Eastern Illinois on head coach Bob Spoo's staff. He was a successful high school coach at Columbus High School in Miami, Florida. He enters the week with a career record of 20-24.

SCOUTING BRYANT

Bryant enters the game the week 3-3 on the season and 1-0 in the Big South-OVC Football Association following a win last weekend over Robert Morris. Quarterback Zevi Eckhaus, a former Jerry Rice Award finalist, was named the OVC Offensive Player of the Week this week. He has passed for 1,295 yards with nine touchdowns while also ranking as the Bulldogs leading rusher with 257 yards. His top receiving target this season has been Jalen Powell with 20 catches. On defense Kenny Dyson Jr. and Michael Otty have wreaked havoc with a combined 12.5 tackles for loss and ten sacks. Chris Yates is the leading tackler with 34 stops.

THE SERIES

This will be the first meeting between Eastern Illinois and Bryant. The Panthers have never played a team from the New England area with Bryant located in Smithfield, Rhode Island. The closest geographical opponent EIU has ever faced was Delaware in the 1978 NCAA Division II National Championship game which was played in Texas. The closest game EIU has ever played to Bryant's location was the Panthers trip to Penn State in 2009. State College, Penn., is located about six and half hours from Bryant.

MERRITT AND EIU TIES

A former college player at Indiana University, Bryant head coach Chris Merritt had his first collegiate coaching job at Eastern Illinois working on the staff of long-time head coach Bob Spoo. Current Eastern Illinois head coach Chris Wilkerson was a player on those Panthers teams when Merritt worked at EIU in 1993 and 1994. Merritt also sent a number of his high school players on to compete at Eastern Illinois most notably wide receiver Erik Lora who set the FCS record for single season receptions and ranks as both EIU's and the OVC's all-time leader in career receptions.

OVC CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY

The Ohio Valley Conference is celebrated its 75th anniversary during the 2022-23 academic year. The OVC is the eighth oldest NCAA Division I conference. Eastern Illinois is entering its 28th season as a member of the OVC. The EIU football team has won seven OVC championships with former head coach Bob Spoo one of two EIU members of the OVC Hall of Fame. EIU has had four OVC Defensive Players of the Year and four OVC Offensive Players of the Year including 2002 Walter Payton Award winner Tony Romo and 2013 Walter Payton Award winner Jimmy Garoppolo.

TALE OF THE TAPE

Points Per Game.....	23.0	24.2
Average Points Allowed.....	21.7	28.2
First Downs.....	140	114
Rushing Yards Per Game	99.6	135.3
Rushing Touchdowns.....	7	8
Passing Yards Per Game	269.6	218.8
Passing Touchdowns	13	10
Average Yards Per Game	369.1	354.2
Interceptions Thrown	5	4
Fumbles - Lost	6-2	9-3
Turnovers Gained.....	19	12
Punting Average	38.6	38.3
Field Goals (ATT/MADE)	4-of-10	4-of-8
3rd Down Conversions	39-of-106 (37%)	26-of-80 (33%)
4th Down Conversions.....	10-of-19 (53%)	5-of-13 (38%)
Sacks By (Yards).....	11 (52)	14 (100)
Penalties (Yards)	43 (372)	36 (327)
Time of Possession (Game)	31:43	31:17

Statistical Leaders**RUSHING YARDS (Touchdowns)**

EASTERN ILLINOIS	BRYANT
MJ Flowers.....409 (2)	Zevi Eckhaus.....257 (1)
Kevin Daniels.....238 (2)	Fabrice Mukendi .....227 (0)

PASSING YARDS (Touchdowns)

EASTERN ILLINOIS	BRYANT
Pierce Holley.....1,905 (13)	Zevi Eckhaus.....1295 (9)
.....	Ridge Docekal.....18 (1)

RECEPTIONS (Yards)

EASTERN ILLINOIS	BRYANT
Eli Mirza .....40 (445)	Jalen Powell .....20 (249)
MJ Flowers.....27 (143)	Matthew Prochaska ....17 (369)
Justin Bowick.....23 (335)	Landan Ruggieri.....17 (177)

TACKLES

EASTERN ILLINOIS	BRYANT
Elijahwah Tolbert.....61	Chris Yates .....34
Blake Ruffin .....48	Dontae Lunan.....32
Anthony Shockey.....32	Nick Alvarado .....28
Mark Aitken.....30	Michael Otty .....27
Nicholas Oliveira-Chace.....27	Jayvis Rayside.....27

TACKLES FOR LOSS / SACKS

EASTERN ILLINOIS	BRYANT
Nicholas Oliveria-Chace..5.....1	Kenny Dyson Jr.....6.5 .....6
Blake Ruffin .....4.....1	Michael Otty .....6 .....4
Elijahwah Tolbert.....4.....0	Chris Yates2.50

**Eastern Illinois In The
OVC/NCAA Stats**

2023

TEAM

.....	NCAA	CONF
Rushing Offense	105th	8th
Passing Offense	18th	2nd
Passing Efficiency	57nd	3rd
Total Offense	53rd	3rd
Scoring Offense	68th	5th
Rushing Defense	51st	4th
Pass Defense	88th	5th
Pass Efficiency Def.	32nd	2nd
Total Defense	75th	5th
Scoring Defense	24th	1st
Net Punting	50th	4th
Punt Returns	51st	4th
Kickoff Returns	106th	9th
Turnover Margin	2nd	1st
Turnovers Gained	1st	1st
Sacks	83rd	7th
Tackles For Loss	72nd	7th
Sacks Allowed	117th	10th
3rd Down Conversion	71st	4th
4th Down Conversion	50th	3rd
3rd Down Defense	66th	7th
Red Zone Offense	102nd	8th
Red Zone Defense	66th	4th
Time of Possession	28th	4th

INDIVIDUAL (Top 50)

.....	NCAA	CONF
Pierce Holley (Comp. Pct.)	42nd	3rd
Pierce Holley (Pass Efficiency)	44th	2nd
Pierce Holley (Passing Touchdowns)	12th	1st
Pierce Holley (Passing Yards)	5th	1st
Pierce Holley (Total Offense)	24th	2nd
Justin Bowick (TD Receptions)	11th	1st
Justin Thomas (TD Receptions)	21st	2nd
Eli Mirza (Receiving Yards)	31st	3rd
Eli Mirza (Receptions)	25th	2nd
DeAirious Smith (Yards Per Reception) ..	25th	2nd
MJ Flowers (Yards Per Carry)	44th	3rd
Elijahwah Tolbert (Tackles)	39th	2nd
Elijahwah Tolbert (Forced Fumbles)	36th	4th
Russell Dandy (Fumble Recovery)	39th	4th
Russell Dandy (Passes Defended)	9th	2nd
Blake Ruffin (Fumble Recovery)	39th	4th
Blake Ruffin (Interceptions)	14th	1st
Joel Barrows (Fumble Recovery)	39th	4th
Joel Barrows (Forced Fumbles)	36th	4th
Kaelin Drakeford (Fumble Recovery)	4th	1st
Nicholas Oliveria-Chace (Fumble Rec.) ..	4th	1st
Tyris Harvey (Fumble Recovery)	39th	4th

SHUT OUT STREAK ENDS

Eastern Illinois had a 139 game streak of not being shut out in a game end Sept. 12, 2015 at Northwestern during 41-0 loss. The last time EIU had been shut out was Oct. 11, 2003 during a 41-0 loss versus Eastern Kentucky. In the 2015 season opener EIU had its streak of consecutive games scoring a touchdown end at 65 after the Panthers were held out of the end zone. The last time EIU had failed to score a touchdown was October 10, 2009 at Penn State. EIU's longest streak of consecutive games without being shutout was 197 from 1977-1997 which ranks fourth all-time among FCS schools.

Longest EIU Streaks

197 (1977-97) ended 8/28/97 at Western Illinois
139 (2003-15) ended 9/12/15 at Northwestern

OVC SUCCESS

Eastern Illinois was the OVC's most successful school in terms of wins during the first decade of the 2000's as the Panthers posted 72 wins during that span. EIU leads the conference with the most post-season appearances since the Panthers joined the league in 1996.

(FCS Playoff Appearances Since 1996)

11 - Eastern Illinois
9 - Jacksonville State *
5 - Eastern Kentucky *
4 - Southeast Missouri
3 - Tennessee State
2 - Murray State
2 - UT Martin
1 - Tennessee Tech
1 - Western Kentucky *
1 - Austin Peay *
* indicates team no longer in the OVC

2023 WEEKLY AWARDS***Week 1 - Elijahwah Tolbert (Defense) ****

Week 1 - Jacob Horvarth (Freshman)

Week 3 - MJ Flowers (Freshman)

Week 4 - MJ Flowers (Freshman) *

Week 4 - Stone Galloway (Special)

Week 5 - Blake Ruffin (Defense)

Week 5 - MJ Flowers (Freshman)

Week 6 - Pierce Holley (Offense)

* Indicates National Player of the Week

NCAA PLAYOFF APPEARANCES**School# Appearances (Last)**

Montana 27 (2022)
Northern Iowa 22 (2021)
Eastern Kentucky 22 (2022)
Furman 19 (2022)
Delaware 18 (2022)
New Hampshire 17 (2022)
EASTERN ILLINOIS 16 (2015)
McNeese State 16 (2015)
Eastern Washington..... 15 (2021)
Villanova 14 (2021)
North Dakota State..... 13 (2022)

***Former FCS members now playing at
FBS level***

* Appalachian State..... 20 (2012)
* Georgia Southern 19 (2012)
James Madison..... 18 (2021)
Sam Houston State..... 13 (2021)

FCS Division I Playoffs

1982 - Quarterfinals
1983 - First Round
1986- Quarterfinals
1989 - Quarterfinals
1995 - First Round
1996 - First Round
2000 - First Round
2001 - First Round
2002 - First Round
2005 - First Round
2006 - First Round
2007 - First Round
2009 - First Round
2012 - First Round
2013 - Quarterfinals
2015 - First Round

Division II Playoffs

1978 (National Champions)
1980 (National Runners-up)



CHRIS WILKERSON

Head Coach

2nd year at Eastern Illinois as Head Coach

(9th season at EIU overall)

Eastern Illinois, 1995

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Eastern Illinois

- * Hired as 26th head coach in Eastern Illinois history on January 26, 2022
- * Begins second year as head coach for 2023 season
- * Coached team that featured two All-Americans in 2022
- * Coached team that had 12 All-OVC selections in 2022 (four first-team selections)
- * Team ranked 11th in FCS in fewest penalties in 2022
- * Team ranked 16th in passes intercepted in 2022, 29th in turnovers gained
- * Team ranked fifth in FCS in net punting
- * Served as an assistant coach at Eastern Illinois from 1995-2001 under head coach Bob Spoo
- * Coached special teams during entire tenure working on defensive staff (linebackers and defensive line)
- * Served as defensive coordinator during final season on staff in 2001
- * Helped coach team to four FCS playoff appearances
- * Helped coach team to a pair of conference championships as team played in both the Gateway Football Conference and OVC
- * Defense and Special Teams units regularly ranked in Top 20 in FCS in numerous categories

Prior To Eastern Illinois

- * Head football coach at University of Chicago from 2013-21
- * Team posted a winning record in seven of eight seasons, 2020 year was not played due to COVID
- * Coached an offensive unit that featured the leading rusher in NCAA Division III in 2021 as team posted 8-2 record
- * Team also posted an 8-1 record in 2014 winning UAA Conference title
- * Guided the University of Chicago program through three different conference alignments posting a 39-15 record in conference play
- * Coached three Division III All-Americans
- * Coached nine All-Region selections
- * Coached four Conference Players of the Year
- * Coached 94 All-Conference selections
- * (University of Chicago Record – 51-27)
- * Coached at Dartmouth College from 2005-13, serving as Associate Head Coach since 2007
- * Served as Defensive Coordinator, Special Teams Coordinator, running backs coach and linebackers coach in tenure
- * Team ranked in FCS Top 10 nationally in several categories including punt return average, blocked kicks, individual rushing average, fewest fumbles lost
- * Dartmouth pass defense ranked 14th in the FCS in debut season as defensive coordinator
- * Coached at San Jose State from 2002-04
- * In 2003 was a nominee for Broyles Award, given annually to nation's top assistant coach

Personal

- * Played football at Eastern Illinois for head coach Bob Spoo
- * Bachelor's degree from Eastern Illinois in 1995
- * He and wife Sharna (a former EIU softball player) have three children
- * Native of Indianapolis, Indiana

Eastern Illinois				
Year	Overall	Pct.	Conf.	Pct.
	W-L		W-L	
2023	4-3	.667	0-2 (BSOVC)	.000
2022	2-9	.182	1-4 (OVC)	.200
Totals	6-12	.333	1-6	.143
University of Chicago Record				
2021	8-2	.800	7-2 (MWC)	.778
2020	*Season cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic			
2019	6-3	.667	6-1 (MWC)	.857
2018	7-3	.700	7-1 (MWC)	.875
2017	6-4	.600	6-2 (MWC)	.750
2016	4-6	.400	4-4 (SAA)	.500
2015	6-4	.600	5-3 (SAA)	.625
2014	8-1	.889	3-0 (UAA)	1.000
2013	6-4	.600	1-2 (UAA)	.333
Totals	51-27	.654	39-15	.722
				9 years
Career	57-39	.594	40-21	.656



Kyle Derickson
Assoc HC / ST / WR
(2nd year)
Butler, 2003



Joe Davis
Off Cord. / QBs
(2nd year)
Adrian College, 2002



Clay Bignell
Def Cord. / Safeties
(2nd year)
Montana State, 2011



Andrew Brady
Outside Linebackers
(2nd year)
Wheaton College, 2019



John Cannova
Offensive Line
(2nd year)
North Central College, 2014



Maurice Fleming
Defensive Backs
(1st year)
Iowa, 2016



Collin Geier
Linebackers
(2nd year)
Missouri, 2018



Turner Pugh
Running Backs
(2nd year)
Northern Illinois, 2004



Jordan Walsh
Tight Ends
(1st year)
Iowa, 2015



Fred Wyatt
Defensive Line
(1st year)
Northwestern, 2018

FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF & QUALITY CONTROL

Graduate Assistant Coach - Defense Steven Marks
Graduate Assistant Coach - Offense Tim Greene
Quality Control Coach - Offense..... Jared Sutton
Quality Control Coach - Defense..... Ryan DeMarois
Student Assistant Coach Bryce Dewberry
Student Assistant Coach Ryan Shepard
Graduate Assistant - Operations Reid Littleford

Football Athletic Trainer Scott Goehner
Football Equipment Manager Clint Bays
Director of Football Operations David Brubaker
Football Academics Nicole Jackson
Nutrition Danielle D'Alesio
Director of Football Performance..... Derek Stein
Graduate Assistant - Football Strength..... Jon Suppelsa

ADDITIONAL FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF

Head Strength Coach Joe Neihaus
Head Athletic Trainer Jim Nave
Assistant Football Athletic Trainer Alexis Fenrick
Assistant Football Athletic Trainer Samantha Reinert
Football GA Athletic Trainer Alyce Borkenhagen
Orthopedic Surgeon Sarah Bush Lincoln Sports Medicine
Team Doctor Dr. Andy Bays
Team Dentist..... Dr. Jennifer Kennedy

EIU ADMINISTRATION

University President..... Dr. Jay Gatrell
Athletic Director Tom Michael
Deputy Athletic Director Mark Bonnstetter
Associate AD/Development Mike Murray
Associate AD Media & PR Rich Moser
Assistant AD Compliance/SWA Dr. Tonya Sawyer
Assistant AD Academic Services..... Cindy Almon
Assistant AD Marketing / Fan Engagement..... James Baird
Assistant AD Sports Performance / Wellness..... Jim Nave
Ticket Manager Cindy Bayes

EIU LAST TIME IT HAPPENED

Passed for more than 300 yards...

Pierce Holley, 346, at Southeast Missouri (Oct. 14, 2023)
Pierce Holley, 359, vs. UT Martin (Oct. 7, 2023)

Passed for more than 400 yards...

Johnathan Brantley, 443, vs. Indiana State (Sept. 15, 2018)

Threw four touchdown passes...

Pierce Holley, 4, vs. UT Martin (Oct. 7, 2023)

Rushed for more than 150 yards...

Kendi Young, 160, at Murray State (Sept. 24, 2022)

Rushed for more than 200 yards...

MJ Flowers, 272, vs McNeese (Sept. 23, 2023)

Rushed for three touchdowns...

Isaiah Johnson, 3, vs. Austin Peay (Nov. 10, 2018)

Rushed for four touchdowns...

J.R. Taylor, 4 vs. Florida Atlantic (Nov. 16, 2002)

Had 12 Receptions...

Isaiah Hill 15, at UT Martin (Oct. 19, 2019)
Isaiah Hill 13, vs. Southeast Missouri (Nov. 16, 2019)
Erik Lora, 21 vs. Murray State (Sept. 22, 2012) ** OVC & EIU Single Game Record
Erik Lora, 18 vs. Towson (Dec. 13, 2013) ** FCS Playoff Single Game Record

Had 3 touchdown receptions...

Alexander Hollins, 3, at Arkansas (Sept. 1, 2018)
Alexander Hollins, 3, vs. Indiana State (Sept. 15, 2018)

Had 200 yards receiving...

Erik Lora, 269 vs. Murray State (Sept. 22, 2012) ** EIU Single Game Record
Isaiah Hill, 207 at Southeast Missouri (Oct. 30, 2021)

Returned a punt for a touchdown...

Erik Lora, 1, vs. Tennessee Tech (Nov. 2, 2013) - (80 yards)
Shepard Little, 1, vs. Tennessee Tech (Nov. 2, 2013) - (75 yards)
Shepard Little, 1 at San Diego State (Aug. 31, 2013) - (60 yards)

Returned a kick-off for touchdown...

Matt Reyna, 1, vs. Indiana State (Sept. 15, 2018) - (96 yards)

Returned an interception for touchdown...

Tyris Harvey, 1, at Indiana State (Aug. 31, 2023) - (19 yards)
Nijhay Burt, 1, at Indiana State (Aug. 31, 2023) - (67 yards)

Returned a fumble for touchdown...

Alexandar Oyawale, 1, vs. Lindenwood (Oct. 15, 2022) - (40 yards)

Recorded a safety...

Robert Haynes, 1 at Illinois State (Sept. 13, 2014) - combined with Taylor
Laquesse Taylor, 1 at Illinois State (Sept. 13, 2014) - combined with Haynes
Team at Indiana State (Aug. 31, 2023) - punt snap out of back of end zone

Blocked a punt...

Collin Tyson, 1, vs. Southeast Missouri (Nov. 12, 2022)

Returned a blocked punt for touchdown - blocked by...

DeAirious Smith, 1 vs. Illinois State (Sept. 18, 2021)... - Charles Shelton IV

Blocked a field goal...

Jordan Vincent, 1, vs. Tennessee Tech (Oct. 29, 2022)

Returned a blocked field goal for touchdown - blocked by...

Mark Aitken, 1 vs. Tennessee Tech (Oct. 29, 2022) - Jordan Vincent (65 yards return)

***Returned a point after attempt for 2-point conversion...

Cornelius Page vs Southeast Missouri (Nov. 16, 2019)

EIU scored a two-point conversion

- (Rush) - J.R. Taylor, 2, at Murray State (Nov. 23, 2002)
- (Pass) - Nile Hill from Cooper Willman, at McNeese (Nov. 5, 2022)

Won a game on a field goal...

Stone Galloway, 56, vs McNeese (Sept. 23, 2023)

Had 15 or more tackles on defense...

Colin Bohanek, 15, vs. Tennessee Tech (Oct. 29, 2022)

Had 3 or more sacks on defense...

Jordan Miles, 3, at Tennessee Tech (Sept. 25, 2021)

Had 4 or more tackles for loss on defense...

Dytarious Johnson, 4 at UT Martin (Oct. 19, 2019)

Had 2 or more interceptions

Elijahwah Tolbert, 2, at Murray State (Sept. 24, 2022)

Recovered an onside kick...

Cooper Willman, 1, at Tennessee State (Oct. 22, 2022)

Offensive Lineman Scored a Touchdown

Scott Taylor 1, at Austin Peay (Oct. 3, 2015) --- picked up fumble for 12-yard TD rush

2023 EASTERN ILLINOIS TOUCHDOWNS

Otr.....Touchdown.....Opponent

1.....Justin Bowick 35 pass from Pierce Holley at Indiana State
2.....Tyris Harvey 19 interception return at Indiana State
2.....Nijhay Burt 67 interception return at Indiana State
3.....Anthony Manaves 2 pass from Pierce Holley..... at Indiana State
1.....Kevin Daniels 15 pass from Pierce Holleyat Bowling Green
2.....DeAirious Smith 31 pass from Pierce Holley.....at Bowling Green
2.....Justin Thomas 31 pass from Pierce Holley.....Illinois State
4.....Justin Thomas 25 pass from Pierce Holley.....Illinois State
1.....Pierce Holley 1 run McNeese
2.....Eli Mirza 12 run McNeese
4.....MJ Flowers 6 run McNeese
4.....Juwon Farri 19 run McNeese
2.....Justin Bowick 52 pass from Pierce Holley at Northwestern State
3.....Kevin Daniels 6 run at Northwestern State
1.....Justin Bowick 13 pass from Pierce Holley UT Martin
2.....Eli Mirza 10 pass from Pierce Holley..... UT Martin
4.....Justin Bowick 14 pass from Pierce Holley UT Martin
OT.....Justin Thomas 21 pass from Pierce Holley..... UT Martin
1.....Justin Bowick 7 pass from Pierce Holley at SE Missouri
2.....Kevin Daniels 1 run at SE Missouri
3.....MJ Flowers 7 run at SE Missouri
4.....Justin Thomas 21 pass from Pierce Holley..... at SE Missouri

EASTERN ILLINOIS NFL CONNECTION

LAS VEGAS RAIDERS

Jimmy Garoppolo - Quarterback

CAROLINA PANTHERS

Kamu Grugier-Hill - Linebacker

DENVER BRONCOS

Sean Payton - Head Coach

TENNESSEE TITANS

Tim Kelly - Offensive Coordinator
Matt Jones - Offensive Line Assistant

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Adam Gristick - Linebackers Assistant

CLEVELAND BROWNS

Steven Bravo Brown - Special Teams Assistant

ATLANTA FALCONS

Ryan Pace - Senior Personnel Executive

BROADCAST

Tony Romo - CBS Color Analyst with Jim Nantz

TEAM GAME RECORDS**TOTAL OFFENSE:**

739.....	vs. Illinois State	Sept. 14, 2013
704.....	at UT Martin	Nov. 23, 2013
683.....	vs. Winona State	Nov. 1, 1986
676.....	vs. Saginaw State	Sept. 21, 1985
671.....	vs. Austin Peay	Sept. 29, 2012
665.....	vs. Southeast Missouri	Oct. 19, 2013
656.....	vs. Illinois-Chicago	Sept. 27, 1969
654.....	vs. Murray State	Nov. 8, 2014
643.....	vs. Murray State	Oct. 6, 2018
641.....	vs. Austin Peay	Sept. 24, 2016

RUSHING YARDAGE:

413.....	vs. Austin Peay	Sept. 20, 2014
413.....	vs. Jacksonville State	Nov. 16, 2013
398.....	vs. St. Joseph	Oct. 27, 1973
384.....	vs. Grand Valley State	Sept. 17, 1983
382.....	at UT Martin	Nov. 1, 2001
379.....	vs. Florida Atlantic	Nov. 16, 2002

RUSHING ATTEMPTS:

72.....	vs. Western Illinois	1976
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PASSING YARDAGE:

509.....	vs. Austin Peay	Sept. 29, 2012
509.....	vs. Saginaw Valley	Sept. 21, 1985
501.....	at UT Martin	Nov. 23, 2013
491.....	vs. Illinois State	Sept. 14, 2013
486.....	at Missouri State	Oct. 27, 1984
482.....	vs. Western Kentucky	Nov. 10, 1984

PASSING ATTEMPTS:

62.....	vs. Murray State	Sept. 22, 2012
61.....	at Jacksonville State	Oct. 13, 2018
61.....	vs. Murray State	Oct. 6, 2018
61.....	vs. Illinois State	Sept. 15, 2012
58.....	at Southern Illinois	Sept. 7, 2013
..... (4 other games with 58 attempts)		

PASSES COMPLETED:

40.....	vs. Murray State	Sept. 22, 2012
40.....	vs. Saginaw Valley	Sept. 21, 1985

TOUCHDOWNS:

12.....	vs. Merom Academy	1920
10.....	at UT Martin	Nov. 23, 2013
10.....	vs. Kentucky State	Nov. 13, 1982

TOUCHDOWN PASSES:

7.....	vs. Illinois State	Sept. 14, 2013
7.....	vs. Southern Illinois	2012
6.....	at UT Martin	Nov. 23, 2013
6.....	at Northern Illinois	Sept. 21, 2013
..... (3 other games with 6 TD passes)		

MOST EIU POINTS IN A QUARTER:

35.....	vs. Jacksonville State	Nov. 16, 2013
30.....	vs. Kentucky State	Nov. 13, 1982
30.....	vs. Central State	Sept. 26, 1981

MOST POINTS SCORED BY BOTH TEAMS:

105.....	at Illinois State	Sept. 15, 2012
..... (ISU 54, EIU 51 - 2OT)		
102.....	vs. Tennessee State	Nov. 2, 2002
..... (EIU 54; TSU 48)		

POINTS

82.....	Merom Academy	Nov. 18, 1920
73.....	Kentucky State	Nov. 13, 1982
70.....	at UT Martin	Nov. 23, 2013
69.....	Illinois College	1917
65.....	Austin Peay	Sept. 29, 2012
64.....	Winona State	Nov. 1, 1986
63.....	Austin Peay	Sept. 20, 2014
63.....	at Austin Peay	Oct. 10, 2013
62.....	Lock Haven	Aug. 31, 1991
60.....	at Wayne State	Nov. 9, 1968
60.....	Oakland City	Oct. 17, 1925

EIU LOWEST OFFENSIVE TOTAL:

76.....	at Youngstown State	Oct. 13, 1973
89.....	Eastern Kentucky	Oct. 26, 2019
100.....	Southeast Missouri	Nov. 12, 2022
109.....	at South Carolina	Sept. 4, 2021
116.....	at Indiana	Sept. 7, 2019
117.....	Illinois State	Sept. 16, 2017
120.....	Central Arkansas	Sept. 11, 2010
130.....	at Central Michigan	Oct. 25, 1969
138.....	at Northwestern	Sept. 12, 2015
138.....	Illinois State	Nov. 25, 2006
142.....	at McNeese State	Sept. 11, 1993
142.....	at San Jose State	Sept. 5, 1987
142.....	at Northern Iowa	Sept. 6, 1975

EIU FEWEST RUSHING YARDS:

-12.....	at Northern Iowa	Oct. 7, 1995
-6.....	Tennessee Tech	Sept. 17, 2011
-5.....	UT Martin	Oct. 22, 2011
-3.....	at San Jose State	Sept. 11, 1987
-3.....	at Toledo	Sept. 22, 1984
1.....	Illinois State	Oct. 6, 1984

EIU FEWEST PASSING YARDS:

-1.....	at Murray State (2-of-6) +	Nov. 16, 1974
0.....	Southeast Missouri *	Oct. 13, 2001
0.....	Truman State (0-of-9)	Sept. 10, 1977
5.....	at Central Missouri (2-of-7)	Oct. 4, 1975
10.....	at Truman State (1-of-4)	Sept. 11, 1976
10.....	Fairmount State (1-of-13)	Sept. 28, 1968
12.....	at Indiana State (2-of-11)	Nov. 18, 1995

* EIU did not attempt a pass in the game

+ EIU completed one pass for 5 yards and one pass for negative 6 yards in the game.

QUARTERBACK SACKS:

12.....	vs. Southwest Missouri	1986
12.....	vs. Kentucky State	1982

TURNOVERS:

8.....	vs. Youngstown State	1981
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TURNOVERS CAUSED:

13.....	vs. Northern Illinois	1940
9.....	vs. Northeast Missouri	1983
9.....	vs. Western Illinois	1980

EIU OVERTIME GAMES**DOUBLE OVERTIME**

+ Nov. 26, 1983 at Indiana State..... L 13-16		
Nov. 11, 2000 at Illinois State..... L 41-44		
Sept. 15, 2012 at Illinois State..... L 51-54		
Sept. 14, 2013 at Southern Illinois..... W 40-37		
Sept. 30, 2017 at Tennessee State..... W 19-16		
Oct. 14, 2017 at Murray State..... W 27-24		
Oct. 15, 2022 vs. Lindenwood..... L 34-37		
OVERTIME		
+ Nov. 27, 1982 vs. Jackson State..... W 16-13		
Sept. 11, 2004 vs. Indiana State..... L 30-33		
Nov. 6, 2004 at Tennessee Tech..... L 37-40		
Nov. 6, 2010 at Tennessee State..... W 31-28		
Sept. 22, 2012 vs. Murray State..... W 50-49		
Oct. 11, 2014 at Eastern Kentucky..... L 33-36		
Sept. 19, 2015 vs. Illinois State..... L 31-34		
Oct. 17, 2015 at Tennessee State..... W 25-22		
Nov. 4, 2017 vs. Eastern Kentucky..... W 23-20		
Oct. 20, 2018 vs. UT Martin..... W 24-21		
Oct. 7, 2023 vs. UT Martin..... L 27-28		
+ 1982 & 1983 games in FCS playoffs		

MOST PLAYS IN A GAME:

112.....	at UT Martin	Nov. 23, 2013
106.....	at Illinois State	2012
104.....	vs. Murray State	Nov. 8, 2014

MOST PLAYS IN A GAME BY BOTH TEAMS:

210.....	vs. Murray State	2012
... Murray State (110), EIU (100)		

OPPONENTS AGAINST EASTERN ILLINOIS**TOTAL OFFENSE:**

675.....	Tennessee State	Nov. 2, 2002
674.....	at Illinois State	Oct. 18, 1969
658.....	Murray State	Oct. 6, 2018
656.....	at Marshall	Sept. 12, 1992
631.....	at Western Michigan	Sept. 8, 2012
629.....	at San Diego State	Oct. 6, 2001
609.....	at Northern Illinois	Sept. 24, 1994

RUSHING YARDAGE:

490.....	at Central Michigan	Oct. 23, 1971
472.....	Towson	Dec. 13, 2013
468.....	at Illinois State	Oct. 18, 1969
449.....	Murray State	Oct. 6, 2018
434.....	at South Dakota State	Nov. 24, 2012
432.....	Eastern Michigan	Oct. 21, 1972
425.....	Southern Illinois	Nov. 7, 1987
420.....	Central Michigan	Oct. 24, 1970
418.....	at Northern Illinois	Sept. 24, 1994
411.....	at Southeast Missouri	Oct. 1, 2011

PASSING YARDAGE:

529.....	Hawai'i	Sept. 30, 2006
473.....	Illinois State	Sept. 15, 2012
453.....	Hawai'i	Aug. 31, 2002
452.....	Hawai'i	Sept. 11, 1999
444.....	Idaho	Nov. 25, 1989
441.....	Indiana	Sept. 7, 2019
435.....	Tennessee State	Nov. 2, 2002
423.....	Murray State	Sept. 22, 2012
419.....	Truman State (NEMO.)	Sept. 6, 1986

POINTS

74.....	Illinois Wesleyan	Sept. 30, 1921
63.....	at Kansas State	Sept. 14, 2002
63.....	at Marshall	Sept. 12, 1992
61.....	at Hawai'i	Aug. 31, 2002
61.....	Central Michigan	Nov. 2, 1957
61.....	Millikin	Nov. 1, 1941
60.....	Central Michigan	Oct. 2, 1954

LOWEST OFFENSIVE TOTAL:

-12.....	vs. Kentucky State	Nov. 13, 1982
47.....	Butler	Sept. 8, 1979
50.....	UT Martin	Sept. 25, 1996
61.....	California (Pa.)	Aug. 30, 2003
65.....	Central State (Ohio)	Sept. 26, 1981
66.....	Illinois State	Nov. 10, 1979

OPPONENT FEWEST RUSHING YARDS:

-67.....	Kentucky State	Nov. 13, 1982
-23.....	Eastern Kentucky	Nov. 18, 2000
-1.....	Southeast Missouri	Nov. 9, 1996
-1.....	Southern Illinois	Sept. 10, 1983
0.....	Northern Michigan	Nov. 1, 1980

OPPONENT FEWEST PASSING YARDS:

5.....	Central State (OH) (4-of-16)	Sept. 26, 1981
7.....	Youngstown State (1-of-12)	Dec. 2, 1978
10.....	Missouri State	Oct. 24, 1992
13.....	Northwestern (La.) State	Sept. 8, 1990
14.....	Eastern Kentucky	Oct. 26, 2019
20.....	Butler	Sept. 8, 1979
20.....	Cameron (Okla.)	Oct. 15, 1977
22.....	Austin Peay	Nov. 2, 1996

TOTAL OFFENSE:

Sean Payton.....	507 vs. Saginaw Valley.....	1985
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	501 vs. Austin Peay.....	2012
Sean Payton.....	498 vs. SW Missouri.....	1984
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	476 at UT Martin.....	2013
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	469 vs. Illinois State.....	2013
Johnathan Brantley.....	458 vs. Indiana State.....	2018
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	442 at Southern Illinois.....	2013
Sean Payton.....	441 vs. W. Kentucky.....	1984

RUSHING YARDAGE:

J.R. Taylor.....	308 vs. Florida Atlantic.....	2002
Kevin Staple.....	283 vs. Grand Valley.....	1983
MJ Flowers.....	272 vs. McNeese.....	2023
Nate Anderson.....	268 vs. St. Joseph.....	1973
Nate Anderson.....	259 vs. SW Missouri.....	1972
Shepard Little.....	245 vs. Jacksonville State.....	2013

RUSHING ATTEMPTS:

Willie High.....	48 vs. Northern Iowa.....	1993
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PASSING YARDAGE:

Sean Payton.....	509 vs. Saginaw Valley.....	1985
Sean Payton.....	486 vs. SW Missouri.....	1984
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	480 vs. Illinois State.....	2013
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	477 at UT Martin.....	2013
Sean Payton.....	461 vs. W. Kentucky.....	1984
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	453 vs. Austin Peay.....	2012
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	450 at Northern Illinois.....	2013
Johnathan Brantley.....	443 vs. Indiana State.....	2018

PASSING ATTEMPTS:

Harry Woodbery.....	68 vs. Tennessee Tech.....	2019
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	61 at Illinois State.....	2012
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	60 vs. Murray State.....	2012
Tony Romo.....	58 vs. Hawai'i.....	2002
Sean Payton.....	58 vs. Saginaw Valley.....	1985
Sean Payton.....	58 vs. Northern Iowa.....	1984

PASSES COMPLETED:

Sean Payton.....	40 vs. Saginaw Valley.....	1985
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	39 vs. Murray State.....	2012
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	38 vs. Towson.....	2013
Johnathan Brantley.....	37 vs. Indiana State.....	2018
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	37 at Illinois State.....	2012

RECEIVING (CATCHES):

Erik Lora.....	21 vs. Murray State.....	2012
* OVC Record		
Erik Lora.....	18 vs. Towson.....	2013
Erik Lora.....	17 at UT Martin.....	2012
Isaiah Hill.....	15 at UT Martin.....	2019
Erik Lora.....	15 vs. SE Missouri.....	2012
Willie White.....	15 vs. Illinois State.....	1971
Adam Drake.....	14 at UT Martin.....	2013
Erik Lora.....	14 at Northern Illinois.....	2013
Andre Raymond.....	14 vs. Hawai'i.....	2002
Rob Mehalic.....	14 vs. Delaware State.....	1981

RECEIVING (YARDS):

Erik Lora.....	269 vs. Murray State.....	2012
Frank Cutolo.....	239 vs. Tennessee St.....	2001
Calvin Pierce.....	238 vs. SW Missouri.....	1986
Adam Drake.....	225 at UT Martin.....	2013
Chris Wright.....	217 at Tennessee State.....	2010
Frank Cutolo.....	217 vs. Northern Iowa.....	2001
Erik Lora.....	215 at UT Martin.....	2012
Ralph Stewart.....	201 vs. S. Illinois.....	1988

ALL-PURPOSE RUSHING:

Poke Cobb.....	336 vs. Butler.....	1976
Andre Raymond.....	335 vs. Hawai'i.....	2002

TOUCHDOWN RECEPTIONS:

Scott McGhee.....	4 vs. Northern Iowa.....	1978
James Warring.....	4 vs. Northern Michigan.....	1978

RUSHING YARDS BY A QB:

Jalen Whitlow.....	142 at UT Martin.....	2015
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TOUCHDOWNS:

Steve Turner.....	6 vs. Mecom Academy.....	1920
Kevin Staple.....	5 vs. Kentucky State.....	1982
Erik Lora.....	4 vs. Tennessee Tech.....	2013
J.R. Taylor.....	4 vs. Florida Atlantic.....	2002
J.R. Taylor.....	4 vs. Tennessee-Martin.....	2002
Kevin Staple.....	4 vs. Grand Valley.....	1983
James Warring.....	4 vs. Northern Michigan.....	1978
Scott McGhee.....	4 vs. Northern Iowa.....	1978

TOUCHDOWN PASSES:

Jimmy Garoppolo.....	7 vs. Illinois State.....	2013
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	6 at UT Martin.....	2013
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	6 at Northern Illinois.....	2013
Tony Romo.....	6 vs. Murray State.....	2000
Jeff Christensen.....	6 vs. Kentucky State.....	1982
<i>Others (5 touchdown passes in a game)</i>		
Jimmy Garoppolo (4), Sean Payton (2),		
Tony Romo (1), Steve Turk (1), Harry Woodbery (1)		

SOLO TACKLES:

Thomas Williams.....	20 vs. St. Joseph.....	1997
Nick Ricks.....	18 vs. E. Kentucky.....	2002
Chris Nicholson.....	17 vs. SW Missouri.....	1983
Tim Lance.....	17 vs. Northern Iowa.....	1987
John Noll.....	15 vs. Northern Iowa.....	1987
Tim Lance.....	15 vs. W. Kentucky.....	1990
Jeff Mills.....	14 vs. Western Illinois.....	1988
Jeff Mills.....	14 vs. SW Missouri.....	1988

TOTAL TACKLES:

Tim Carver.....	31 vs. Texas-El Paso.....	1994
Jeff Mills.....	29 vs. SW Missouri.....	1988
Thomas Williams.....	27 vs. St. Joseph.....	1997
Nick Ricks.....	25 vs. E. Kentucky.....	2002
Tyrone Covington.....	25 vs. Illinois State.....	1984
John Noll.....	23 vs. Northern Iowa.....	1988
Ray Jeske.....	21 vs. Delaware.....	1978

TACKLES FOR LOSS:

Trevor Frericks.....	7.0 vs. Tennessee State.....	2009
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QUARTERBACK SACKS:

John Jurkovic.....	6 vs. SW Missouri.....	1986
Pete Catan.....	6 vs. Southern Illinois.....	1979

PASSES INTERCEPTED:

Bill Glenn.....	5 vs. Northern Illinois.....	1940
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MOST PASS RECEPTIONS BY A RUNNING BACK:

Devin Church.....	10 at Northern Iowa.....	2015
DuWayne Pitts.....	9 vs. SW Missouri.....	1984

INDIVIDUAL GAME RECORDS**LONGEST TOUCHDOWN PASS:**

Tony Romo to.....	98 vs. E. Kentucky.....	2000
Will Bumphus.....		

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN RUN:

Jimmy Lera.....	96 at Southeast Missouri.....	2014
Poke Cobb.....	96 vs. Tennessee Tech.....	1976

LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURN FOR TD:

Roosevelt Williams.....	98 vs. Tennessee St.....	2001
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LONGEST FUMBLE RETURN FOR TD:

Bryce Dewberry.....	90 at Tennessee Tech.....	2021
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LONGEST FIELD GOAL:

Rich Ehmke.....	58 vs. Northern Iowa.....	1986
Steve Largent.....	53 vs. SW Missouri.....	1993

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURN:

Chris Watson.....	100 vs. Northern Iowa.....	1995
Marcus Potts.....	100 vs. Youngstown St.....	1977

LONGEST PUNT:

Bob Babb.....	100 vs. Illinois State.....	1946
Kevin Cook.....	86 vs. Southeast Missouri.....	2010
(EIU Division I record)		

LONGEST PUNT RETURN:

Bob Babb.....	100 vs. Millikin.....	1949
Erik Lora.....	80 vs. Tennessee Tech.....	2013
Jermaine Mobley.....	80 vs. Tennessee State.....	2004
Frank Cutolo.....	80 at Central Florida.....	1999

MOST BLOCKED KICKS:

Kourtney Young.....	3 vs. Illinois State.....	2000
Scott Johnson.....	3 vs. Western Illinois.....	1988
Scott Johnson.....	3 vs. Western Kentucky.....	1988

MOST CONSECUTIVE PASSES COMPLETED:

Pierce Holley....	20 vs. Illinois State..	2023
Sean Payton.....	17 vs. Western Kentucky.....	1986
Tony Romo.....	16 vs. Indiana State.....	2001

MOST FIELD GOALS:

Rich Ehmke.....	5 vs. Winona State.....	1986
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MOST FUMBLE RECOVERIES:

Tied by many.....	2	
Last - Dytarious Johnson at Murray State.....	2019	

MOST INTERCEPTIONS THROWN:

Jeff Thorne.....	7 vs. McNeese State.....	1993
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All eyes are on **Rich Ehmke's (#6)** record-setting 58 yard field goal that gave the No. 8 ranked Panthers a 31-30 victory over No. 11 Northern Iowa on the last play of the game in 1986. Often described as the "most exciting game in EIU history," the Homecoming win in front of 11,000 plus fans propelled the Panthers on to the conference championship that season.

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	YR	EXP	HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL/JC/LAST)
0	Ira Armstead II	DB	6-4	230	Jr	1	South Bend, Ind. (Adams / Univ. of Virginia)
0	Jordan "Jroy" Woods	WR	6-2	180	Fr	HS	Hammond, Ind. (Hammond Central)
1	Justin Bowick	WR	6-5	195	So	1	Powder Springs, Ga. (Pace Academy)
1	Elijahwah Tolbert	LB	6-1	230	Jr	2	Country Club Hills, Ill. (Hillcrest)
2	DeWayne Cooks Jr	WR	6-2	165	Gr	3	Tulsa, Okla. (Booker T. Washington)
2	Mark Aitken	DB	5-9	175	R-Jr	2	Chicago, Ill. (Kenwood Academy / Northern Illinois Univ.)
3	Russell Dandy	DB	6-0	175	Gr	2	Hinesville, Ga. (Liberty County / Butte College)
3	Pierce Holley	QB	6-2	215	R-Jr	TR	Arvada, Colo. (Lakewood / Georgetown Univ.)
4	Blake Ruffin	DB	6-4	205	R-So	1	Louisville, Ky. (Trinity)
4	Justin Thomas	WR	6-1	205	Gr	RS	Wixom, Mich. (Walled Lake Western / Albion College)
5	Anthony Shockey	LB	6-1	230	R-Jr	2	Lombard, Ill. (Glenbard East)
5	Terrance Gipson	ATH	6-0	195	Jr	TR	Kingwood, Texas (Westfield / East Los Angeles College)
6	Joel Barrows	DL	6-3	230	R-Jr	2	Chicago, Ill. (Brooks Prep)
6	Jonah O'Brien	QB	6-4	210	R-Jr	1	Bartlett, Ill. (Bartlett / Colorado State Univ.)
7	Tyris Harvey	DB	5-11	175	Jr	3	Olympia Fields, Ill. (Rich Central)
7	Eli Mirza	WR	5-11	190	Jr	TR	Sacramento, Calif. (Monterey Trail / Sierra College)
8	Juwon Farri	RB	5-9	195	5th	TR	Germantown, Md. (Northwest HS / Monmouth Univ.)
8	Tienne Fridge	DB	6-2	210	Jr	TR	Sacramento, Calif. (Elk Grove / Sacramento City College)
9	Braylon Willis	DL	6-4	245	Sr	1	Lafayette, La. (Lafayette / East Los Angeles College)
9	Aaron Rice	WR	6-5	200	R-Fr	RS	Farmington Hills, Mich. (North Farmington)
11	Anthony Manaves	TE	6-4	230	R-Jr	3	Chicago, Ill. (St. Patrick)
11	Alexandar Oyawale	LB	6-0	215	Sr	1	Murrieta, Calif. (Vista Murrieta / Riverside CC)
12	Tyler Clark	RB	5-10	205	R-So	1	Chicago, Ill. (Phillips)
12	Nick Coates	DB	5-10	180	Jr	2	Louisville, Ky. (Male)
13	Alex Alteus	DL	6-1	240	Gr	TR	Morehead City, NC (West Carteret / Stetson Univ.)
13	Cooper Willman	WR	6-1	210	Jr	3	Sterling, Ill. (Sterling)
14	Adonis Forest Jr	SAF	6-4	215	Jr	TR	Union City, Calif. (Moreau Catholic / Contra Costa College)
14	Blainey Dowling	QB	6-2	195	Fr	HS	Chicago, Ill. (Chicago Mount Carmel)
15	Malik Rainey	DB	5-11	190	R-So	TR	Chicago, Ill. (Bolingbrook / Univ. of Cincinnati)
16	Kevin Conway	QB	6-2	210	R-Fr	RS	New Lenox, Ill. (Providence Catholic / Diamond Football Academy)
19	Phoenix Porter	LB	6-1	220	R-So	1	Fairfield, Ohio (Fairfield)
20	MJ Flowers	RB	6-1	195	R-Fr	RS	Cincinnati, Ohio (Colerain)
21	Jay Pearson	RB	6-0	200	R-Fr	RS	McKees Rocks, Pa. (Sto-Rox Junior-Senior)
22	Kaelin Drakeford	DB	6-4	215	R-So	1	Harrodsburg, Ky. (Mercer County)
23	Kevin Daniels	RB	6-2	230	R-So	TR	Glendale, Ariz. (Glendale / Northern Arizona Univ.)
24	Collin Tyson	DB	6-0	180	R-So	1	Kansas City, Mo. (Platte County R-3)
25	Marcus Edwards	DB	5-11	180	R-So	TR	Bay City Texas (Bay City / Cisco College)
26	Makhi Wilson	SAF	6-0	180	Fr	HS	Bettendorf, Iowa (Pleasant Valley)
27	Zay Gentry	DB	6-0	195	Jr	2	Anna, Texas (Anna)
28	Brandon Guido	DB	5-9	185	R-Jr	2	Naperville, Ill. (Waubonsie Valley)
29	Kendi Young	RB	5-11	195	Jr	2	Calumet City, Ill. (Thornton Fractional North)
30	Diego Oliver	DB	6-0	175	R-Fr	RS	Chicago, Ill. (Kenwood Academy)
31	Chris Williams	DB	6-2	175	R-So	1	Peoria, Ill. (Peoria)
32	Ty Schultz	RB	5-10	195	R-Fr	RS	Lockport, Ill. (Lockport Township)
33	Nile Hill	WR	5-11	190	R-Jr	2	Chicago, Ill. (Marist)
33	Christopher Sharp	CB	5-11	170	Fr	HS	St. Louis, Mo. (DeSmet Jesuit)
34	NiJhay Burt	SAF	5-11	170	So	1	Munhall, Pa. (Steel Valley)
35	Zeke Lewis	RB	6-0	195	R-So	SQ	Decatur, Ill. (Decatur St. Teresa)
36	Lazerick Eatman	WR	5-10	185	Sr	1	Willow Brook, Ill. (Immaculate Conception / College of DuPage)
37	Scottie McMillon	DB	6-0	170	Gr	TR	Bryans Road, Md. (Lackey / Clarion Univ.)
38	Akin Adigun	SAF	6-2	180	Fr	HS	Little Elm, Texas (Lone Star)
39	Elijah Ball	SAF	6-1	220	Gr	1	Indianapolis, Ind. (Ben Davis / Purdue Univ.)
40	Isaiah Richardson	ATH	6-5	205	Fr	HS	Suwanee, Ga. (Collins Hill)
41	Peyton Wilkerson	DL	6-1	240	Fr	HS	Mokena, Ill. (Lincoln-Way Central)
42	Henry Woods Jr.	DB	5-10	175	Jr	2	New Lenox, Ill. (Lincoln-Way Central)
43	William Orth	K	5-10	165	R-So	2	Ames, Iowa (Ames)
44	Terence Simon Jr	DL	6-1	285	Sr	1	Inglewood, Calif. (Cathedral / Cerritos College)
45	Jack Pilson	LB	6-0	230	R-Jr	TR	Mattoon, Ill. (Mattoon / Lehigh Univ.)
46	Trey Shaw III	DB	6-1	190	R-So	1	Nashville, Tenn. (East Nashville Magnet)
47	Shawn Pepp Jr	DB	6-2	190	R-So	RS	Allen, Texas (Liberty / Contra Costa College)
48	Michael Jarosz	LB	6-1	235	R-Sr	2	Wheaton, Ill. (Wheaton North)

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	YR	EXP	HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL/JC)
49	Jesse Garza	LB	6-2	235	Jr	TR	Nipomo, Calif. (Nipomo / Allan Hancock College)
50	Luke Wagner	DL	6-4	230	R-So	RS	Washington, Pa. (McGuffey / Santa Barbara City College)
51	Payton Orth	LB	5-11	220	Jr	2	Frankfort, Ill. (Lincoln-Way East)
52	Jamari Johnson	DL	6-4	250	R-So	1	Chicago, Ill. (De La Salle Institute)
53	Stone Galloway	K	5-11	210	Sr	4	Collinsville, Ill. (Althoff Catholic)
54	Nic DiSanto	OL	6-4	320	Fr	HS	Wyandotte, Mich. (Gabriel Richard)
55	Drew Wilder	OL	6-3	305	R-So	TR	Williamsburg, Va. (Jamestown / Iowa Western CC)
56	Tre'jon Lewis	DL	6-4	285	R-Jr	1	Manor, Texas (Manor / Texas Tech Univ.)
57	Panayiotis Mihalopoulos	OL	6-2	310	Fr	HS	Chicago, Ill. (Loyola Academy)
57	Caden Tellenson	LB	5-11	205	Fr	HS	Redondo Beach, Calif. (Redondo Union)
58	Anthony Imperio	OL	6-4	310	Sr	3	Auburn, Ala. (Auburn)
59	Liam Carr	LB	6-0	190	R-So	TR	Okemos, Mich. (Okemos / Michigan State Univ.)
61	Jonathan Arellano	OL	6-3	305	R-So	RS	Lancaster, Calif. (Bishop Alemany / College of the Canyons)
62	Brennan Anderson	OL	6-4	345	Jr	TR	Dallas Center, Iowa (Dallas Center-Grimes/Iowa Western CC)
63	Noah Howard	OL	6-4	315	Jr	TR	Clinton, Iowa (Clinton / Iowa Central College)
64	Trevon Piggee-Blake	DL	6-1	285	Fr	HS	St. Louis, Mo. (DeSmet Jesuit)
65	Carson Fichtel	OL	6-3	315	R-Fr	RS	Heath, Texas (Rockwall-Heath)
66	Jack Valente	OL/LS	6-4	310	Jr	2	Batavia, Ill. (Batavia)
67	Chad Strickland	OL	6-5	315	Gr	4	Salem, Ala. (Smiths Station)
68	Matthew Allen	OL	6-9	270	Fr	HS	Bourbonnais, Ill. (Bradley-Bourbonnais)
69	Braden Hunter	OL	6-5	280	Fr	HS	Sandwich, Ill. (Aurora Christian)
70	JJ Johnson	OL	6-4	340	R-So	SQ	Westerville, Ohio (Westerville Central)
71	Sebastian Pares	OL	6-6	300	R-Jr	TR	Joliet, Ill. (Wheaton Academy / Univ. of Sioux Falls)
72	Elkhanan Tanelus	OL	6-2	340	Gr	3	Naples, Fla. (Barron Collier)
73	Brody Rankin	OL	6-3	340	R-Fr	RS	Charleston, Ill. (Charleston)
74	Haven Hatfield	OL	6-3	280	R-Fr	RS	Tuscola, Ill. (Tuscola)
75	Matthew Bean	OL	6-6	275	R-So	SQ	Lima, Ohio (Shanwee)
76	Bryce Burnett	OL	6-4	300	R-Fr	RS	Danville, Ill. (Westville)
77	Torris Robinson	OL	6-5	330	Jr	TR	Olive Branch, Miss. (Southaven / Coahoma CC)
78	Max Stineman	OL	6-4	345	Jr	1	Ewa, Haw. (Saint Joseph / Allan Hancock College)
79	Rasheed Anderson	OL	6-5	360	R-Fr	RS	Oak Park, Ill. (Fenwick)
80	Quenton Rodgers	WR	6-2	190	Fr	HS	Mahomet-Seymour, Ill. (Mahomet-Seymour)
81	Jaxson Isaac	TE	6-6	245	R-So	TR	Regina, Saskatchewan (Clearwater Acad. (Fla./College of Dupage)
82	Joe McNab	TE	6-6	245	R-So	SQ	Madison Heights, Mich. (Lamphere)
83	Jake Fieldman	WR	5-11	180	R-Fr	RS	Joliet, Ill. (Joliet Catholic)
84	Eyasu Palmore	TE	6-5	210	Fr	HS	Sandy Spring, Md. (Sherwood)
85	Christian Banks	WR	6-1	210	Fr	HS	Chicago, Ill. (Olympia (Fla.))
86	Jamal Jeffers	WR	5-10	175	Jr	TR	Oklahoma City, Okla. (Putnam City North / Northeastern Oklahoma A&M)
87	Alex Ginnever	TE	6-5	225	R-Fr	RS	Wentzville, Mo. (Holt)
88	DeAirious Smith	WR	5-11	180	Jr	3	Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Christian Academy)
89	Daniel Luoma	TE / K	6-2	240	Jr	2	Porvoo, Finland (Porvoo)
90	Zed Asowata	DL	6-3	250	Gr	TR	Spring, Texas (Cypress Ridge / Midwestern State Univ.)
91	Nicholas Oliveira-Chace	DL	6-3	275	Jr	TR	Cambridge, Mass. (Cambridge Rindge & Latin School / Franklin Pierce Univ.)
92	Colby Smith	DL	6-0	285	Jr	1	Dunnellon, Fla. (Dunnellon, Fla. / Dodge City CC)
93	Jacob Horvath	P	6-1	190	Fr	HS	Bentleigh, Australia
94	Alton Jefferson	DL	6-0	285	Jr	2	Louisville, Ky. (Trinity)
95	Drake Van Hyfte	DL	6-4	265	R-So	1	Annawan, Ill. (Annawan-Wethersfield)
96	Julian Patino	K	5-10	200	R-So	SQ	Chicago, Ill. (Chicago Mount Carmel)
97	Cole Silzer	DL	6-3	250	R-Fr	RS	Lockport, Ill. (Lockport Township)
98	Brett Galetti	DB/LS	6-1	220	R-So	SQ	Frankfort, Ill. (Lincoln Way East)
99	Jaron Hacha	DL	5-11	305	Jr	2	Frankfort, Ill. (Lincoln-Way East)
	Jason Jeanty Jr	OL	6-5	285	R-Fr	RS	Miami, Fla. (Washington)
	Will Shumpert	WR	6-6	220	R-Jr	1	St. Louis, Mo. (Belleville West)
	Cody Silzer	DL	6-3	250	R-Fr	RS	Lockport, Ill. (Lockport Township)

EASTERN ILLINOIS FOOTBALL PRONUNCIATIONS

1 - Justin BO-wick
 1 - Ee-LIE-juh-wuh Tolbert
 2 - Mark ATE-ken
 6 - Jo-ELL Barrows
 8 - jah-wahn far-ree
 8 - tea-in Fridge
 11 - Anthony Muh-NAW-vezz

11 - Alex-an-DAR Oh-yuh-WALL-ay
 13 - Alex All-tess
 22 - KAY-lin Drakeford
 26 - muh-KY Wilson
 28 - Brandon GWEE-doh
 34 - Nye-ZHAY Burt
 38 - ACK-in AD-uh-gin

48 - Michael JAIR-ohs
 56 - TRAY-zhon Lewis
 57 - pahn-ee-otis me-hall-low-poll-us
 61 - Johnathan AR-ee-ON-oh
 65 - Carson FICK-tul
 66 - Jack Vuh-LEN-tay
 71 - Sebastian par-rez

72 - El-cannon TAN-uh-lus
 78 - Max STINE-mun
 84 - ee-AW-soo Palmore
 86 - LAZ-er-ick Eatman
 87 - Alex Juh-NEVER
 88 - Dee-AIR-ee-us Smith
 89 - Daniel Loo-OH-muh

90 - Zed AWS-uh-WATT-uh
 91 - Nicholas Oh-luh-VAIR-uh Chace
 93 - Jacob hor-vath
 95 - Drake Van Hefty
 98 - Brett Guh-LETTY
 99 - Jaron HOTCH-uh

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

38	Akin Adigun.....	SAF	35	Zeke Lewis	RB
2	Mark Aitken.....	DB	89	Daniel Luoma	TE / K
68	Matthew Allen	OL	11	Anthony Manaves.....	TE
13	Alex Alteus.....	DL	37	Scottie McMillon.....	DB
62	Brennan Anderson.....	OL	43	Joe McNab	TE
79	Rasheed Anderson	OL	57	Panayiotis Mihalopoulos.....	OL
61	Jonathan Arellano.....	OL	7	Eli Mirza.....	WR
0	Ira Armstead II	DB	6	Jonah O'Brien.....	QB
90	Zed Asowata.....	DL	91	Nicholas Oliveira-Chace	DL
39	Elijah Ball.....	SAF	30	Diego Oliver.....	DB
85	Christian Banks	WR	51	Payton Orth	LB
6	Joel Barrows.....	DL	82	William Orth	K
75	Matthew Bean.....	OL	11	Alexandar Oyawale	LB
1	Justin Bowick.....	WR	84	Eyasu Palmore	TE
76	Bryce Burnett.....	OL	71	Sebastian Pares	OL
34	Nijhay Burt.....	SAF	96	Julian Patino	K
59	Liam Carr.....	LB	21	Jay Pearson.....	RB
12	Tyler Clark	RB	47	Shawn Pepp Jr	DB
12	Nick Coates	DB	64	Trevon Piggee-Blake	DL
16	Kevin Conway.....	QB	45	Jack Pilson	LB
2	DeWayne Cooks Jr.....	WR	19	Phoenix Porter.....	LB
3	Russell Dandy	DB	73	Brody Rankin	OL
23	Kevin Daniels.....	RB	9	Aaron Rice.....	WR
54	Nic DiSanto.....	OL	15	Malik Rainey	DB
14	Blainey Dowling	QB	40	Isaiah Richardson.....	ATH
22	Kaelin Drakeford.....	DB	77	Torris Robinson.....	OL
36	Lazerick Eatman.....	WR	80	Quenton Rodgers	WR
25	Marcus Edwards.....	DB	4	Blake Ruffin	DB
8	Juwon Farri.....	RB	32	Ty Schultz.....	RB
65	Carson Fichtel	OL	33	Christopher Sharp	CB
83	Jake Fieldman	WR	46	Trey Shaw III.....	DB
20	MJ Flowers	RB	5	Anthony Shockey.....	LB
14	Adonis Forest Jr	SAF		Will Shumpert.....	WR
8	Tienne Fridge.....	DB	96	Cody Silzer	DL
98	Brett Galetti.....	DB/LS	97	Cole Silzer	DL
53	Stone Galloway	K	44	Terence Simon Jr.....	DL
49	Jesse Garza	LB	92	Colby Smith	DL
27	Zay Gentry.....	DB	88	DeAirious Smith.....	WR
87	Alex Ginnever	TE	78	Max Stineman.....	OL
5	Terrance Gipson	ATH	67	Chad Strickland	OL
28	Brandon Guido	DB	72	Elkhanan Tanelus	OL
99	Jaron Hacha	DL	57	Caden Tellenson.....	LB
7	Tyris Harvey.....	DB	4	Justin Thomas	WR
74	Haven Hatfield.....	OL	1	Elijahwah Tolbert	LB
33	Nile Hill	WR	24	Collin Tyson.....	DB
3	Pierce Holley	QB	66	Jack Valente	OL/LS
93	Jacob Horvath	P	95	Drake Van Hyfte	DL
63	Noah Howard.....	OL	50	Luke Wagner	DL
69	Braden Hunter	OL	55	Drew Wilder	OL
58	Anthony Imperio	OL	41	Peyton Wilkerson.....	DL
81	Jaxson Isaac.....	TE	31	Chris Williams.....	DB
48	Michael Jarosz.....	LB	9	Braylon Willis	DL
	Jason Jeanty Jr	OL	13	Cooper Willman	WR
86	Jamal Jeffers	WR	26	Makhi Wilson	SAF
94	Alton Jefferson.....	DL	42	Henry Woods Jr.	DB
52	Jamari Johnson	DL	0	Jordan "Jroy" Woods	WR
70	JJ Johnson	OL	29	Kendi Young	RB
56	Tre'jon Lewis.....	DL			

MISC. SEASON NOTES & STATS

EIU NCAA FBS TRANSFERS

0- Ira Armstead II (Univ. of Virginia)
 2 - Mark Aitken (Northern Illinois Univ.)
 5 - Terrance Gipson (SMU)
 6 - Jonah O'Brien (Colorado State Univ.)
 15 - Malik Rainey (Univ. of Cincinnati)
 39 - Elijah Ball (Purdue Univ.)
 56 - Tre'jon Lewis (Texas Tech Univ.)

EIU NCAA FCS TRANSFERS

3 - Pierce Holley (Georgetown)
 8 - Juwon Farri (Monmouth Univ.)
 13 - Alex Alteus (Stetson)
 23 - Kevin Daniels (Northern Arizona)
 45 - Jack Pilson (Lehigh)

EIU ROSTER BY CLASS

Graduate Student / 5th Year 12
 Senior 5
 Junior..... 37
 Sophomore 26
 RS-Freshman 17
 Freshman 17

EIU ROSTER BY STATE

Illinois 45
 California 8
 Texas 8
 Missouri 5
 Ohio..... 5
 Georgia..... 4
 Iowa..... 4
 Kentucky 4
 Michigan 4
 Florida..... 3
 Indiana..... 3
 Pennsylvania 3
 Alabama 2
 Maryland..... 2
 Oklahoma..... 2
 Arizona..... 1
 Hawai'i..... 1
 Louisiana..... 1
 Colorado..... 1
 Massachusetts 1
 Mississippi 1
 North Carolina 1
 Tennessee 1
 Virginia..... 1
 Australia..... 1
 Canada..... 1
 Finland 1

EIU OFFENSE

QUARTERBACK

3 ... Pierce Holley	6-2	215	Grad
6 ... Jonah O'Brien.....	6-4	210	Grad

RUNNING BACK

20 ... MJ Flowers	6-1	195	R-Fr
23 ... Kevin Daniels	6-2	230	R-So

TIGHT END

11 ... Anthony Manaves.....	6-4	230	R-Jr
89 ... Daniel Luoma	6-2	240	Jr

LEFT TACKLE

67 ... Chad Strickland	6-5	315	Grad
61 ... Jonathan Arellano	6-3	305	R-So

LEFT GUARD

71 ... Sebastian Pares	6-6	300	R-Jr
72 ... Elkhanan Tanelus.....	6-2	340	Grad

CENTER

55 ... Drew Wilder	6-3	305	R-So
65 ... Carson Fichtel.....	6-3	315	R-Fr

RIGHT GUARD

66 ... Jack Valente	6-4	310	Jr
58 ... Anthony Imperio	6-4	310	Grad

RIGHT TACKLE

54 ... Nic DiSanto	6-5	320	Fr
66 ... Jack Valente	6-4	310	Jr

RECEIVER

1 ... Justin Bowick	6-5	195	So
36 ... Lazerick Eatman.....	5-10	185	Sr

RECEIVER

4 ... Justin Thomas.....	6-1	205	Grad
88 ... DeAirious Smith.....	5-11	180	Jr

RECEIVER

7 ... Eli Mirza	5-11	190	Jr
13 ... Cooper Willman.....	6-1	210	Jr

EIU COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Chris Wilkerson (Eastern Illinois, 1994) - 2nd year

Career 57-39 (9), **EIU Record** 6-12 (2); **OVC Record** 1-6 (2)

Associate HC/ST/Wide Receivers: Kyle Derickson (2nd year)

Offensive Coordinator/QB's: Joe Davis (2nd year)

Offensive Line: John Cannova (2nd year)

Running Backs: Turner Pugh (2nd year)

Tight Ends: Jordan Walsh (1st year)

Graduate Assistant Offensive Coach: Tim Greene (2nd year)

Defensive Coordinator/Safeties: Clay Bignell (2nd year)

Defensive Backs: Maurice Fleming (1st year)

Defensive Line: Fred Wyatt (1st year)

Linebackers: Collin Geier (2nd year)

Outside Linebackers: Andrew Brady (2nd year)

Graduate Assistant Defensive Coach: Steven Marks (1st year)

Director of Football Ops: David Brubaker (1st year)

Director of Football Performance: Derek Stein (4th year)

Trainer: Scott Goehner (3rd year)

Equipment Manager: Clint Bays (15th year)

Quality Control Staff:

Reid Littleford (Ops), Jared Sutton (QC - Off),

Ryan DeMarois (QC - Def), Jon Suppelsa (QC - Strength),

Ryan Shepard (Student Asst.)

EIU DEFENSE

DEFENSIVE END

91 ... Nicholas Oliveira-Chace	6-3	275	Jr
13 ... Alex Alteus	6-1	240	Grad

NOSE TACKLE

92 ... Colby Smith.....	6-0	285	Jr
99 ... Jaron Hacha	5-11	305	Jr

DEFENSIVE TACKLE

56 ... Tre'jon Lewis	6-4	285	R-Jr
95 ... Drake Van Hyfte	6-4	265	R-So

DEFENSIVE END/LINEBACKER (BUCK)

6 ... Joel Barrows	6-3	230	R-Jr
9 ... Braylon Willis.....	6-4	245	Sr

LINEBACKER

5 ... Anthony Shockey	6-1	230	R-Jr
19 ... Phoenix Porter	6-1	220	R-So

LINEBACKER

1 ... Elijahwah Tolbert	6-1	230	Jr
11 ... Alexandar Oyawale	6-0	215	Sr

CORNERBACK

7 ... Tyris Harvey	5-11	175	Jr
15 ... Malik Rainey	5-11	190	R-So

SAFETY (FOX)

12 ... Nick Coates	5-10	180	Jr
0 ... Ira Armstead	6-4	230	Jr

STRONG SAFETY

4 ... Blake Ruffin.....	6-4	205	R-So
22 ... Kaelin Drakeford.....	6-4	215	R-So
or 24 ... Collin Tyson	6-0	180	R-So

FREE SAFETY

2 ... Mark Aitken.....	5-9	175	R-Jr
34 ... Nilhay Burt.....	5-11	170	So

CORNERBACK

3 ... Russell Dandy.....	6-0	175	Grad
37 ... Scottie McMillon.....	6-0	170	Grad

EIU SPECIALISTS

KICKER

53 ... Stone Galloway	5-11	210	Sr
96 ... Julian Patino	5-10	200	R-So

KICKOFF

89 ... Daniel Luoma	6-2	240	Jr
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PUNTER

93 ... Jacob Horvath.....	6-1	190	Fr
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HOLDER

93 ... Jacob Horvath.....	6-1	190	Fr
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LONG SNAPPER

98 ... Brett Galetti	6-1	220	R-So
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PUNT RETURNS

13 ... Cooper Willman.....	6-1	210	Jr
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KICK RETURNS

2 ... Mark Aitken.....	5-9	175	R-Jr
27 ... Zay Gentry.....	6-0	195	Jr



GAME 1 - Aug. 31, 2023

Eastern Illinois 27
Northern Illinois..... 0

Terre Haute, Ind.
Memorial Stadium (4,355)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Eastern Illinois	6	12	9	0	27
Indiana State.....	0	0	0	0	0

FIRST QUARTER

EIU - Bowick 35 pass from Holley (kick failed) - 10:08

SECOND QUARTER

EIU - Harvey 19 interception return (pass failed) - 0:55
EIU - Burt 67 interception return (pass failed) - 0:29

THIRD QUARTER

EIU - Safety (punt snap out of end zone) - 3:35
EIU - Manaves 2 pass from Holley (W. Orth kick) - 3:21

TEAM STATSEIUINST

First Downs.....	17	16
Rushes-Yards.....	30-94	36-101
Passing-Yards.....	244	116
Comp-Att-Int.....	19-31-1	13-26-4
Total Offense.....	338	217
Fumbles-Lost.....	2-0	3-2
Penalties-Yards.....	4-55	3-22
Int Returns-Yards-TD.....	4-103-2	1-35-0
Time of Possession.....	29:49	30:11
Sacks-Yards.....	3-19	1-7

LEADERS

RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)

EIU - Daniels (13-57-0), Mirza (1-27-0)
INST - Olaes (9-59-0), Allen (5-29-0)

PASSING (Att-Cmp-Int-Yds-TD)

EIU - Holley (30-19-1-244-2)
INST - Screws (24-13-2-116-0), Olaes (2-0-2-0-0-)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Willman (5-53-0), Mirza (4-82-0), Bowick (4-61-1)
INST - Caton (6-70-0), Van Dyne (3-25-0)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Tolbert (7-5-0), Porter (5-2-1), Lewis (4-2-0.5)
INST - Blackwell (5-6-0.5), Hauser (6-0-0)

RECAP

Eastern Illinois had two pick six touchdowns in the final minute of the first half to set the tone and carry the Panthers to a 27-0 win over Indiana State in the season opener. It was EIU's first win to open a season since the 2017 season and first shutout since the final game of the 2016 campaign. Leading 6-0 late in the final minute of the opening half, Tyris Harvey picked off a pass and returned it 19 yards for a touchdown. Just over 30-seconds later Nijhay Burt picked off a pass and returned it 67 yards for a score to put EIU up 18-0 at the half. The Panthers had offensive touchdowns on Pierce Holley passes to Justin Bowick in the first and Anthony Manaves in the third.



GAME 2 - Sept. 9, 2023

Eastern Illinois 15
Bowling Green..... 38

Bowling Green, Ohio
Doyt Perry Stadium (12,312)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Eastern Illinois	6	6	0	3	15
Bowling Green.....	7	14	10	7	38

FIRST QUARTER

BG - Hiliare 10 pass from Bazelak (Anaya kick) - 9:43
EIU - Daniels 15 pass from Holley (kick failed) - 4:57

SECOND QUARTER

BG - Stewart 1 run (Anaya kick) - 12:10
BG - Ibrahim 11 pass from Bazelak (Anaya kick) - 7:01
EIU - D. Smith 31 pass from Holley (pass failed) - 1:31

THIRD QUARTER

BG - Anaya 27 field goal - 3:32
BG - Fannin 19 pass from Bazelak (Anaya kick) - 1:07

FOURTH QUARTER

EIU - Patino 31 field goal - 10:32
BG - Stewart 1 rush (Anaya kick) - 8:35

TEAM STATSEIUBG

First Downs.....	20	25
Rushes-Yards.....	26-75	34-141
Passing-Yards.....	250	368
Comp-Att-Int.....	21-33-1	25-30-0
Total Offense.....	325	509
Fumbles-Lost.....	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards.....	7-51	6-60
Int Returns-Yards-TD.....	0-0-0	1-0-0
Time of Possession.....	29:48	30:12
Sacks-Yards.....	0-0	5-34

LEADERS

RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)

EIU - Daniels (15-78-0), Horvath (1-23-0)
BG - Stewart (10-51-2), Patterson (7-25-0)

PASSING (Att-Cmp-Int-Yds-TD)

EIU - Holley (31-21-1-250-2)
BG - Bazelak (28-23-0-319-3), Orth (2-2-0-49-0)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - D. Smith (4-83-1), Daniels (4-46-1), Bowick (3-27-0)
BG - Fannin (7-109-1), Keith (6-123-0)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Shockey (4-7-1), Tolbert (2-9-1), Aitken (6-2-0)
BG - Sipp (5-3-1.5), Lorfills (3-3-0)

RECAP

Eastern Illinois was able to match a touchdown scored by Bowling Green on the opening drive as Pierce Holley connected with Kevin Daniels for a 15-yard swing pass. EIU would miss on the extra point and end up chasing points the remainder of the game in a 38-15 loss. BGSU went up 21-6 in the second quarter with EIU able to score on a DeAirious Smith 31-yard strike from Holley. EIU went for two to get within one score but failed trailed 21-12 at the half. The Panthers added a late field goal by walk-on kicker Julian Patino for final points of the afternoon. Anthony Shockey and Elijahah Tolbert led an active defense with each recording 11 tackles.



GAME 3 - Sept. 16, 2023

#25 Illinois State..... 13
Eastern Illinois 14

Charleston, Ill.
O'Brien Field (6,602)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Illinois State	0	0	7	6	13
Eastern Illinois	0	7	0	7	14

SECOND QUARTER

EIU - Thomas 31 pass from Holley (Patino kick) - 5:39

THIRD QUARTER

ISU - Wright 3 rush (Wagner kick) - 7:30

FOURTH QUARTER

ISU - Blakemore 12 rush (kick missed) - 4:04
EIU - Thomas 25 pass from Holley (Patino kick) - 0:30

TEAM STATSEIU ISU

First Downs.....	19	20
Rushes-Yards.....	28-18	30-108
Passing-Yards.....	290	234
Comp-Att-Int.....	36-50-2	20-37-3
Total Offense.....	309	342
Fumbles-Lost.....	2-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards.....	5-50	5-36
Int Returns-Yards-TD.....	3-0-0	2-0-0
Time of Possession.....	35:49	24:11
Sacks-Yards.....	0-0	8-44

LEADERS

RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)

EIU - Daniels (12-30-0), Flowers (3-25-0)
ISU - Blakemore (11-52-1), Wright (9-34-1)

PASSING (Att-Cmp-Int-Yds-TD)

EIU - Holley (49-36-2-291-2)
ISU - Annexstad (36-20-2-234-0), Sobkowicz (1-0-1-0-0)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Thomas (7-80-2), Mirza (6-46-0), Bowick (6-34-0)
ISU - Sobkowicz (7-89-0), Grandy (5-72-0)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Ruffin (8-2-1), Tolbert (4-2-1), Oliveria-Chace (3-3-1.5)
ISU - Niekamp (7-4-0), Gaines (7-3-2), Abdullah (5-2-3.5)

RECAP

Eastern Illinois drove the length of the field with 92 seconds remaining and capped a win in the 111th Mid-America Classic with a Pierce Holley to Justin Thomas 25-yard strike with 30-seconds remaining. The extra point by walk-on kicker Julian Patino was good and proved to be the difference as the Panthers won 14-13 over No. 25 Illinois State. Holley passed for 273 yards hooking up twice with Thomas who had seven catches for 80 yards. Blake Ruffin led an active EIU defense forcing a fumble and picking off a pass to end the game, as the Panthers forced four turnovers.

**GAME 4 - Sept. 23, 2023**

McNeese 28
Eastern Illinois 31

Charleston, Ill.
O'Brien Field (6,565)

Scoring 1 2 3 4 **Final**
McNeese 14 14 0 0 28
Eastern Illinois 7 7 0 17 31

FIRST QUARTER

EIU - Holley 1 run (Patino kick) - 12:10
MCN - McCall 30 pass from Glantz (Smith kick) - 9:47
MCN - Durham run (Smith kick) - 1:40

SECOND QUARTER

MCN - McCall 22 pass from Glantz (Smith kick) - 8:57
MCN - Hamm 72 run (Smith kick) - 5:16
EIU - Mirza 12 run (Patino kick) - 0:34

FOURTH QUARTER

EIU - Flowers 6 run (Patino kick) - 12:35
EIU - Farri 19 run (Patino kick) - 3:15
EIU - Galloway 56 field goal - 0:20

TEAM STATSEIUMCN

First Downs 27 24
Rushes-Yards 49-311 34-271
Passing-Yards 141 196
Comp-Att-Int 21-34-0 13-24-0
Total Offense 452 467
Fumbles-Lost 0-0 0-0
Penalties-Yards 6-42 5-60
Int Returns-Yards-TD 0-0-0 0-0-0
Time of Possession 35:48 24:12
Sacks-Yards 1-8 3-28

LEADERS**RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)**

EIU - Flowers (37-272-1), Farri (3-37-1)
MCN - Hamm (8-131-1), Durham (17-90-1)

PASSING (Att-Cmp-Int-Yds-TD)

EIU - Holley (34-21-0-141-0)
MCN - Glantz (24-13-0-196-0)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Mirza (8-52-0), Flowers (6-26-0),
MCN - McCall (5-93-2), Paris (4-60-0)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Tolbert (3-3-0), Drakeford (4-1-0), Barrows (2-2-0.5)
MCN - Davey (10-6-0), Bolden (3-3-1)

RECAP

Eastern Illinois rallied from a 28-7 deficit in the second quarter to complete the come-from-behind on a Stone Galloway 56-yard field goal with 20-seconds remaining as EIU beat McNeese 31-28 on Saturday during Family Weekend at O'Brien Field. MJ Flowers carried the load on the ground for EIU rushing for 272 yards, the third most in program history, while scoring early in the fourth quarter to bring EIU within one touchdown. Juwon Farri tied the game at 28-28 with a 19-yard touchdown run before Galloway won the game with his first field goal attempt of the season. The 56-yarder was the second longest field goal in program history.

**GAME 5 - Sept. 30, 2023**

Eastern Illinois 19
Northwestern State 10

Natchitoches, La.
Turpin Stadium (6,021)

Scoring 1 2 3 4 **Final**
Eastern Illinois 3 7 6 3 19
Northwestern State 3 7 0 0 10

FIRST QUARTER

NSU - Money 23 field goal - 6:43
EIU - Patino 23 field goal - 0:05

SECOND QUARTER

EIU - Bowick 52 pass from Holley (Patino kick) - 10:28
NSU - Newman 1 run (Money kick) - 2:28

THIRD QUARTER

EIU - Daniels 1 run (kick blocked) - 11:54

FOURTH QUARTER

EIU - Galloway 22 field goal - 8:03

TEAM STATSEIUNSU

First Downs 18 19
Rushes-Yards 32-75 35-69
Passing-Yards 274 281
Comp-Att-Int 19-37-0 27-44-1
Total Offense 349 350
Fumbles-Lost 1-1 3-2
Penalties-Yards 6-40 5-48
Int Returns-Yards-TD 1-6-0 0-0-0
Time of Possession 28:25 31:35
Sacks-Yards 2-2 2-18

LEADERS**RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)**

EIU - Flowers (15-48-0), Daniels (13-37-1)
NSU - Adams (9-29-0), Hawkins (12-25-0)

PASSING (Att-Cmp-Int-Yds-TD)

EIU - Holley (37-19-0-274-1)
NSU - Hawkins (44-27-1-281-0)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Flowers (5-16-0), Bowick (4-130-1), Thomas (4-45-0)
NSU - Patterson (7-74-0), Jones (6-42-0)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Ruffin (8-5-0), Tolbert (4-8-0.5), Shockey (2-4-0)
NSU - Pedraza (6-7-2), Ward (7-2-2)

RECAP

Blake Ruffin picked off a pass midway through the fourth quarter which set up a short field goal by Stone Galloway with 8:03 left in the game to give Eastern Illinois a two score lead in what finished as a 19-10 Panthers win at Northwestern State. The two teams played to a 10-10 tie at the half with EIU scoring on a Pierce Holley to Justin Bowick 52-yard pass and short field goal by Julian Patino. EIU went up early in the third quarter on a Kevin Daniels short touchdown run but had the extra point blocked. EIU would miss three more field goals in the second half before Galloway's late make for the final Panthers points. Ruffin led a solid EIU defensive effort with 13 tackles as EIU forced three turnovers.

**GAME 6 - Oct. 7, 2023**

UT Martin 28
Eastern Illinois 27

Charleston, Ill.
O'Brien Field (8,078)

Scoring 1 2 3 4 OT **Final**
UT Martin 0 7 7 7 28
Eastern Illinois 7 7 0 7 27

FIRST QUARTER

EIU - Bowick 13 pass from Holley (Galloway kick) - 0:10

SECOND QUARTER

UTM - Franklin 4 rush (Laros kick) - 9:55
EIU - Mirza 10 pass from Holley (Galloway kick) - 0:02

THIRD QUARTER

UTM - Dowling 9 pass from Dent (Laros kick) - 12:49

FOURTH QUARTER

UTM - Leflore 2 rush (Laros kick) - 7:39
EIU - Bowick 14 pass from Holley (Galloway kick) - 4:06

OVERTIME

UTM - Dowling 7 pass from Dent (Laros kick)
EIU - Thomas 21 pass from Holley (pass failed)

TEAM STATSEIUUTM

First Downs 22 16
Rushes-Yards 28-32 37-163
Passing-Yards 359 182
Comp-Att-Int 29-50-1 16-35-1
Total Offense 391 345
Fumbles-Lost 1-0 4-3
Penalties-Yards 7-5 11-114
Int Returns-Yards-TD 1-0-0 1-15-0
Time of Possession 32:46 27:14
Sacks-Yards 3-15 4-30

LEADERS**RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)**

EIU - Flowers (12-25-0), Daniels (5-8-0)
UTM - Franklin (9-54-1), Dent (11-50-0)

PASSING (Att-Cmp-Int-Yds-TD)

EIU - Holley (48-29-1-359-4)
UTM - Dent (35-16-1-182-2)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Mirza (10-119-1), Flowers (6-36-0), Bowick (5-67-2)
UTM - Tanksley (4-36-0), Roberts (3-35-0)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Dandy (7-0-0), Tolbert (4-3-0), Barrows (5-0-1)
UTM - Dotson (6-1-4), Bakers (6-0-1), Evans (6-0-0)

RECAP

In a battle between nationally ranked teams it came down to one play on a two-point conversion in overtime to give No. 18 UT Martin a 28-27 win over No. 25 Eastern Illinois. After UTM scored on its first possession of overtime, EIU answered with a touchdown as Pierce Holley threw his fourth touchdown of the day finding Justin Thomas for a 21-yard touchdown. The Panthers elected to go for two to win the game but the pass conversion was knocked down handing the Skyhawks the win. Holley passed for 359 yards hitting Justin Bowick (twice) and Eli Mirza for the other Panthers touchdowns. EIU's defense forced four turnovers but on special teams EIU had two missed field goals and a third at the end of regulation blocked.

**GAME 7 - Oct. 14, 2023**

Eastern Illinois..... 28
 Southeast Missouri..... 35

Cape Girardeau, Mo.
 Houck Field (7,263)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Eastern Illinois	7	7	7	7	28
Southeast Missouri....	7	7	7	14	35

FIRST QUARTER

SEMO - DeLaurent 21 run (Pippin kick) - 10:07

EIU - Bowick 7 pass from Holley (Galloway kick) - 7:09

SECOND QUARTER

EIU - Daniels 1 run (Galloway kick) - 1:26

SEMO - Flournoy 41 pass from DeLaurent (Pippin kick) - 0:40

THIRD QUARTER

EIU - Flowers 7 run (Galloway kick) - 9:59

SEMO - Hess 3 run (Pippin kick) - 4:34

FOURTH QUARTER

SEMO - Hess 44 run (Pippin kick) - 13:02

SEMO - Robbins 1 run (Pippin kick) - 8:06

EIU - Thomas 21 pass from Holley (Galloway kick) - 6:52

TEAM STATSEIUSEMO

First Downs	17	24
Rushes-Yards	32-92	38-190
Passing-Yards	346	257
Comp-Att-Int	22-41-0	19-31-1
Total Offense	438	447
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	8-76	8-83
Int Returns-Yards-TD	1-17-0	0-0-0
Time of Possession	29:34	30:26
Sacks-Yards	2-8	4-13

LEADERS**RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)**

EIU - Flowers (10-40-1), Daniels (11-28-1)

SEMO - Hess (17-129-2), DeLaurent (12-45-1)

PASSING (Att-Cmp-Int-Yds-TD)

EIU - Holley (40-22-0-346-2)

SEMO - DeLaurent (31-19-1-257-1)

RECEIVING (No-Yds-TD)

EIU - Thomas (5-103-1), Mirza (5-78-0), D. Smith (4-118-0)

SEMO - Flournoy (5-98-1), Hess (4-53-0)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Ruffin (5-5-1), Tolbert (2-6-1.5), Oliveira-Chace (0-7-1)

SEMO - Norman (4-7-0), Johnson (6-3-0.5)

RECAP

For the second straight week Eastern Illinois game came down to the final play as the Panthers had a ball batted down at the goal line to end a 35-28 loss at Southeast Missouri. EIU held leads of 14-7 and 21-14 but fell behind after the Redhawks scored 21-straight points with three rushing touchdowns. Geno Hess scored twice to become the OVC's career rushing touchdown leader and SEMO went up 35-21 midway through the fourth quarter. EIU cut the margin to one score with a Justin Thomas touchdown reception and then a hail mary pass from midfield was knocked down at the goal line as time expired. Pierce Holley passed for 346 yards with Justin Thomas and DeAirious Smith both finishing with more than 100 yards receiving. Blake Ruffin had a big day on defense with an interception and key third down stop that gave the Panthers the ball for thier final drive.

2023 EIU PANTHERS FOOTBALL
EASTERN ILLINOIS Game Results

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall Record	Conf Record	Time	Attend
----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----	-----
Aug 31, 2023	at Indiana State	W 27-0	1-0	0-0	2:56	4,355
Sep 9, 2023	at Bowling Green	15-38 L	1-1	0-0	3:07	12,312
Sep 16, 2023	#25 ILLINOIS STATE	W 14-13	2-1	0-0	3:18	6,602
Sep 23, 2023	McNEESE	W 31-28	3-1	0-0	3:30	6,565
Sep 30, 2023	at Northwestern State	W 19-10	4-1	0-0	3:13	6,021
Oct 7, 2023	* #18 UT MARTIN	27-28 L (ot)	4-2	0-1	3:48	8,078
Oct 14, 2023	at * Southeast Missouri	28-35 L	4-3	0-2	3:24	7,263

* indicates Big South-OVC Football Association Game

2023 EASTERN ILLINOIS STARTERS

OPPONENT	WR	WR	RT	RG	C	LG	LT	WR/TE	WR/TE	RB	QB
Indiana State	Mirza	Willman	Valente	Imperio	Wilder	Stineman	Strickland	Bowick	Manaves	Daniels	Holley
Bowling Green	Mirza	D. Smith	DiSanto	Pares	Wilder	Stineman	Strickland	Bowick	Manaves	Daniels	Holley
Illinois State	Mirza	Thomas	Valente	Imperio	Wilder	Pares	Strickland	Bowick	Manaves	Daniels	Holley
McNeese	D. Smith	Thomas	DiSanto	Pares	Wilder	Stineman	Valente	Luoma	Manaves	Flowers	Holley
NW State	Mirza	Thomas	DiSanto	Valente	Wilder	Pares	Strickland	Bowick	Manaves	Flowers	Holley
UT Martin	Mirza	Thomas	DiSanto	Valente	Wider	Pares	Strickland	Bowick	Manaves	Flowers	Holley
SE Missouri	Mirza	Thomas	DiSanto	Valente	Wilder	Pares	Strickland	Bowick	D. Smith	Flowers	Holley

OPPONENT	DE	NT	DT	DE	LB	LB	LB/SAF	CB	SAF	SAF	CB
Indiana State	Barrows	Smith	T. Lewis	Oliveria-Chace	Tolbert	Shockey	Coates	Dandy	Ruffin	Aitken	Harvey
Bowling Green	Barrows	Smith	T. Lewis	Oliveria-Chace	Tolbert	Shockey	Armstead	Dandy	Ruffin	Aitken	Harvey
Illinois State	Barrows	Simon	Jefferson	Oliveria-Chace	Tolbert	Shockey	Coates	Dandy	Ruffin	Aitken	Harvey
McNeese	Barrows	Simon	Jefferson	Oliveria-Chace	Tolbert	Shockey	Coates	Dandy	Ruffin	Aitken	Harvey
NW State	Barrows	Hacha	Jefferson	Oliveria-Chace	Tolbert	Shockey	Coates	Dandy	Ruffin	Aitken	Rainey
UT Martin	Willis	Hacha	Jefferson	Oliveria-Chace	Tolbert	Shockey	Coates	Dandy	Ruffin	Aitken	Harvey
SE Missouri	Barrows	Smith	T. Lewis	Oliveria-Chace	Tolbert	Shockey	Coates	Dandy	Ruffin	Aitken	Harvey



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football
Overall Team Statistics
All games

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as of Oct 15, 2023

Team Statistics

	EIU	OPP
Scoring	161	152
Points per game	23.0	21.7
Points Off Turnovers	29	10
First Downs	140	144
Rushing	37	59
Passing	91	76
Penalty	12	9
Rushing Yardage	697	1050
Yards gained rushing	916	1215
Yards lost rushing	219	165
Rushing attempts	225	244
Average per rush	3.1	4.3
Average per game	99.6	150.0
TDs Rushing	7	13
Passing Yardage	1887	1637
Comp-Att-Int	167-275-4	133-227-10
Average per pass	6.9	7.2
Average per catch	11.3	12.3
Average per game	269.6	233.9
TDs Passing	13	8
Total offense	2584	2687
Total plays	500	471
Average per play	5.2	5.7
Average per game	369.1	383.9
Kick returns: #-Yards	19-312	19-350
Punt returns: #-Yards	1-9	9-58
Int returns: #-Yards	10-126	4-50
Kick return average	16.4	18.4
Punt return average	9.0	6.4
Int return average	12.6	12.5
Fumbles-Lost	6-3	12-9
Penalties-Yards	43-372	43-423
Average per game	53.1	60.4
Punts-Yards	37-1427	29-1283
Average per punt	38.6	44.2
Net punt average	36.7	42.2
Kickoffs-Yards	32-1918	30-1725
Average per kick	59.9	57.5
Net kick average	39.7	40.1
Time of possession / game	31:43	28:17
3rd-down conversion	39/106	36/91
3rd-down pct	37%	40%
4rd-down conversion	10/19	5/14



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football
Overall Team Statistics
All games

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as of Oct 15, 2023

	EIU	OPP
4rd-down pct	53%	36%
Sacks by-Yards	11-52	27-174
Misc Yards	0	0
Touchdowns scored	22	21
Field goals - attempts	4-10	2-6
On-Side kicks	0-0	0-0
Red-zone scores	(16-24) 67%	(18-22) 82%
Red-zone touchdowns	(13-24) 54%	(16-22) 73%
PAT-attempts	(15-18) 83%	(20-21) 95%
2-point conversion-attempts	(0-4) 0%	(0-0) 0%
Attendance	21245	29951
Games / Avg per game	3/7082	4/7488
Neutral site games	-	0/0

Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	TOT
Eastern Ill.	36	53	22	44	6	161
Opponents	31	49	31	34	7	152



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football Individual Statistics All games

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as of Oct 15, 2023

Rushing

Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
MJ Flowers	7	78	415	6	409	5.2	2	65	58.4
Kevin Daniels	6	69	258	20	238	3.4	2	18	39.7
Eli Mirza	7	4	43	0	43	10.8	1	27	6.1
Juwon Farri	5	5	42	0	42	8.4	1	19	8.4
Kendi Young	3	12	32	7	25	2.1	0	7	8.3
Jacob Horvath	7	1	23	0	23	23.0	0	23	3.3
Justin Thomas	5	1	0	5	-5	-5.0	0	0	-1.0
Pierce Holley	7	52	103	179	-76	-1.5	1	18	-10.9
Team	7	3	0	2	-2	-0.7	0	0	-0.3
Total	7	225	916	219	697	3.1	7	65	99.6
Opponents	7	244	1215	165	1050	4.3	13	72	150.0

Passing

Player	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Pierce Holley	7	134.0	167-269-4	62.1	1887	13	54	269.6
Cooper Willman	4	0.0	0-1-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Eli Mirza	7	0.0	0-1-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Team	7	0.0	0-4-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	7	131.1	167-275-4	60.7	1887	13	54	269.6
Opponents	7	122.0	133-227-10	58.6	1637	8	58	233.9

Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Eli Mirza	7	39	450	11.5	1	38	64.3
MJ Flowers	7	27	143	5.3	0	12	20.4
Justin Bowick	7	24	329	13.7	5	52	47.0
Justin Thomas	5	22	300	13.6	4	43	60.0
DeAirious Smith	7	18	332	18.4	1	54	47.4
Anthony Manaves	7	13	99	7.6	1	13	14.1
Kevin Daniels	6	12	73	6.1	1	15	12.2
Cooper Willman	4	6	69	11.5	0	19	17.3
Lazerick Eatman	6	3	37	12.3	0	22	6.2
Dewayne Cooks Jr	5	1	37	37.0	0	37	7.4
Daniel Luoma	7	1	5	5.0	0	5	0.7
Kendi Young	3	1	13	13.0	0	13	4.3
Total	7	167	1887	11.3	13	54	269.6
Opponents	7	133	1637	12.3	8	58	233.9

Punt Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Cooper Willman	1	9	9.0	0	9
Total	1	9	9.0	0	9
Opponents	9	58	6.4	0	22

Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Blake Ruffin	3	23	7.7	0	17
Nijhay Burt	2	67	33.5	1	67
Anthony Shockey	1	16	16.0	0	16
Mark Aitken	1	0	0.0	0	0
Russell Dandy	1	0	0.0	0	0
Tyris Harvey	1	19	19.0	1	19
Elijahwah Tolbert	1	1	1.0	0	1
Total	10	126	12.6	2	67
Opponents	4	50	12.5	0	35

Kick Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Mark Aitken	9	184	20.4	0	44
Lazerick Eatman	3	32	10.7	0	18
Dewayne Cooks Jr	2	21	10.5	0	13
Zay Gentry	2	33	16.5	0	23
Joel Barrows	1	14	14.0	0	14
Daniel Luoma	1	7	7.0	0	7
Eli Mirza	1	21	21.0	0	21
Total	19	312	16.4	0	44
Opponents	19	350	18.4	0	35

Fumble Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Kaelin Drakeford	2	0	0.0	0	0
Nicholas Oliveira-Chace	2	0	0.0	0	0
Joel Barrows	1	0	0.0	0	0
Russell Dandy	1	0	0.0	0	0
Tyris Harvey	1	0	0.0	0	0
Blake Ruffin	1	0	0.0	0	0
Braylon Willis	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	9	0	0.0	0	0
Opponents	3	0	0.0	0	0



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football
Individual Statistics
All games

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Scoring

			PAT						
Player	td	fg	kick	rush	rcv	pass	dxp	saf	pts
Justin Bowick	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Justin Thomas	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Kevin Daniels	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Stone Galloway	-	2-8	7-7	-	-	-	-	-	13
Julian Patino	-	2-2	7-8	-	-	-	-	-	13
MJ Flowers	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Eli Mirza	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Anthony Manaves	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Pierce Holley	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Juwon Farri	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
DeAirious Smith	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Tyris Harvey	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Nijhay Burt	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
William Orth	-	-	1-3	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	22	4-10	15-18	0	0	0	0	1	161
Opponents	21	2-6	20-21	0	0	0	0	0	152

Total Offense

Player	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Pierce Holley	7	321	-76	1887	1811	258.7
MJ Flowers	7	78	409	0	409	58.4
Kevin Daniels	6	69	238	0	238	39.7
Eli Mirza	7	5	43	0	43	6.1
Juwon Farri	5	5	42	0	42	8.4
Kendi Young	3	12	25	0	25	8.3
Jacob Horvath	7	1	23	0	23	3.3
Justin Thomas	5	1	-5	0	-5	-1.0
Team	7	0	-2	0	-2	-0.3
Total	7	500	697	1887	2584	369.1
Opponents	7	471	1050	1637	2687	383.9

Punting

Player	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
Jacob Horvath	37	1427	38.6	57	1	15	11	2	0
Total	37	1427	38.6	57	1	15	11	2	0
Opponents	29	1283	44.2	71	3	9	10	8	0

Field Goals

Player	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
Stone Galloway	2-8	25.0	0-0	1-3	0-1	0-2	1-2	56	1
Julian Patino	2-2	100.0	0-0	1-1	1-1	0-0	0-0	31	0
Opponents	2-6	33.3	0-0	2-2	0-2	0-2	0-0	27	0

Kickoffs

Player	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	retn	net	ydl
Daniel Luoma	31	1878	60.6	6	3			
William Orth	1	40	40.0	0	0			
Total	32	1918	59.9	6	3	19	39.7	25
Opponents	30	1725	57.5	8	1	19	40.1	24

FG Sequence

Team Name	Eastern Ill.	Opponents
Bowling Green	(31)	(27)
McNeese	(56)	48
Northwestern St.	(23),41,39,25,(22)	(23)
UT Martin	24,51,40	33
Illinois St.		37,40

Numbers in (parentheses) indicate field goal was made



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football
Individual Statistics
All games

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All Purpose

Player	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
MJ Flowers	7	409	143	0	0	0	552	78.9
Eli Mirza	7	43	450	0	21	0	514	73.4
DeAirious Smith	7	0	332	0	0	0	332	47.4
Justin Bowick	7	0	329	0	0	0	329	47.0
Kevin Daniels	6	238	73	0	0	0	311	51.8
Justin Thomas	5	-5	300	0	0	0	295	59.0
Mark Aitken	7	0	0	0	184	0	184	26.3
Anthony Manaves	7	0	99	0	0	0	99	14.1
Cooper Willman	4	0	69	9	0	0	78	19.5
Lazerick Eatman	6	0	37	0	32	0	69	11.5
Nijhay Burt	7	0	0	0	0	67	67	9.6
Dewayne Cooks Jr	5	0	37	0	21	0	58	11.6
Juwon Farri	5	42	0	0	0	0	42	8.4
Kendi Young	3	25	13	0	0	0	38	12.7
Zay Gentry	5	0	0	0	33	0	33	6.6
Blake Ruffin	7	0	0	0	0	23	23	3.3
Jacob Horvath	7	23	0	0	0	0	23	3.3
Tyris Harvey	7	0	0	0	0	19	19	2.7
Anthony Shockey	7	0	0	0	0	16	16	2.3
Joel Barrows	7	0	0	0	14	0	14	2.0
Daniel Luoma	7	0	5	0	7	0	12	1.7
Elijawah Tolbert	7	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.1
Pierce Holley	7	-76	0	0	0	0	-76	-10.9
Team	7	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	-0.3
Total	7	697	1887	9	312	126	3031	433.0
Opponents	7	1050	1637	58	350	50	3145	449.3



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football
Overall Defense Statistics
All games

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Team Defense

			Tackles				Sacks	Pass defense			Fumbles	blkd		
##	Player	gp	ua	a	tot	tfl/yds	no-yds	int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf
1	Elijawah Tolbert	7	26	35	61	4-8	.	1-1	.	1	.	2	.	.
4	Blake Ruffin	7	33	15	48	4-24	1-10	3-23	3	.	1-0	1	.	.
5	Anthony Shockey	7	16	16	32	1.5-5	.	1-16	2	.	.	1	.	.
2	Mark Aitken	7	21	9	30	.	.	1-0	1	.	.	1	.	.
91	Nicholas Oliveira-Chace	7	7	20	27	5-26	1-4	.	.	1	2-0	1	.	.
3	Russell Dandy	7	20	3	23	.	.	1-0	10	.	1-0	.	.	.
12	Nick Coates	7	12	10	22	2-3	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	.
6	Joel Barrows	7	9	12	21	3.5-11	2.5-7	.	.	2	1-0	2	.	.
19	Phoenix Porter	7	10	11	21	1.5-5	1-2	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
7	Tyris Harvey	7	9	8	17	.	.	1-19	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
9	Braylon Willis	6	6	10	16	2.5-8	.	.	1	4	1-0	.	.	.
0	Ira Armstead	6	9	7	16	1.5-10	1-8	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
22	Kaelin Drakeford	6	11	4	15	2-2	.	.	2	.	2-0	.	.	.
11	Alexandar Oyawale	7	6	7	13	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
99	Jaron Hacha	7	5	7	12	2.5-9	1-7	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
34	Nijhay Burt	7	9	2	11	.	.	2-67	1	.	.	.	.	.
95	Drake Van Hyfte	7	3	7	10	2.5-12	1-8	.	.	4	.	.	.	.
92	Colby Smith	4	4	5	9	1-3	1-3	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
94	Alton Jefferson	6	6	3	9	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
56	Tre'Jon Lewis	5	5	4	9	1-1	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
51	Payton Orth	7	2	4	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
44	Terence Simon	5	2	3	5	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
24	Collin Tyson	7	2	3	5	0.5-3	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
90	Zed Asowata	3	1	4	5	1-4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15	Malik Rainey	4	2	2	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
13	Alex Alteus	7	2	1	3	1-2	1-2	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
28	Brandon Guido	5	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
42	Christopher Sharp	1	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
48	Michael Jarosz	6	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
21	Jay Pearson	4	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
27	Zay Gentry	5	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
50	Luke Wagner	7	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
42	Henry Woods	4	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
45	Jack Pilson	5	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
39	Elijah Ball	4	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
82	Joe McNab	7	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
97	Cole Silzer	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
89	Daniel Luoma	7	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1	Justin Bowick	7	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3	Pierce Holley	7	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Totals	7	249	222	471	37-136	11-52	10-126	26	22	9-0	10	0	1



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football
Team Game-by-Game
All games

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Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp-att-int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	
08/31/2023	at Indiana St.	30	94	0	27	19	244	2	38	19-31-1	244	2	38	2	37	0	21	0	0	0	0	338
09/09/2023	at Bowling Green	26	75	0	23	21	250	2	37	21-33-1	250	2	37	6	77	0	19	0	0	0	0	325
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	28	18	0	12	36	273	2	31	36-49-1	273	2	31	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	291
09/23/2023	McNeese	49	311	4	65	21	141	0	14	21-34-0	141	0	14	3	61	0	28	0	0	0	0	452
09/30/2023	at Northwestern St.	32	75	1	15	19	274	1	52	19-37-0	274	1	52	2	51	0	44	1	9	0	9	349
10/07/2023	UT Martin	28	32	0	11	29	359	4	54	29-50-1	359	4	54	3	65	0	24	0	0	0	0	391
10/14/2023	at Southeast Mo. St.	32	92	2	18	22	346	2	46	22-41-0	346	2	46	2	21	0	13	0	0	0	0	438
Eastern Ill.		225	697	7	65	167	1887	13	54	167-275-4	1887	13	54	19	312	0	44	1	9	0	9	2584
Opponents		244	1050	13	72	133	1637	8	58	133-227-10	1637	8	58	19	350	0	35	9	58	0	22	2687

Eastern Ill. Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
7	3.1	11.3	131.1	16.4	9.0	433.0	369.1

Date	Opponent	Tackles				Sacks no-yds	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd kick	PAT attempts			off		
		ua	a	total	tfl-yds		ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup		kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
08/31/2023	at Indiana St.	35	34	69	6.0-22	3-19	2	2-0	4-103	3	1	0	1-2	0	0	1	12	27
09/09/2023	at Bowling Green	34	46	80	4.0-12	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	0-1	0	0	0	0	15
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	40	22	62	6.0-26	0-0	1	1-0	3-0	7	3	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	14
09/23/2023	McNeese	31	20	51	4.0-19	1-8	0	0-0	0-0	4	5	0	4-4	0	0	0	0	31
09/30/2023	at Northwestern St.	41	36	77	4.0-9	2-2	3	2-0	1-6	3	5	0	1-2	0	0	0	3	19
10/07/2023	UT Martin	44	14	58	6.0-20	3-15	4	3-0	1-0	4	6	0	3-3	0	0	0	7	27
10/14/2023	at Southeast Mo. St.	24	50	74	7.0-28	2-8	0	1-0	1-17	1	4	0	4-4	0	0	0	7	28
Eastern Ill.		249	222	471	37.0-136	11-52	10	9-0	10-126	22	26	0	15-18	0	0	1	29	161
Opponents		262	194	456	49.0-237	27-174	4	3-0	4-50	30	29	2	20-21	0	0	0	10	152

Date	Opponent	Punting										Field Goals			Kickoffs			
		no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob
08/31/2023	at Indiana St.	4	170	42.5	57	0	0	3	1	2	0-0	0	0	5	285	57.0	0	0
09/09/2023	at Bowling Green	3	131	43.7	44	0	0	0	0	0	1-1	31	0	4	260	65.0	2	0
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	8	323	40.4	52	0	0	3	1	3	0-0	0	0	3	184	61.3	1	0
09/23/2023	McNeese	4	151	37.8	41	0	1	1	0	2	1-1	56	0	6	358	59.7	2	1
09/30/2023	at Northwestern St.	4	157	39.3	46	0	0	3	0	2	2-5	23	0	5	309	61.8	1	0
10/07/2023	UT Martin	8	287	35.9	48	0	0	2	0	1	0-3	0	1	4	234	58.5	0	1
10/14/2023	at Southeast Mo. St.	6	208	34.7	46	0	0	3	0	1	0-0	0	0	5	288	57.6	0	1
Eastern Ill.		37	1427	38.6	57	0	1	15	2	11	4-10	56	1	32	1918	59.9	6	3
Opponents		29	1283	44.2	71	0	3	9	8	10	2-6	27	0	30	1725	57.5	8	1



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football Opponents Game-by-Game All games

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Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp-att-int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	
08/31/2023	at Indiana St.	36	101	0	20	13	116	0	32	13-26-4	116	0	32	5	108	0	35	0	0	0	0	217
09/09/2023	at Bowling Green	34	141	2	18	25	368	3	58	25-30-0	368	3	58	2	43	0	23	3	10	0	7	509
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	30	115	2	26	20	237	0	30	20-37-3	237	0	30	2	30	0	20	3	9	0	6	352
09/23/2023	McNeese	34	271	2	72	13	196	2	30	13-24-0	196	2	30	1	17	0	17	0	0	0	0	467
09/30/2023	at Northwestern St.	35	69	1	11	27	281	0	54	27-44-1	281	0	54	3	41	0	15	1	7	0	7	350
10/07/2023	UT Martin	37	163	2	27	16	182	2	40	16-35-1	182	2	40	2	32	0	22	1	10	0	10	345
10/14/2023	at Southeast Mo. St.	38	190	4	44	19	257	1	41	19-31-1	257	1	41	4	79	0	24	1	22	0	22	447
Opponents		244	1050	13	72	133	1637	8	58	133-227-10	1637	8	58	19	350	0	35	9	58	0	22	2687
Eastern Ill.		225	697	7	65	167	1887	13	54	167-275-4	1887	13	54	19	312	0	44	1	9	0	9	2584

Opponents Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
7	4.3	12.3	122.0	18.4	6.4	449.3	383.9

Date	Opponent	Tackles				Sacks no-yds	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd kick	PAT attempts			off		
		ua	a	total	tfl-yds		ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup		kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
08/31/2023	at Indiana St.	26	36	62	5.0-16	1-7	1	1-0	1-35	3	3	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
09/09/2023	at Bowling Green	27	40	67	9.0-41	5-34	0	0-0	1-0	5	5	0	5-5	0	0	0	3	38
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	49	16	65	11.0-62	8-44	2	1-0	1-0	2	4	0	1-2	0	0	0	0	13
09/23/2023	McNeese	55	22	77	4.0-31	3-28	0	0-0	0-0	4	3	0	4-4	0	0	0	0	28
09/30/2023	at Northwestern St.	31	38	69	6.0-27	2-18	1	1-0	0-0	7	3	1	1-1	0	0	0	0	10
10/07/2023	UT Martin	44	16	60	8.0-42	4-30	0	0-0	1-15	5	4	1	4-4	0	0	0	7	28
10/14/2023	at Southeast Mo. St.	30	26	56	6.0-18	4-13	0	0-0	0-0	4	7	0	5-5	0	0	0	0	35
Opponents		262	194	456	49.0-237	27-174	4	3-0	4-50	30	29	2	20-21	0	0	0	10	152
Eastern Ill.		249	222	471	37.0-136	11-52	10	9-0	10-126	22	26	0	15-18	0	0	1	29	161

Date	Opponent	Punting										Field Goals			Kickoffs			
		no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob
08/31/2023	at Indiana St.	3	129	43.0	50	0	0	1	1	2	0-0	0	0	2	125	62.5	0	0
09/09/2023	at Bowling Green	2	91	45.5	50	0	0	1	1	2	1-1	27	0	7	402	57.4	0	1
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	6	264	44.0	71	0	0	1	2	1	0-2	0	0	3	173	57.7	2	0
09/23/2023	McNeese	3	123	41.0	49	0	0	1	0	1	0-1	0	0	5	304	60.8	2	0
09/30/2023	at Northwestern St.	3	120	40.0	49	0	0	1	0	1	1-1	23	0	3	168	56.0	1	0
10/07/2023	UT Martin	7	354	50.6	67	0	2	2	3	1	0-1	0	0	4	248	62.0	1	0
10/14/2023	at Southeast Mo. St.	5	202	40.4	58	0	1	2	1	2	0-0	0	0	6	305	50.8	2	0
Opponents		29	1283	44.2	71	0	3	9	8	10	2-6	27	0	30	1725	57.5	8	1
Eastern Ill.		37	1427	38.6	57	0	1	15	2	11	4-10	56	1	32	1918	59.9	6	3



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football
Red-Zone Results
All games

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Eastern Ill. Inside Opponent Red-Zone

Date	Opponent	Score	Times	Times	Total				Rush	Pass	FGs	Failed to score inside RZ				
			In RZ	Scored	Pts	TDs	TDs	TDs	TDs	Made	FGA	Down	Int	Fumb	Half	Game
08/31/2023	at Indiana St.	W 27-0	3	1	7	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
09/09/2023	at Bowling Green	L 15-38	2	2	9	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	W 14-13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/23/2023	McNeese	W 31-28	5	4	28	4	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
09/30/2023	at Northwestern St.	W 19-10	7	3	12	1	1	0	2	5	5	0	0	1	0	0
10/07/2023	UT Martin	L 27-28	4	3	21	3	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
10/14/2023	at Southeast Mo. St.	L 28-35	3	3	21	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals 16 of 24 (66.7%)			24	16	98	13	7	6	3	7	7	3	0	1	0	0

Opponents Inside Eastern Ill. Red-Zone

Date	Opponent	Score	Times	Times	Total				Rush	Pass	FGs	Failed to score inside RZ				
			In RZ	Scored	Pts	TDs	TDs	TDs	TDs	Made	FGA	Down	Int	Fumb	Half	Game
08/31/2023	Indiana St.	W 27-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/09/2023	Bowling Green	L 15-38	6	6	38	5	2	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	W 14-13	4	2	13	2	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
09/23/2023	McNeese	W 31-28	1	1	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/30/2023	Northwestern St.	W 19-10	2	2	10	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
10/07/2023	UT Martin	L 27-28	5	4	28	4	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
10/14/2023	Southeast Mo. St.	L 28-35	4	3	21	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Totals 18 of 22 (81.8%)			22	18	117	16	11	5	2	4	4	2	0	0	0	0



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football
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3rd-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
08/31/2023	at Indiana St.	W	27-0	5-12	41.7	2-3	66.7	1-3	33.3	1-2	50.0	1-4	25.0	0-0	0.0
09/09/2023	at Bowling Green	L	15-38	1-10	10.0	1-3	33.3	0-3	0.0	0-2	0.0	0-2	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	W	14-13	8-17	47.1	2-4	50.0	3-5	60.0	2-4	50.0	1-4	25.0	0-0	0.0
09/23/2023	McNeese	W	31-28	8-16	50.0	1-2	50.0	4-7	57.1	1-3	33.3	2-4	50.0	0-0	0.0
09/30/2023	at Northwestern St.	W	19-10	5-16	31.3	1-5	20.0	2-4	50.0	2-3	66.7	0-4	0.0	0-0	0.0
10/07/2023	UT Martin	Lot1	27-28	7-18	38.9	2-5	40.0	2-5	40.0	1-5	20.0	2-3	66.7	0-0	0.0
10/14/2023	at Southeast Mo. St.	L	28-35	5-17	29.4	1-4	25.0	2-4	50.0	1-4	25.0	1-5	20.0	0-0	0.0
Eastern Ill.				39-106	36.8	10-26	38.5	14-31	45.2	8-23	34.8	7-26	26.9	0-0	0.0
Opponents				36-91	39.6	10-24	41.7	8-20	40.0	8-24	33.3	10-23	43.5	0-0	0.0

4th-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
08/31/2023	at Indiana St.	W	27-0	0-3	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/09/2023	at Bowling Green	L	15-38	3-5	60.0	1-1	100.0	2-2	100.0	0-1	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	W	14-13	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-1	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/23/2023	McNeese	W	31-28	2-3	66.7	0-1	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0
09/30/2023	at Northwestern St.	W	19-10	2-2	100.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0
10/07/2023	UT Martin	Lot1	27-28	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
10/14/2023	at Southeast Mo. St.	L	28-35	3-5	60.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	1-1	100.0	1-3	33.3	0-0	0.0
Eastern Ill.				10-19	52.6	2-3	66.7	4-6	66.7	1-3	33.3	3-7	42.9	0-0	0.0
Opponents				5-14	35.7	0-0	0.0	1-3	33.3	3-8	37.5	1-3	33.3	0-0	0.0

Time of Possession

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
08/31/2023	at Indiana St.	W	27-0	29:49	04:08	08:47	08:05	08:49	00:00
09/09/2023	at Bowling Green	L	15-38	29:48	06:31	07:44	07:22	08:11	00:00
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	W	14-13	35:49	08:27	12:35	05:59	08:48	00:00
09/23/2023	McNeese	W	31-28	35:48	07:00	11:18	05:20	12:10	00:00
09/30/2023	at Northwestern St.	W	19-10	28:25	07:07	06:40	06:46	07:52	00:00
10/07/2023	UT Martin	Lot1	27-28	32:46	09:21	08:41	09:17	05:27	00:00
10/14/2023	at Southeast Mo. St.	L	28-35	29:34	07:14	10:03	06:04	06:13	00:00
Eastern Ill.				Total	221:59	49:48	65:48	48:53	00:00
				Avg.	31:43	07:07	09:24	06:59	00:00
Opponents				Total	198:01	48:26	45:58	48:48	00:00
				Avg.	28:17	06:55	06:34	06:58	00:00

NCAA Statistics

Eastern Ill. - 2023-24 Football Ranking Summary thru games 10/14/2023

Statistic	National Rank	Conference Rank	Value	National Leader	Value	Conference Leader	Value
3rd Down Conversion Pct (122 ranked)	71	4	0.368	South Dakota St.	0.643	Southeast Mo. St.	0.461
3rd Down Conversion Pct Defense (122 ranked)	66	7	0.396	Merrimack	0.183	Southeast Mo. St.	0.329
4th Down Conversion Pct (121 ranked)	50	3	0.526	Rhode Island	0.857	UT Martin	0.667
4th Down Conversion Pct Defense (121 ranked)	15	3	0.357	Brown	0.000	Tennessee St.	0.200
Blocked Kicks (29 ranked)				New Hampshire	8	Bryant	3
Blocked Kicks Allowed (122 ranked)	80	7	2	43 teams tied		Charleston So. Gardner-Webb UT Martin	0 0 0
Blocked Punts (11 ranked)				New Hampshire	5	Bryant	2
Blocked Punts Allowed (114 ranked)	1	1	0	77 teams tied	0	8 teams tied	0
Completion Percentage (122 ranked)	51	3	0.607	Davidson	0.761	Robert Morris	0.664
Defensive TDs (24 ranked)	3	1	2	UIW	4	Charleston So. Eastern Ill.	2 2
Fewest Penalties (122 ranked)	83	5	43	Harvard	17	Gardner-Webb	22
Fewest Penalties Per Game (122 ranked)	63	5	6.14	Harvard	3.40	Gardner-Webb	3.67
Fewest Penalty Yards (122 ranked)	86	7	372	Harvard	170	Charleston So.	211
Fewest Penalty Yards Per Game (122 ranked)	56	5	53.14	UC Davis	31.57	Charleston So.	35.17
First Downs Defense (122 ranked)	106	9	144	Princeton	76	Tennessee Tech	88
First Downs Offense (122 ranked)	22	2	140	Fordham Samford	171 171	Southeast Mo. St.	142
Fumbles Lost (122 ranked)	30	2	3	4 teams tied	0	Charleston So.	2
Fumbles Recovered (110 ranked)	2	1	9	Marist	10	Eastern Ill.	9
Kickoff Return Defense (122 ranked)	45	2	18.42	Columbia	11.67	Charleston So.	18.00
Kickoff Returns (122 ranked)	106	9	16.42	Weber St.	29.17	Tennessee St.	28.33
Net Punting (122 ranked)	50	4	36.46	Sacramento St.	44.28	UT Martin	42.67
Passes Had Intercepted (118 ranked)	38	3	4	Fordham North Dakota	0 0	Southeast Mo. St.	2
Passes Intercepted (109 ranked)	2	1	10	Montana	11	Eastern Ill.	10
Passing Offense (122 ranked)	18	2	269.6	Brown	352.6	Southeast Mo. St.	270.5
Passing Yards Allowed (122 ranked)	88	5	233.9	Sacred Heart	93.7	Tennessee Tech	167.5
Passing Yards per Completion (122 ranked)	66	3	11.30	Villanova	16.60	UT Martin	12.08
Punt Return Defense (122 ranked)	53	7	6.44	Indiana St.	-4.00	Southeast Mo. St.	3.00
Punt Returns (122 ranked)	51	4	9.00	Delaware St.	29.50	Southeast Mo. St.	14.75
Red Zone Defense (122 ranked)	66	4	0.818	Columbia	0.529	Tennessee St.	0.727
Red Zone Offense (121 ranked)	102	8	0.667	South Dakota South Dakota St.	1.000 1.000	Southeast Mo. St.	0.952
Rushing Defense (122 ranked)	51	4	150.0	Southern Ill.	69.8	UT Martin	89.5
Rushing Offense (122 ranked)	105	8	99.6	Montana St.	324.5	UT Martin	255.2
Sacks Allowed (121 ranked)	117	9	3.86	Dartmouth	0.40	Gardner-Webb	1.33
Scoring Defense (122 ranked)	24	1	21.7	Columbia	10.8	Eastern Ill.	21.7
Scoring Offense (122 ranked)	68	5	23.0	Montana St.	45.5	UT Martin	32.7
Tackles for Loss Allowed (122 ranked)	97	8	7.00	South Dakota St.	2.50	Bryant	3.83
Team Passing Efficiency (122 ranked)	57	3	131.06	Davidson	189.02	Robert Morris	143.84
Team Passing Efficiency Defense (122 ranked)	32	2	121.99	UIW	99.43	Tennessee St.	119.93
Team Sacks (122 ranked)	83	7	1.57	Lafayette	4.50	Gardner-Webb	2.67
Team Tackles for Loss (122 ranked)	72	7	5.3	Florida A&M	9.5	UT Martin	8.0
Time of Possession (122 ranked)	28	4	31:43	UAlbany	35:09	Tennessee Tech	32:03
Total Defense (122 ranked)	75	5	383.9	William & Mary	242.7	Tennessee Tech	315.0
Total Offense (122 ranked)	53	3	369.1	Western Caro.	531.8	UT Martin	464.5
Turnover Margin (122 ranked)	2	1	1.71	Harvard	2.00	Eastern Ill.	1.71
Turnovers Gained (119 ranked)	1	1	19	Eastern Ill.	19	Eastern Ill.	19
Turnovers Lost (122 ranked)	29	3	7	Harvard Kennesaw St. North Dakota St.	2 2 2	Southeast Mo. St.	5
Winning Percentage (114 ranked)	32	3	0.571	Harvard South Dakota St.	1.000 1.000	UT Martin	0.833

Statistic	Player	National Rank	Conference Rank	Value	National Leader	Value	Conference Leader	Value
All Purpose (200 ranked)	MJ Flowers Eli Mirza	117 146	7 11	78.86 73.43	Dylan Laube, New Hampshire	227.17	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	146.67
Blocked Kicks (5 ranked)					Randall Harris, New Hampshire	4	Dontae Lunan, Bryant	2
Combined Kick Returns (200 ranked)	Mark Aitken	77	9	184	Devron Harper, Mercer	605	Anthony Frederick, Bryant	451
Completion Percentage (105 ranked)	Pierce Holley	42	3	0.621	Cam Miller, North Dakota St.	0.772	Anthony Chiccitt, Robert Morris	0.658
Completions Per Game (149 ranked)	Pierce Holley	7	2	23.86	Jake Willcox, Brown	33.40	Paxton DeLaurent, Southeast Mo. St.	25.33
Field Goal Percentage (89 ranked)					Kyle Ramsey, Abilene Christian Will Leyland, South Dakota Nathan Hazlett, Morehead St.	1.000 1.000 1.000	DC Pippin, Southeast Mo. St.	0.875
Field Goals Per Game (123 ranked)					Jackson Kennedy, Cornell	2.00	DC Pippin, Southeast Mo. St.	1.40
Forced Fumbles (36 ranked)	Joel Barrows Eljawah Tolbert	36 36	4 4	0.29 0.29	6 players tied	0.50	Tizlam Muhammad, Robert Morris	0.43
Fumbles Recovered (39 ranked)	Kaelin Drakeford Nicholas Oliveira-Chace Joel Barrows Russell Dandy Tyris Harvey Blake Ruffin Braylon Willis	4 4 39 39 39 39 39	1 1 4 4 4 4 4	2 2 1 1 1 1 1	Sam Buerkle, Fordham Wyatt Pedigo, North Dakota Noah Washington, Morgan St.	3 3 1 3	Kaelin Drakeford, Eastern Ill. Chris Eaton Jr., Bryant Nicholas Oliveira-Chace, Eastern Ill.	2 2 2
Interceptions Per Game (106 ranked)	Blake Ruffin NiJhay Burt	14 81	1 7	0.4 0.3	Cole Wisniewski, North Dakota St.	0.7	Blake Ruffin, Eastern Ill.	0.4
Kickoff Return TDs (3 ranked)					Rahkeem Smith, Delaware St. Taymon Cooke, N.C. A&T	2 2	Nivon Holland, Charleston So. Narkel Leflore, UT Martin	1 1
Kickoff Returns (82 ranked)	Mark Aitken	55	7	20.4	Taymon Cooke, N.C. A&T	38.9	Dayron Johnson, Tennessee St.	28.3
Passes Defended (40 ranked)	Russell Dandy	9	2	1.6	Mikey Victor, Alabama St.	2.4	Joedrick Lewis, Southeast Mo. St.	1.7
Passing Efficiency (105 ranked)	Pierce Holley	44	2	134.0	Mark Gronowski, South Dakota St.	187.7	Anthony Chiccitt, Robert Morris	139.1
Passing TDs (98 ranked)	Pierce Holley	12	1	13	Max Brosmer, New Hampshire C.J. Montes, Fordham	17 17	Pierce Holley, Eastern Ill.	13
Passing Yards (149 ranked)	Pierce Holley	5	1	1,887	Michael Hiers, Samford	2,059	Pierce Holley, Eastern Ill.	1,887
Passing Yards Per Game (150 ranked)	Pierce Holley	13	1	269.6	Jake Willcox, Brown	351.8	Pierce Holley, Eastern Ill.	269.6
Passing Yards per Completion (105 ranked)	Pierce Holley	59	3	11.30	Connor Watkins, Villanova	17.07	Kinkead Dent, UT Martin	12.02
Points Responsible For (200 ranked)	Pierce Holley	22	1	84	Mark Gronowski, South Dakota St.	126	4 players tied	84
Points Responsible For Per Game (149 ranked)	Pierce Holley	35	3	12.0	Mark Gronowski, South Dakota St.	21.0	Paxton DeLaurent, Southeast Mo. St. Kinkead Dent, UT Martin	14.0 14.0
Punt Return TDs (2 ranked)					Devron Harper, Mercer	2	Lake Ellis, Bryant	1
Punt Returns (35 ranked)					Tucker Large, South Dakota St.	29.4	Maleek Huggins, Gardner-Webb	9.0
Punting (83 ranked)	Jacob Horvath	56	6	38.6	Aidan Laros, UT Martin	47.8	Aidan Laros, UT Martin	47.8
Receiving TDs (134 ranked)	Justin Bowick Justin Thomas	11 21	1 2	5 4	Jalen Coker, Holy Cross	9	Justin Bowick, Eastern Ill.	5
Receiving Yards (149 ranked)	Eli Mirza DeAirious Smith Justin Bowick	31 88 89	3 6 7	450 332 329	Ty James, Mercer	737	Noah Robinson, Robert Morris	495
Receiving Yards Per Game (200 ranked)	Eli Mirza DeAirious Smith Justin Bowick	51 119 121	3 7 8	64.3 47.4 47.0	Wes Rockett, Brown	115.6	Damoriea Vick, Southeast Mo. St.	76.5
Receptions Per Game (189 ranked)	Eli Mirza MJ Flowers Justin Bowick	25 104 137	2 6 9	5.6 3.9 3.4	Chedon James, Idaho St.	8.8	Damoriea Vick, Southeast Mo. St.	7.5
Rush Yards Per Carry (119 ranked)	MJ Flowers Kevin Daniels	44 111	3 9	5.24 3.45	Elijah Burris, Hampton	8.72	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	7.63
Rushing TDs (107 ranked)					Jordan Fuller, Holy Cross	13	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	7
Rushing Yards (197 ranked)	MJ Flowers Kevin Daniels	53 165	3 11	409 238	ShunDerrick Powell, Central Ark.	878	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	839
Rushing Yards Per Game (200 ranked)	MJ Flowers Kevin Daniels	80 150	5 10	58.4 39.7	Desmond Reid, Western Caro.	141.2	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	139.8
Sacks (168 ranked)	Joel Barrows	153	13	0.36	Amir Abdullah, Illinois St.	1.42	Kenny Dyson Jr., Bryant	1.00
Scoring (194 ranked)	Justin Bowick	175	10	4.3	Jordan Fuller, Holy Cross	14.0	DC Pippin, Southeast Mo. St.	8.4
Solo Tackles (32 ranked)					Jacob Dobbs, Holy Cross	8.0	Monroe Beard III, Tennessee St.	6.5
Tackles For Loss (68 ranked)					Steven Parker, UIW	2.3	Daylan Dotson, UT Martin	1.8
Total Offense (200 ranked)	Pierce Holley MJ Flowers	24 196	2 13	258.7 58.4	Jake Willcox, Brown	353.8	Paxton DeLaurent, Southeast Mo. St.	282.2
Total Points Scored (0 ranked)								
Total Tackles (190 ranked)	Eljawah Tolbert Blake Ruffin	39 114	2 6	8.7 6.9	Jacob Dobbs, Holy Cross	14.5	Monroe Beard III, Tennessee St.	12.2
Total Touchdowns (101 ranked)	Justin Bowick Justin Thomas	61 101	4 6	5 4	Jordan Fuller, Holy Cross	14	Jayden Brown, Gardner-Webb Sam Franklin, UT Martin	7 7
Yards per Pass Attempt (105 ranked)	Pierce Holley	48	1	7.01	Cole Gonzales, Western Caro.	10.15	Pierce Holley, Eastern Ill.	7.01
Yards per Reception (200 ranked)	DeAirious Smith Justin Bowick	25 124	2 4	18.44 13.71	Jaylan Sanchez, Villanova	26.56	Matthew Prochaska, Bryant	21.71