



# EASTERN ILLINOIS PANTHER FOOTBALL

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## GAME 6



### COACHES:

**Chris Wilkerson (Eastern Illinois, 1995)**  
 EIU Record.....6-10 (2nd)  
 OVC Record.....1-4 (2nd)  
 Career Record.....57-37 (11th)  
 vs. UT Martin ..... 0-1

**Jason Simpson (Southern Miss, 1995)**  
 UTM Record ..... 111-85 (18th year)  
 OVC Record.....83-47 (18th year)  
 Overall Record .....Same  
 vs. Eastern Illinois ..... 12-5

### SERIES

29th meeting - EIU leads 15-13

Last: @UTM 34, EIU 31 on Nov. 19, 2022

### RANKINGS

Eastern Illinois ..... RV / 25  
 UT Martin.....18 / 23  
 ..... *STATS Media/AFCAs Coaches*

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## #WeNotMe

## Nationally Ranked Battle On-Hand For EIU Homecoming Game

No. 25 Eastern Illinois vs. No. 18/23 UT Martin

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

October 7, 2023 • 2 p.m. • TV: ESPN+

### NOTES TO KNOW

• Eastern Illinois football is off to its best start since the 2013 season as the Panthers improved to 4-1 with a road win at Northwestern State. It marked the third straight win for EIU, something that had not happened since the 2016 season. Also not happening since late in the 2016 season was Eastern Illinois appearing in the national rankings, but that changed this week with the Panthers landing at No.25 in the FCS Coaches poll. It marks the 26th different season that EIU has been ranked in the national polls for at least one week.

• Eastern Illinois will be playing its 179th game as a nationally ranked team at the FCS level when the Panthers host UT Martin for homecoming on Saturday. It will mark the second time that the Panthers and Skyhawks have played when both teams have been nationally ranked. The previous time was in 2006 with UTM winning 15-9 in Martin, Tenn. The two teams would end the season splitting the OVC regular-season title with both advancing to the FCS playoffs.

• Safety Blake Ruffin played a big part in Eastern Illinois road win at Northwestern State on Saturday night. On Monday he was named the Big South-OVC Football co-Defensive Player of the Week along with Monroe Beard III of Tennessee State. Ruffin finished the game with 13 tackles as he now ranks second on the Panthers team with 34 stops this season. His interception in the fourth quarter set up a field goal midway through the period that gave EIU a two score lead in the contest. It was his second interception this year as he ranks 25th in the FCS in interceptions this year.

• Running back MJ Flowers had his second consecutive start for the Panthers offense as he finished with 64 all-purpose yards in the road win at Northwestern State. On Monday Flowers was named the Big South-OVC Freshman of the Week for the third consecutive week. Flowers currently leads the Panthers with 344 rushing yards which ranks 41st in the FCS but is second among freshmen in the FCS trailing only Jared White of Montana State with 351 yards. Flowers has also been a versatile weapon catching the ball out of the backfield with 17 receptions for 80 yards.

• Justin Bowick was a big weapon for the Panthers passing game at Northwestern State as the sophomore wide receiver hauled in four passes for 130 yards including a 52-yard touchdown reception. It was his second touchdown reception of the season as Bowick has 16 catches for a team-high 258 yards this season. It was his second career 100-yard receiving day with his breakout performance coming last season at UT Martin with six catches for 177 yards and two touchdowns.

### Eastern Illinois (4-1)

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)	2 pm
Oct. 14	• at Southeast Missouri	2 pm
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

### UT Martin (4-1, 1-0 Conf.)

Date	Opponent	Score/Time
Sept. 2	at #1 Georgia	L 7-48
Sept. 9	MISSOURI STATE	W 38-31
Sept. 16	HOUSTON CHRISTIAN	W 66-7
Sept. 23	at North Alabama	W 37-21
Sept. 30	• TENNESSEE STATE	W 20-10
Oct. 7	• at #25 Eastern Illinois	2 pm
Oct. 21	• CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	2 pm
Oct. 28	• at Gardner-Webb	12:30 pm
Nov. 4	• at Tennessee Tech	1:30 pm
Nov. 11	• SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	2 pm
Nov. 18	at Samford	12 pm

• Big South-OVC All Times Central

**STATS FCS MEDIA TOP 25**  
**(October 2)**

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

RV: Eastern Illinois

**FCS COACHES TOP 25**  
**(October 2)**

Rk.	Team	Record
1.	South Dakota State (26)	4-0
2.	Montana State	4-1
3.	Idaho	4-1
4.	Furman	3-1
5.	Southern Illinois	4-0
6.	Incarnate Word	3-1
7.	Sacramento State	4-1
8.	North Dakota State	3-1
9.	William & Mary	4-1
10.	Delaware	3-1
11.	North Carolina Central	4-1
12.	Holy Cross	3-2
13.	Montana	4-1
14.	Weber State	3-2
15.	North Dakota	2-2
16.	Florida A&M	4-1
17.	Western Carolina	4-1
18.	UC Davis	3-2
19.	Harvard	3-0
20.	Chattanooga	4-1
21.	South Dakota	3-1
22.	Illinois State	3-1
23.	UT Martin	4-1
24.	New Hampshire	2-3
T25.	<b>Eastern Illinois</b>	<b>4-1</b>
T25.	Rhode Island	3-2

• Turnovers in bunches were once again the trend for Eastern Illinois defense as the Panthers had three takeaways in the win at Northwestern State. EIU now has 13 turnovers gained this season with all of those coming in three games in wins over Indiana State, Illinois State and Northwestern State. The 13 turnovers gained ranks 3rd in the FCS this season behind Morgan State (15) and North Alabama (14). EIU's record for turnovers in a season is 52 in 1980.

• Graduate defensive player Russell Dandy continues to have an outstanding season as a lock-down corner for the Panthers. Dandy had three tackles and was credited with three pass break-ups in the road win at Northwestern State. For the season Dandy has eight pass break-ups to go along with one interception and 14 tackles. He enters the week ranked fourth in the FCS in passes defended. He needs one more pass break-up this season to join the EIU single season Top 10 with Antonio Johnson (2014) ranked tenth on the list with nine. The single season record for pass break-ups at EIU is 16 by Ben Brown in 2004.

• Elijah Tolbert continues to rack up tackles leading the Eastern Illinois defense. The returning All-OVC linebacker finished with 12 stops at Northwestern State giving him 46 tackles for the season. He currently ranks 28th in the FCS and second in the Big South-OVC in tackles this season. He was named the FCS National Defensive Player of the Week following the Panthers week one win at Indiana State. As a team EIU leads the Big South-OVC in scoring defense allowing 17.8 points per game, 12th best in the FCS.

• Pierce Holley passed for 274 yards at Northwestern State as the transfer quarterback had his second consecutive game without an interception. He now has 1,200 passing yards for the season which ranks first in the Big South-OVC and 14th in the FCS. He added a touchdown pass to his season total giving him seven this year which is third in the conference. Including his two seasons as a starter at Georgetown, Holley now has 5,359 yards passing which ranks 17th among active FCS quarterbacks.

• One of the Panthers top targets on offense this season has been junior college transfer Eli Mirza. The wide receiver currently leads EIU with 25 receptions for 248 yards. His 25 receptions rank third in the Big South-OVC with a high of eight receptions for 52 yards in the home win over McNeese. Mirza also scored his lone touchdown of the season against McNeese on an end-around as he has rushed for 41 yards.

• Kevin Daniels found pay dirt on the ground in the second half at Northwestern State as the transfer running back returned after missing the McNeese game with an injury. Daniels rushed for 37 yards and the score as he went over 200 yard mark (202) for the season at EIU and he closes in on the 1,500 yard mark for his career (1,485) which includes time at Northern Arizona. Daniels became the third Panthers player this season with multiple touchdowns joining Justin Thomas (2 vs Illinois State) and Justin Bowick (Ind. State / NW St).

• Transfer defensive lineman Nicholas Oliveira-Chace continues to give the Panthers production up front as he had four tackles, 1.5 tackles for loss, a forced fumble and fumble recovery in the win at Northwestern State. For the season Oliveira-Chace leads the Panthers with four tackles for loss which is tied for eighth in the OVC. He is one of five Panthers with a fumble recovery this season and one of six with a forced fumble. Oliveira-Chace has 16 tackles which is fifth on the team and first among the defensive line group.

• Joel Barrows was the Panthers top returning sack leader on defense from last season with three. On Saturday at Northwestern State he picked up his first sack of the 2023 campaign with a sack and forced fumble in the opening half against the Demons. Barrows has 14 tackles this year with two tackles for loss. For his career Barrows now has five sacks and 8.5 tackles for loss.

• Last season Mark Aitken was one of the most dangerous return men in the Ohio Valley Conference earning second team All-OVC honors as a kick returner. On Saturday at Northwestern State he got one opportunity to return and flashed that ability from last year with a 44-yard kick return. For the season Aitken is averaging 20.3 yards per return which ranks seventh in the league. As a team captain and starter at safety, he has contributed on defense with 24 tackles, one interception and one forced fumble.

• Eastern Illinois stuffed out the Northwestern State run game on Saturday night as the Panthers allowed a season low 69 yards on 35 rushing attempts for just under 2-yards per carry. For the season EIU is holding opponents to 139.4 yards per game which ranks 40th in the FCS and second in the Big South-OVC. EIU has only allowed one individual 100-yard rusher this season and allowed only two backs to crack the century mark in a game last season.

• Punter Jacob Horvath and tight end / kickoff specialist Daniel Luoma continue to perform well for the Panthers special teams. Horvath had four punts for a 39.2 yards per punt average with two downed inside the 20 at Northwestern State. He is averaging 40.5 yards per punt for the season with a long of 57 yards and nine punts inside the 20-yard line. Luoma has assumed kickoff duties this year and is averaging 61.6 yards per kickoff with six touchbacks. He averaged 61.8 yards per kickoff at Northwestern State with one sent for a touchback.

• After possessing the ball for more than 35-minutes in both of its home wins over Illinois State and McNeese, EIU was on the short end of the time-of-possession game at Northwestern State finishing with 28:25. For the season EIU is averaging 31:56 minutes per game which ranks 24th in the FCS but only fifth best in the Big South-OVC. Bryant (15th) is the conference leader at 32:31 followed by Tennessee Tech, UT Martin and Southeast Missouri ranked 20th to 22nd.

## 2023 Big South-OVC Football Standings

Team	CONF	Pct.	All	Pct.
UT Martin	1-0	1.000	4-1	800
Southeast Missouri	1-0	1.000	1-3	250
Tennessee State	1-1	.500	2-2	500
Eastern Illinois	0-0	.....	4-1	800
Bryant	0-0	.....	2-3	400
Robert Morris	0-0	.....	2-3	400
Charleston Southern	0-0	.....	2-3	400
Tennessee Tech	0-0	.....	1-3	250
Lindenwood	0-1	.000	2-3	400
Gardner-Webb	0-1	.000	1-3	250

## This Week In Big South-OVC Football

### Saturday - October 7

- \* Tennessee Tech at Lindenwood - 1 pm
- \* UT Martin at Eastern Illinois - 2 pm
- Tennessee State at Kennesaw State - 2 pm
- \* Robert Morris at Gardner-Webb - 3 pm
- Southeast Missouri at Central Arkansas - 4 pm

### Idle

Bryant  
Charleston Southern

\* 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)

• Chris Wilkerson became the seventh Eastern Illinois head coach at the FCS level to lead the Panthers program to a national ranking during the season. The Panthers moved into the AFCA FCS Coaches Top 25 this week at No. 25. EIU's highest ranking in the national polls at the FCS level has been No. 2 for one week during 2002 season and then for seven weeks during the 2013 campaign.

• Kicker Stone Galloway was 1-of-4 on field goal attempts at Northwestern State as he returns from an injury suffered in pregame warm-ups at Indiana State. Galloway's first kick of the season had been a make from 56-yards to beat McNeese at home, the second longest field goal in program history. His made field goal on Saturday in Louisiana gave him 26 for his career and moved him into a tie for fifth on the EIU career field goals made list.

• Eastern Illinois will be hosting UT Martin for the Panthers annual homecoming game. This marks the 104th time that EIU has played a homecoming game. EIU has an all-time record of 52-43-8 in homecoming contests including a 3-1 record when facing UT Martin as its homecoming opponent. EIU last hosted UT Martin on homecoming in 2018 with the Panthers picking up a 24-21 victory in overtime. EIU also beat the Skyhawks on homecoming in 2003 and 2007 with a loss in 2011.

• Eastern Illinois rotation on the offensive line continued at Northwestern State as the Panthers started their fifth different offensive line combination this season. Guard Max Stineman was lost for the season with a leg injury prior to last week's game after making three starts this year. The lone offensive lineman to start all five games this season has been center Drew Wilder. Last year EIU started eight different combinations on the offensive line with the same starting group in back-to-back games only two times during the season. EIU may add some veteran depth in the next week or two when former starter Elkhanan Tanelus is cleared to return from his injury from last season.

• 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 57-37 career record. Complete Coach Chris Wilkerson bio available on page 6 of EIU game notes...

**UT MARTIN HEAD COACH JASON SIMPSON**

Jason Simpson is currently the longest tenured head coach in the Ohio Valley Conference entering his 18th season with UT Martin. In his debut season of 2006, Simpson earned OVC Coach of the Year honors as he led the Skyhawks to a share of the OVC Championship and the school's first FCS Playoff appearance. More recently, UTM advanced to the second round of the FCS playoffs in 2021. Simpson has posted a record of 111-85 with an OVC mark of 83-47. In 2019 he became UTM's career leader in coaching wins and currently ranks fourth in OVC history. Simpson is a 1995 graduate of Southern Mississippi where he played baseball.

**SCOUTING UT MARTIN**

UT Martin is off to a 4-1 start this season as the Skyhawks have landed in both FCS national polls at No. 18 / 23. Running back Sam Franklin is the nation's top ground gainer this season at 157 yards per game and 785 yards total. He has two 200-yard rushing performances this season with six touchdowns. Kinkead Dent has taken most of the snaps under center passing for 984 yards and ten touchdowns. DeVonte Tanksley has been the top target with 21 catches for 304 yards. The defense is led by Jaylon Sharpe and Carson Evans, both with more than 30 tackles this season.

**THE SERIES**

Eastern Illinois and UT Martin will be meeting for the 29th time with UT Martin having won four straight in the series and six of the last seven. EIU holds a 15-13 all-time series lead with the Panthers last win in the series coming in 2018, a 24-21 overtime win at O'Brien Field. This will be the second time the two schools have met with both nationally ranked, the other was Oct. 28, 2006 a 15-9 win by UT Martin in Martin, Tenn.

**LAST TEN MEETINGS**

*Nov. 19, 2022... UTM 34, EIU 31 at UTM*  
*Oct. 16, 2021... UTM 28, EIU 17 at EIU*  
*March 7, 2021... UTM 28, EIU 15 at UTM*  
*Oct. 19, 2019... UTM 27, EIU 18 at UTM*  
*Oct. 20, 2018... EIU 24, UTM 21 (OT) at EIU*  
*Oct. 28, 2017... UTM 27, EIU 10 at UTM*  
*Nov. 5, 2016... UTM 33, EIU 17 at EIU*  
*Nov. 14, 2015... EIU 23, UTM 21 at UTM*  
*Nov. 22, 2014... UTM 37, EIU 16 at EIU*  
*Nov. 23, 2013... EIU 70, UTM 22 at UTM*

**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.....	21.2	33.6
Average Points Allowed.....	17.8	23.4
First Downs.....	102	55
Rushing Yards Per Game .....	114.6	273.6
Rushing Touchdowns.....	5	10
Passing Yards Per Game .....	240.0	214.8
Passing Touchdowns .....	7	11
Average Yards Per Game .....	354.6	214.8
Interceptions Thrown .....	4	3
Fumbles - Lost .....	5-2	6-2
Turnovers Gained.....	13	8
Punting Average .....	40.5	46.2
Field Goals (ATT/MADE) .....	4-of-7	5-of-7
3rd Down Conversions .....	27-of-71 (38%)	31-of-72 (43%)
4th Down Conversions.....	7-of-14 (50%)	6-of-9 (67%)
Sacks By (Yards).....	6 (29)	10 (61)
Penalties (Yards) .....	28 (238)	32 (262)
Time of Possession (Game) .....	31:56	32:06

**Statistical Leaders****RUSHING YARDS (Touchdowns)**

<b>EASTERN ILLINOIS</b>	<b>UT MARTIN</b>
MJ Flowers.....344 (1)	Sam Franklin.....785 (6)
Kevin Daniels.....202 (1)	Kinkead Dent .....188 (2)

**PASSING YARDS (Touchdowns)**

<b>EASTERN ILLINOIS</b>	<b>UT MARTIN</b>
Pierce Holley.....1,200 (7)	Kinkead Dent .....984 (10)
.....	Kody Sparks.....90 (1)

**RECEPTIONS (Yards)**

<b>EASTERN ILLINOIS</b>	<b>UT MARTIN</b>
Eli Mirza .....25 (248)	DeVonte Tanksley .....21 (304)
Justin Bowick.....16 (258)	Trevonte Rucker.....15 (202)
MJ Flowers.....17 (80)	Zoe Roberts .....12 (125)

**TACKLES**

<b>EASTERN ILLINOIS</b>	<b>UT MARTIN</b>
Eljawah Tolbert.....46	Jaylon Sharp.....34
Blake Ruffin .....34	Carson Evans .....32
Mark Aitken .....24	Oshae Baker.....27
Anthony Shockey.....23	Tevin Shipp .....24
Nicholas Oliveria-Chace.....16	Chris Hunter.....24

**TACKLES FOR LOSS / SACKS**

<b>EASTERN ILLINOIS</b>	<b>UT MARTIN</b>
Nicholas Oliveria-Chace..4.....0	Daylan Dotson .....6.5 .....2.5
Eljawah Tolbert.....2.5 .....0	Jaylon Sharp .....3.5 .....0
Joel Barrows.....2.....1	Oshae Baker .....3.5 .....0

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

2023

**TEAM**

.....	NCAA	CONF
Rushing Offense .....	86th	6th
Passing Offense .....	38th	2nd
Passing Efficiency .....	67th	4th
Total Offense .....	64th	3rd
Scoring Offense .....	77th	4th
Rushing Defense .....	40th	2nd
Pass Defense .....	88th	5th
Pass Efficiency Def. ....	39th	2nd
Total Defense .....	64th	4th
Scoring Defense .....	12th	1st
Net Punting .....	34th	2nd
Punt Returns .....	48th	4th
Kickoff Returns .....	104th	9th
Turnover Margin .....	8th	2nd
Turnovers Gained .....	3rd	1st
Sacks .....	97th	8th
Tackles For Loss .....	84th	7th
Sacks Allowed .....	115th	10th
3rd Down Conversion .....	54th	5th
4th Down Conversion .....	55th	4th
3rd Down Defense .....	45th	4th
Red Zone Offense .....	113th	8th
Red Zone Defense .....	71st	5th
Time of Possession .....	24th	5th

**INDIVIDUAL (Top 50)**

.....	NCAA	CONF
Pierce Holley (Comp. Pct.) .....	33rd	3rd
Pierce Holley (Passing Touchdowns) .....	34th	3rd
Pierce Holley (Passing Yards) .....	14th	1st
Pierce Holley (Total Offense) .....	47th	4th
MJ Flowers (Yards Per Carry) .....	29th	2nd
MJ Flowers (Rushing Yards) .....	41st	2nd
Elijahwah Tolbert (Tackles) .....	28th	2nd
Russell Dandy (Fumble Recovery) .....	19th	1st
Russell Dandy (Passes Defended) .....	4th	1st
Blake Ruffin (Interceptions) .....	25th	3rd
Joel Barrows (Fumble Recovery) .....	19th	1st
Kaelin Drakeford (Fumble Recovery) .....	19th	1st
Nicholas Oliveria-Chace (Fumble Rec.) .....	19th	1st
Tyris Harvey (Fumble Recovery) .....	19th	1st
Jacob Horvath (Punting) .....	39th	3rd

**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)

\* 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 W-L	Pct.	Conf. W-L	Pct.
2023	4-1	.800	0-0 (BSOVC)	---
2022	2-9	.182	1-4 (OVC)	.200
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6-10</b>	<b>.375</b>	<b>1-4</b>	<b>.200</b>
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
<b>Totals</b>	<b>51-27</b>	<b>.654</b>	<b>39-15</b>	<b>.722</b>
				<b>9 years</b>
<b>Career</b>	<b>57-37</b>	<b>.606</b>	<b>40-19</b>	<b>.678</b>



**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...

Dom Shoffner, 315, at UT Martin (Nov. 19, 2022)

## Passed for more than 400 yards...

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

## Threw four touchdown passes...

Harry Woodbery, 5, at Tennessee Tech (Sept. 29, 2018)  
Johnathan Brantley, 4, vs. Indiana State (Sept. 15, 2018)

## 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 Holley .....at 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

## 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. 5, 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
<b>OVERTIME</b>	
+ 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

+ 1982 &amp; 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
<b>MJ Flowers.....</b>	<b>272 vs. McNeese.....</b>	<b>2023</b>
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:**

<b>Pierce Holley....</b>	<b>20 vs. Illinois State ..</b>	<b>2023</b>
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
or 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
58 ... Anthony Imperio .....	6-4	310	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
61 ... Jonathan Arellano .....	6-3	305	R-So

### 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** 57-37 (9), **EIU Record** 6-10 (1); **OVC Record** 1-4 (1)

**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

99 ... Jaron Hacha .....	5-11	305	Jr
95 ... Drake Van Hyfte .....	6-4	265	R-So
90 ... Zed Asowata .....	6-3	250	Grad

### DEFENSIVE TACKLE

94 ... Alton Jefferson.....	6-0	285	Jr
56 ... Tre'jon Lewis .....	6-4	285	R-Jr

### 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
or 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

### 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 STATS .....EIU .....INST

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 (13-7-0), 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 STATS .....EIU .....BG

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 STATS .....EIU ..... 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 STATS .....EIU .....MCN**

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 STATS .....EIU .....NSU**

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 (4-13-1), 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.



**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	4-01	0-0	3:13	6,021

\* indicates Big South-OVC Football Association Game

**2022 EASTERN ILLINOIS STARTERS**

OPPONENT	WR	WR	RT	RG	C	LG	LT	WR/TE	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

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



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

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as of Oct 01, 2023

Team Statistics

	EIU	OPP
<b>Scoring</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>89</b>
Points per game	21.2	17.8
Points Off Turnovers	15	3
<b>First Downs</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>104</b>
Rushing	31	42
Passing	61	56
Penalty	9	6
<b>Rushing Yardage</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>697</b>
Yards gained rushing	733	809
Yards lost rushing	160	112
Rushing attempts	165	169
Average per rush	3.5	4.1
Average per game	114.6	139.4
TDs Rushing	5	7
<b>Passing Yardage</b>	<b>1182</b>	<b>1198</b>
Comp-Att-Int	116-184-3	98-161-8
Average per pass	6.4	7.4
Average per catch	10.2	12.2
Average per game	236.4	239.6
TDs Passing	7	5
<b>Total offense</b>	<b>1755</b>	<b>1895</b>
Total plays	349	330
Average per play	5.0	5.7
Average per game	351.0	379.0
<b>Kick returns: #-Yards</b>	<b>14-226</b>	<b>13-239</b>
<b>Punt returns: #-Yards</b>	<b>1-9</b>	<b>7-26</b>
<b>Int returns: #-Yards</b>	<b>8-109</b>	<b>3-35</b>
<b>Kick return average</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>18.4</b>
<b>Punt return average</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>
<b>Int return average</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>11.7</b>
<b>Fumbles-Lost</b>	<b>5-3</b>	<b>7-5</b>
<b>Penalties-Yards</b>	<b>28-238</b>	<b>24-226</b>
Average per game	47.6	45.2
<b>Punts-Yards</b>	<b>23-932</b>	<b>17-727</b>
Average per punt	40.5	42.8
Net punt average	38.5	42.2
<b>Kickoffs-Yards</b>	<b>23-1396</b>	<b>20-1172</b>
Average per kick	60.7	58.6
Net kick average	40.4	40.1
<b>Time of possession / game</b>	<b>31:56</b>	<b>28:04</b>
<b>3rd-down conversion</b>	<b>27/71</b>	<b>23/62</b>
3rd-down pct	38%	37%
<b>4rd-down conversion</b>	<b>7/14</b>	<b>5/13</b>



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

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	EIU	OPP
4rd-down pct	50%	38%
<b>Sacks by-Yards</b>	<b>6-29</b>	<b>19-131</b>
<b>Misc Yards</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Touchdowns scored</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Field goals - attempts</b>	<b>4-7</b>	<b>2-5</b>
<b>On-Side kicks</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>
<b>Red-zone scores</b>	<b>(10-17) 59%</b>	<b>(11-13) 85%</b>
<b>Red-zone touchdowns</b>	<b>(7-17) 41%</b>	<b>(9-13) 69%</b>
<b>PAT-attempts</b>	<b>(8-11) 73%</b>	<b>(11-12) 92%</b>
<b>2-point conversion-attempts</b>	<b>(0-3) 0%</b>	<b>(0-0) 0%</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>13167</b>	<b>22688</b>
Games / Avg per game	2/6584	3/7563
Neutral site games	-	0/0

Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	TOT
Eastern Ill.	22	39	15	30	0	106
Opponents	24	35	17	13	0	89



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football  
Individual Statistics  
All games

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### Rushing

Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
MJ Flowers	5	56	346	2	344	6.1	1	65	68.8
Kevin Daniels	4	53	215	13	202	3.8	1	18	50.5
Juwon Farri	4	4	41	0	41	10.3	1	19	10.3
Eli Mirza	5	3	41	0	41	13.7	1	27	8.2
Kendi Young	3	12	32	7	25	2.1	0	7	8.3
Jacob Horvath	5	1	23	0	23	23.0	0	23	4.6
Pierce Holley	5	33	35	136	-101	-3.1	1	8	-20.2
Team	5	3	0	2	-2	-0.7	0	0	-0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>114.6</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>139.4</b>

### Passing

Player	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Pierce Holley	5	128.4	116-181-3	64.1	1182	7	52	236.4
Cooper Willman	2	0.0	0-1-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Eli Mirza	5	0.0	0-1-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Team	5	0.0	0-1-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>126.3</b>	<b>116-184-3</b>	<b>63.0</b>	<b>1182</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>236.4</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>123.7</b>	<b>98-161-8</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>1198</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>239.6</b>

### Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Eli Mirza	5	24	253	10.5	0	38	50.6
MJ Flowers	5	17	80	4.7	0	12	16.0
Justin Bowick	5	17	252	14.8	2	52	50.4
Justin Thomas	3	14	153	10.9	2	31	51.0
Anthony Manaves	5	11	89	8.1	1	13	17.8
Kevin Daniels	4	11	65	5.9	1	15	16.3
DeAirious Smith	5	11	145	13.2	1	31	29.0
Cooper Willman	2	5	53	10.6	0	19	26.5
Lazerick Eatman	5	3	37	12.3	0	22	7.4
Dewayne Cooks Jr	4	1	37	37.0	0	37	9.3
Daniel Luoma	5	1	5	5.0	0	5	1.0
Kendi Young	3	1	13	13.0	0	13	4.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1182</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>236.4</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1198</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>239.6</b>

### Punt Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Cooper Willman	1	9	9.0	0	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>

### Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Blake Ruffin	2	6	3.0	0	6
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
Nijhay Burt	1	67	67.0	1	67
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35</b>

### Kick Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Mark Aitken	7	142	20.3	0	44
Lazerick Eatman	3	32	10.7	0	18
Joel Barrows	1	14	14.0	0	14
Daniel Luoma	1	7	7.0	0	7
Zay Gentry	1	10	10.0	0	10
Eli Mirza	1	21	21.0	0	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35</b>

### Fumble Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Joel Barrows	1	0	0.0	0	0
Russell Dandy	1	0	0.0	0	0
Tyris Harvey	1	0	0.0	0	0
Kaelin Drakeford	1	0	0.0	0	0
Nicholas Oliveira-Chace	1	0	0.0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>





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### Scoring

Player	td	fg	PAT				dpx	saf	pts
			kick	rush	rcv	pass			
Julian Patino	-	2-2	7-8	-	-	-	-	-	13
Justin Thomas	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Kevin Daniels	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Justin Bowick	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Anthony Manaves	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Stone Galloway	-	2-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Pierce Holley	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Juwon Farri	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
DeAirious Smith	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Tyris Harvey	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
MJ Flowers	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Nijhay Burt	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Eli Mirza	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
William Orth	-	-	1-3	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4-7</b>	<b>8-11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2-5</b>	<b>11-12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>89</b>

### Field Goals

Player	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
Stone Galloway	2-5	40.0	0-0	1-2	0-1	0-1	1-1	56	0
Julian Patino	2-2	100.0	0-0	1-1	1-1	0-0	0-0	31	0
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>2-5</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>0-2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>

### FG Sequence

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

Numbers in (parentheses) indicate field goal was made

### Total Offense

Player	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Pierce Holley	5	214	-101	1182	1081	216.2
MJ Flowers	5	56	344	0	344	68.8
Kevin Daniels	4	53	202	0	202	50.5
Juwon Farri	4	4	41	0	41	10.3
Eli Mirza	5	4	41	0	41	8.2
Kendi Young	3	12	25	0	25	8.3
Jacob Horvath	5	1	23	0	23	4.6
Team	5	0	-2	0	-2	-0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>1182</b>	<b>1755</b>	<b>351.0</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>1198</b>	<b>1895</b>	<b>379.0</b>

### Punting

Player	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
Jacob Horvath	23	932	40.5	57	1	10	9	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>

### Kickoffs

Player	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	retn	net	ydln
Daniel Luoma	22	1356	61.6	6	1			
William Orth	1	40	40.0	0	0			
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>1396</b>	<b>60.7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1172</b>	<b>58.6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>40.1</b>	<b>24</b>



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All Purpose

Player	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
MJ Flowers	5	344	80	0	0	0	424	84.8
Eli Mirza	5	41	253	0	21	0	315	63.0
Kevin Daniels	4	202	65	0	0	0	267	66.8
Justin Bowick	5	0	252	0	0	0	252	50.4
Justin Thomas	3	0	153	0	0	0	153	51.0
DeAirious Smith	5	0	145	0	0	0	145	29.0
Mark Aitken	5	0	0	0	142	0	142	28.4
Anthony Manaves	5	0	89	0	0	0	89	17.8
Lazerick Eatman	5	0	37	0	32	0	69	13.8
Nijhay Burt	5	0	0	0	0	67	67	13.4
Cooper Willman	2	0	53	9	0	0	62	31.0
Juwon Farri	4	41	0	0	0	0	41	10.3
Kendi Young	3	25	13	0	0	0	38	12.7
Dewayne Cooks Jr	4	0	37	0	0	0	37	9.3
Jacob Horvath	5	23	0	0	0	0	23	4.6
Tyris Harvey	5	0	0	0	0	19	19	3.8
Anthony Shockey	5	0	0	0	0	16	16	3.2
Joel Barrows	5	0	0	0	14	0	14	2.8
Daniel Luoma	5	0	5	0	7	0	12	2.4
Zay Gentry	5	0	0	0	10	0	10	2.0
Blake Ruffin	5	0	0	0	0	6	6	1.2
Elijawah Tolbert	5	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.2
Pierce Holley	5	-101	0	0	0	0	-101	-20.2
Team	5	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	-0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>1182</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>2099</b>	<b>419.8</b>
<b>Opponents</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>1198</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2195</b>	<b>439.0</b>



**2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football**  
**Overall Defense Statistics**  
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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	5	20	26	46	2.5-7	.	1-1	.	1	.	1	.	.
4	Blake Ruffin	5	24	10	34	2-11	1-10	2-6	1	.	.	1	.	.
2	Mark Aitken	5	17	8	25	.	.	1-0	1	.	.	1	.	.
5	Anthony Shockey	5	9	14	23	1-4	.	1-16	1	.	.	.	.	.
19	Phoenix Porter	5	8	8	16	1.5-5	1-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
91	Nicholas Oliveira-Chace	5	5	11	16	4-22	.	.	.	1	1-0	1	.	.
0	Ira Armstead	5	9	6	15	1.5-10	1-8	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
6	Joel Barrows	5	4	10	14	2-4	1-0	.	.	2	1-0	1	.	.
22	Kaelin Drakeford	5	10	4	14	1-1	.	.	2	.	1-0	.	.	.
3	Russell Dandy	5	11	3	14	.	.	1-0	8	.	1-0	.	.	.
12	Nick Coates	5	6	7	13	2-3	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
11	Alexandar Oyawale	5	6	6	12	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
9	Braylon Willis	5	4	8	12	1.5-7	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.
7	Tyris Harvey	5	6	5	11	.	.	1-19	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
94	Alton Jefferson	4	5	3	8	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
56	Tre'Jon Lewis	3	5	3	8	0.5-0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
34	Nijhay Burt	5	8	.	8	.	.	1-67	1	.	.	.	.	.
95	Drake Van Hyfte	5	2	6	8	1.5-4	.	.	.	3	.	.	.	.
92	Colby Smith	2	2	3	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
44	Terence Simon	5	2	3	5	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
51	Payton Orth	5	2	2	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
99	Jaron Hacha	5	3	1	4	2-8	1-7	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
15	Malik Rainey	3	2	2	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
28	Brandon Guido	5	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
13	Alex Alteus	5	2	.	2	1-2	1-2	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
48	Michael Jarosz	5	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
27	Zay Gentry	5	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
50	Luke Wagner	5	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
97	Cole Silzer	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
21	Jay Pearson	3	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
24	Collin Tyson	5	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
90	Zed Asowata	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
89	Daniel Luoma	5	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3	Pierce Holley	5	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
42	Henry Woods	3	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
45	Jack Pilson	4	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
39	Elijah Ball	4	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Totals	5	181	158	339	24-88	6-29	8-109	16	17	5-0	6	0	1
	Opponents	5	187	152	339	35-177	19-131	3-35	18	21	3-0	3	1	0



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football  
Team Game-by-Game  
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		Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot		
Date	Opponent	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp	att	int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	off
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
Eastern Ill.		165	573	5	65	116	1182	7	52	116	184	3	1182	7	52	14	226	0	44	1	9	0	9	1755
Opponents		169	697	7	72	98	1198	5	58	98	161	8	1198	5	58	13	239	0	35	7	26	0	7	1895

Eastern Ill. Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
5	3.5	10.2	126.3	16.1	9.0	419.8	351.0

Date	Opponent	Tackles				Sacks no-yds	Fumble ff fr-yds		Pass Defense int-yds qbh brup			blkd kick	PAT attempts kick rush rcv			off saf t/o pts		
		ua	a	total	tfl-yds													
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
<b>Eastern Ill.</b>		<b>181</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>24.0-88</b>	<b>6-29</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5-0</b>	<b>8-109</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8-11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>187</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>35.0-177</b>	<b>19-131</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3-0</b>	<b>3-35</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11-12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>89</b>

		Punting										Field Goals			Kickoffs				
Date	Opponent	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	
Eastern Ill.		23	932	40.5	57	0	1	10	2	9	4-7	56	0	23	1396	60.7	6	1	
Opponents		17	727	42.8	71	0	0	5	4	7	2-5	27	0	20	1172	58.6	5	1	



2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football  
Opponents Game-by-Game  
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		Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot		
Date	Opponent	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp	att	int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	off
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
Opponents		169	697	7	72	98	1198	5	58	98	161	8	1198	5	58	13	239	0	35	7	26	0	7	1895
Eastern Ill.		165	573	5	65	116	1182	7	52	116	184	3	1182	7	52	14	226	0	44	1	9	0	9	1755

Opponents Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
5	4.1	12.2	123.7	18.4	3.7	439.0	379.0

Date	Opponent	Tackles				Sacks no-yds	Fumble ff fr-yds		Pass Defense int-yds qbh brup			blkd kick	PAT attempts kick rush rcv			off saf t/o pts		
		ua	a	total	tfl-yds													
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.	30	38	68	6.0-27	2-18	0	1-0	0-0	7	3	1	1-1	0	0	0	0	10
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>187</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>35.0-177</b>	<b>19-131</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3-0</b>	<b>3-35</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11-12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Eastern Ill.</b>		<b>181</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>24.0-88</b>	<b>6-29</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5-0</b>	<b>8-109</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8-11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>106</b>

		Punting										Field Goals			Kickoffs				
Date	Opponent	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	
Opponents		17	727	42.8	71	0	0	5	4	7	2-5	27	0	20	1172	58.6	5	1	
Eastern Ill.		23	932	40.5	57	0	1	10	2	9	4-7	56	0	23	1396	60.7	6	1	





2023-24 Eastern Ill. Football  
Red-Zone Results  
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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	0	0	1	0	0	0
Totals 10 of 17 (58.8%)			17	10	56	7	5	2	3	6	3	0	1	0	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	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/16/2023	Illinois St.	W 14-13	4	2	13	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	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	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals 11 of 13 (84.6%)			13	11	68	9	6	3	2	3	1	0	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
<b>Eastern Ill.</b>			<b>27-71 38.0</b>	<b>7-17 41.2</b>	<b>10-22 45.5</b>	<b>6-14 42.9</b>	<b>4-18 22.2</b>	<b>0-0 0.0</b>
<b>Opponents</b>			<b>23-62 37.1</b>	<b>7-16 43.8</b>	<b>6-15 40.0</b>	<b>5-16 31.3</b>	<b>5-15 33.3</b>	<b>0-0 0.0</b>

### 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
<b>Eastern Ill.</b>			<b>7-14 50.0</b>	<b>2-3 66.7</b>	<b>3-5 60.0</b>	<b>0-2 0.0</b>	<b>2-4 50.0</b>	<b>0-0 0.0</b>
<b>Opponents</b>			<b>5-13 38.5</b>	<b>0-0 0.0</b>	<b>1-2 50.0</b>	<b>3-8 37.5</b>	<b>1-3 33.3</b>	<b>0-0 0.0</b>

### 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
<b>Eastern Ill.</b>			<b>Total 159:39</b>	<b>33:13</b>	<b>47:04</b>	<b>33:32</b>	<b>45:50</b>	<b>00:00</b>
			<b>Avg. 31:56</b>	<b>06:39</b>	<b>09:25</b>	<b>06:42</b>	<b>09:10</b>	<b>00:00</b>
<b>Opponents</b>			<b>Total 140:21</b>	<b>35:17</b>	<b>34:26</b>	<b>35:41</b>	<b>34:57</b>	<b>00:00</b>
			<b>Avg. 28:04</b>	<b>07:03</b>	<b>06:53</b>	<b>07:08</b>	<b>06:59</b>	<b>00:00</b>

NCAA Statistics

Eastern Ill. - 2023-24 Football Ranking Summary thru games 09/30/2023

Statistic	National Rank	Conference Rank	Value	National Leader	Value	Conference Leader	Value
3rd Down Conversion Pct (122 ranked)	54	5	0.380	South Dakota St.	0.647	UT Martin	0.431
3rd Down Conversion Pct Defense (122 ranked)	45	4	0.371	Merrimack	0.140	Southeast Mo. St.	0.312
4th Down Conversion Pct (120 ranked)	55	4	0.500	Fordham	0.875	Charleston So.	0.714
4th Down Conversion Pct Defense (118 ranked)	25	3	0.385	North Dakota	0.875		
				Brown	0.000	Bryant	0.333
				Richmond	0.000	Tennessee St.	0.333
Blocked Kicks (22 ranked)				New Hampshire	8	Bryant	3
Blocked Kicks Allowed (122 ranked)	53	5	1	52 teams tied	0	4 teams tied	0
Blocked Punts (8 ranked)				New Hampshire	5	Bryant	2
Blocked Punts Allowed (116 ranked)	1	1	0	88 teams tied	0	8 teams tied	0
Completion Percentage (122 ranked)	36	3	0.630	North Dakota St.	0.755	Robert Morris	0.688
Defensive TDs (17 ranked)	1	1	2	16 teams tied	2	Charleston So.	2
					2	Eastern Ill.	2
Fewest Penalties (122 ranked)	54	7	28	Brown	9	Gardner-Webb	14
Fewest Penalties Per Game (122 ranked)	41	5	5.60	Brown	3.00	Gardner-Webb	3.50
Fewest Penalty Yards (122 ranked)	54	7	238	Columbia	99	Tennessee Tech	130
Fewest Penalty Yards Per Game (122 ranked)	38	5	47.60	North Dakota	26.00	Gardner-Webb	35.00
First Downs Defense (122 ranked)	96	8	104	Princeton	37	Tennessee Tech	44
First Downs Offense (122 ranked)	29	2	101	Western Caro.	144	UT Martin	117
Fumbles Lost (122 ranked)	52	5	3	7 teams tied	0	Charleston So.	1
Fumbles Recovered (95 ranked)	12	1	5	Morgan St.	9	Eastern Ill.	5
					Robert Morris	5	5
Kickoff Return Defense (122 ranked)	43	3	18.38	Columbia	11.80	Charleston So.	14.67
Kickoff Returns (122 ranked)	104	9	16.14	Weber St.	29.46	Tennessee St.	27.00
Net Punting (122 ranked)	34	2	38.52	Sacramento St.	45.62	UT Martin	42.00
Passes Had Intercepted (122 ranked)	40	4	3	6 teams tied	0	Southeast Mo. St.	0
Passes Intercepted (107 ranked)	2	1	8	Montana	9	Eastern Ill.	8
Passing Offense (122 ranked)	38	2	236.4	Brown	369.3	Southeast Mo. St.	276.0
Passing Yards Allowed (122 ranked)	88	5	239.6	Sacred Heart	99.4	Tennessee Tech	115.7
Passing Yards per Completion (122 ranked)	101	7	10.19	Presbyterian	16.87	UT Martin	12.20
Punt Return Defense (122 ranked)	30	3	3.71	Indiana St.	-5.67	Bryant	0.00
Punt Returns (122 ranked)	48	4	9.00	South Dakota St.	24.36	Southeast Mo. St.	13.71
Red Zone Defense (118 ranked)	71	5	0.846	Columbia	0.455	Tennessee Tech	0.667
Red Zone Offense (122 ranked)	113	8	0.588	7 teams tied	1.000	Southeast Mo. St.	1.000
Rushing Defense (122 ranked)	40	2	139.4	Southern Ill.	54.8	UT Martin	101.0
Rushing Offense (122 ranked)	86	6	114.6	Montana St.	322.4	UT Martin	273.6
Sacks Allowed (122 ranked)	115	9	3.80	Dartmouth	0.33	Gardner-Webb	1.00
Scoring Defense (122 ranked)	12	1	17.8	William & Mary	10.8	Eastern Ill.	17.8
Scoring Offense (122 ranked)	77	4	21.2	Davidson	45.2	UT Martin	33.6
Tackles for Loss Allowed (122 ranked)	92	8	7.00	Yale	2.67	Bryant	4.40
Team Passing Efficiency (122 ranked)	67	4	126.30	Davidson	183.84	Robert Morris	162.63
Team Passing Efficiency Defense (122 ranked)	39	2	123.68	Tennessee Tech	90.81	Tennessee Tech	90.81
Team Sacks (122 ranked)	97	8	1.20	Illinois St.	5.00	Gardner-Webb	2.75
Team Tackles for Loss (122 ranked)	84	7	4.8	Southern Ill.	10.0	Tennessee Tech	8.3
Time of Possession (122 ranked)	24	5	31:56	UAlbany	37:51	Bryant	32:31
Total Defense (122 ranked)	64	4	379.0	Princeton	194.0	Tennessee Tech	271.7
Total Offense (122 ranked)	64	3	351.0	Western Caro.	528.0	UT Martin	488.4
Turnover Margin (122 ranked)	8	2	1.40	Brown	2.33	Southeast Mo. St.	1.50
				Harvard	2.33		
Turnovers Gained (122 ranked)	3	1	13	Morgan St.	15	Eastern Ill.	13
Turnovers Lost (122 ranked)	46	6	6	Brown	0	Southeast Mo. St.	2
Winning Percentage (111 ranked)	4	1	0.800	Harvard	1.000	Eastern Ill.	0.800
				South Dakota St.	1.000	UT Martin	0.800
				Southern Ill.	1.000		

Statistic	Player	National Rank	Conference Rank	Value	National Leader	Value	Conference Leader	Value
All Purpose (200 ranked)	MJ Flowers	102	7	84.80	Dylan Laube, New Hampshire	247.40	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	165.20
Blocked Kicks (3 ranked)					Randall Harris, New Hampshire	4	Dontae Lunan, Bryant	2
Combined Kick Returns (200 ranked)	Mark Aitken	68	7	142	Devron Harper, Mercer	504	Anthony Frederick, Bryant	317
Completion Percentage (111 ranked)	Pierce Holley	33	3	0.641	Cam Miller, North Dakota St.	0.782	Anthony Chiccitt, Robert Morris	0.689
Completions Per Game (150 ranked)	Pierce Holley	10	2	23.20	Jake Willcox, Brown	32.67	Paxton DeLaurent, Southeast Mo. St.	27.00
Field Goal Percentage (87 ranked)					9 players tied	1.000	DC Pippin, Southeast Mo. St.	1.000
Field Goals Per Game (121 ranked)	Julian Patino	84	9	0.50	Jackson Kennedy, Cornell	2.33	DC Pippin, Southeast Mo. St.	1.67
Forced Fumbles (59 ranked)					AJ Lopez, Harvard	0.67	Keandre Booker, Southeast Mo. St.	0.50
Fumbles Recovered (19 ranked)	Joel Barrows	19	1	1	Wyatt Pedigo, North Dakota	3	26 players tied	1
	Russell Dandy	19	1	1	Noah Washington, Morgan St.			
	Kaelin Drakeford	19	1	1				
	Tyris Harvey	19	1	1				
	Nicholas Oliveira-Chace	19	1	1				
Interceptions Per Game (74 ranked)	Blake Ruffin	25	3	0.4	Trevin Gradney, Montana	0.8	Eric Ivory Jr., Southeast Mo. St.	0.5
							Antonio Taylor, Southeast Mo. St.	0.5
Kickoff Return TDs (1 ranked)					10 players tied	1	Nivon Holland, Charleston So.	1
							Narkel Leflore, UT Martin	1
Kickoff Returns (97 ranked)	Mark Aitken	57	6	20.3	Xaviah Bascon, Harvard	38.6	Nivon Holland, Charleston So.	27.4
Passes Defended (40 ranked)	Russell Dandy	4	1	1.8	Mikey Victor, Alabama St.	2.7	Russell Dandy, Eastern Ill.	1.8
Passing Efficiency (111 ranked)	Pierce Holley	61	4	128.4	Cole Gonzales, Western Caro.	182.4	Anthony Chiccitt, Robert Morris	157.9
Passing TDs (80 ranked)	Pierce Holley	34	3	7	C.J. Montes, Fordham	16	Anthony Chiccitt, Robert Morris	11
Passing Yards (150 ranked)	Pierce Holley	14	1	1,182	Max Brosmer, New Hampshire	1,588	Pierce Holley, Eastern Ill.	1,182
Passing Yards Per Game (150 ranked)	Pierce Holley	24	2	236.4	Jake Willcox, Brown	368.0	Paxton DeLaurent, Southeast Mo. St.	272.2
Passing Yards per Completion (111 ranked)	Pierce Holley	89	6	10.19	Connor Watkins, Villanova	17.05	Kinthead Dent, UT Martin	12.15
Points Responsible For (190 ranked)	Pierce Holley	48	4	48	Matthew Sluka, Holy Cross	108	Anthony Chiccitt, Robert Morris	72
							Kinthead Dent, UT Martin	72
Points Responsible For Per Game (150 ranked)	Pierce Holley	70	4	9.6	Matthew Sluka, Holy Cross	21.6	Anthony Chiccitt, Robert Morris	14.4
							Kinthead Dent, UT Martin	14.4
Punt Return TDs (2 ranked)					Devron Harper, Mercer	2	Lake Ellis, Bryant	1
Punt Returns (43 ranked)					Tucker Large, South Dakota St.	33.3	Maleek Huggins, Gardner-Webb	10.5
							JD Moore, Charleston So.	10.5
Punting (82 ranked)	Jacob Horvath	39	3	40.5	Matt Noll, Jackson St.	47.4	Aidan Laros, UT Martin	47.0
Receiving TDs (74 ranked)	Justin Bowick	74	4	2	Jalen Coker, Holy Cross	8	Chaese Jackson, Robert Morris	4
	Justin Thomas	74	4	2			Noah Robinson, Robert Morris	4
							Damoriea Vick, Southeast Mo. St.	4
Receiving Yards (148 ranked)	Eli Mirza	79	5	253	Jalen Coker, Holy Cross	546	Noah Robinson, Robert Morris	447
	Justin Bowick	82	6	252				
Receiving Yards Per Game (200 ranked)	Eli Mirza	107	7	50.6	Wes Rockett, Brown	138.7	Damoriea Vick, Southeast Mo. St.	90.5
	Justin Bowick	110	8	50.4				
Receptions Per Game (186 ranked)	Eli Mirza	57	5	4.8	Damoriea Vick, Southeast Mo. St.	9.0	Damoriea Vick, Southeast Mo. St.	9.0
	Justin Bowick	141	11	3.4				
	MJ Flowers	141	11	3.4				
Rush Yards Per Carry (126 ranked)	MJ Flowers	29	2	6.14	ShunDerrick Powell, Central Ark.	10.81	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	7.77
	Kevin Daniels	100	7	3.81				
Rushing TDs (65 ranked)					Desmond Reid, Western Caro.	10	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	6
Rushing Yards (199 ranked)	MJ Flowers	41	2	344	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	785	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	785
	Kevin Daniels	130	7	202				
Rushing Yards Per Game (200 ranked)	MJ Flowers	57	3	68.8	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	157.0	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	157.0
	Kevin Daniels	116	7	50.5				
Sacks (183 ranked)					Anton Juncaj, UAlbany	1.80	Kenny Dyson Jr., Bryant	1.00
Scoring (189 ranked)					Dylan Laube, New Hampshire	13.2	DC Pippin, Southeast Mo. St.	9.3
Solo Tackles (38 ranked)					B.J. Turner, N.C. A&T	9.0	Monroe Beard III, Tennessee St.	7.0
Tackles For Loss (76 ranked)					Steven Parker, UIW	2.6	Ty French, Gardner-Webb	2.0
Total Offense (198 ranked)	Pierce Holley	47	4	216.2	Jake Willcox, Brown	365.0	Paxton DeLaurent, Southeast Mo. St.	279.0
	MJ Flowers	180	11	68.8				
Total Points Scored (0 ranked)								
Total Tackles (188 ranked)	Elijahwah Tolbert	28	2	9.2	Jacob Dobbs, Holy Cross	15.0	Monroe Beard III, Tennessee St.	12.2
	Blake Ruffin	128	8	6.8				
Total Touchdowns (109 ranked)					Dylan Laube, New Hampshire	11	Sam Franklin, UT Martin	6
Yards per Pass Attempt (111 ranked)	Pierce Holley	75	5	6.53	Cole Gonzales, Western Caro.	9.97	Anthony Chiccitt, Robert Morris	7.49
Yards per Reception (199 ranked)	Justin Bowick	91	4	14.82	Jaylan Sanchez, Villanova	26.70	Matthew Prochaska, Bryant	22.57
	DeAirious Smith	148	8	13.18				