



EASTERN ILLINOIS

EASTERN ILLINOIS PANTHER FOOTBALL

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GAME 5



COACHES:

Chris Wilkerson (Eastern Illinois, 1995)

EIU Record..... 15-23 (4th)

OVC Record..... 8-12 (4th)

Career Record..... 66-50 (13th)

vs. Tennessee State..... 1-2

Reggie Barlow (Alabama State)

TSU Record..... 1-3 (1st)

OVC-Big South Record..... 0-1 (1st)

Overall Record..... 84-61 (14th)

vs. Eastern Illinois..... 0-0

SERIES

29th meeting, EIU leads 16-12

Last: @TSU 41, EIU 17 on Oct. 12, 2024

RANKINGS

Eastern Illinois..... --- /---

Tennessee State..... --- /---

.....STATS Media/AFCA Coaches

RADIO

Panther Radio Network

Hit Mix 88.9 FM, WTIM 870 AM,

WHOW 1520 AM & WMKR 94.3 FM

www.weiui.net/hitmix/

Play-by-Play..... Mike Bradd

Analyst..... Dave Kidwell

TELEVISION

ESPN+

Play-by-Play..... Mike Bradd

Analyst..... Dave Kidwell

Sideline..... Kaylee Unruh

FOLLOW-US

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Panthers Open October Back At O'Brien Field

Eastern Illinois vs. Tennessee State

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

October 4, 2025 • 2 pm • TV: ESPN+

NOTES TO KNOW

• Eastern Illinois moved to .500 (2-2) on the season and 1-0 in the OVC-Big South as the Panthers went on the road for their first win in Macomb since 1990 with a 31-23 victory at Western Illinois. EIU plays the next two weeks at home hosting Tennessee State this week before welcoming Gardner-Webb to town next Saturday, Oct. 11 for homecoming. Tennessee State will be going on the road for the first time this season as the Tigers are 1-3 on the year, 0-1 in the OVC-Big South after a conference opening loss to Tennessee Tech.

• Jacarre Fleming was named the STATS Perform FCS National Freshman of the Week on Monday following his performance in the road win at Western Illinois. Fleming rushed for 111 yards on nine carries (12.3 ypc avg.) including two touchdown runs of 55 and 30 yards. He finished the game with 177 all-purpose yards with one reception for five yards and three kick returns for 61 yards. Two weeks ago Connor Wolf was an honorable mention selection for the national freshman award with EIU's last winner coming in 2023 when MJ Flowers was the FCS National Freshman of the Week after his big rushing day against McNeese State.

• Jacarre Fleming also added OVC-Big South Freshman of the Week honors on Monday after his 111 yard rushing performance at Western Illinois. Fleming now has 134 yards this season on 14 carries for a 9.6 yards per carry average. He is the third different EIU player to rush for more than 100 yards in a game this season joining Cole LaCrue (193 vs Dayton) and Charles Kellom (133 vs. Dayton). The last time EIU had three or more players rush for 100 yards in a season was in 2022. EIU also had it happen three straight years from 2013-15 with the 2015 season featuring four different 100-yard rushers.

• Corner Isaiah Houi continues to turn away passes from receivers as the sophomore was credited with two pass break-ups on Saturday at Western Illinois to go along with five tackles. Through four games this season Houi now has seven pass break-ups which ranks him fourth in the FCS in passes defended. Last season as a freshman that really only played full-time on defense the second part of the season, Houi led the Panthers with five pass break-ups. Houi needs three more pass break-ups this season to join the EIU single season Top 10 with the school record of 18 set by Russell Dandy just two years ago in 2023.

• Eastern Illinois picked up its second turnover of the season on Saturday when Samuel Robles had a strip sack in the second quarter that Drake Van Hyfte recovered. EIU would convert that turnover into a second quarter touchdown at Western Illinois. It was the second fumble recovery this year for EIU's defense. EIU's last defensive interception was October 5 last year by Nijhay Burt against Southeast Missouri.

Eastern Illinois (2-2, 1-0)

Date	Opponent	Score/Time
Aug. 28	DAYTON	W 24-14
Sept. 6	at Indiana State	L 14-38
Sept. 13	ILLINOIS STATE	L 30-42
Sept. 27	• at Western Illinois	W 31-23
Oct. 4	• TENNESSEE STATE	2 pm
Oct. 11	• GARDNER-WEBB (HC)	2 pm
Oct. 18	• at Southeast Missouri	2 pm
Oct. 25	• at Charleston Southern	1 pm
Nov. 1	• UT MARTIN	2 pm
Nov. 8	• TENNESSEE TECH	12 pm
Nov. 15	• at Lindenwood	2 pm
Nov. 22	at Alabama	1 pm
• OVC-Big South Game		All Times Central

Tennessee State (1-3, 0-1)

Date	Opponent	Score/Time
Aug. 30	NORTH CAROLINA A&T	W 24-21
Sept. 6	NORTH DAKOTA STATE	L 3-59
Sept. 13	ALABAMA A&M	L 21-23
Sept. 27	• TENNESSEE TECH	L 8-35
Oct. 4	• at Eastern Illinois	2 pm
Oct. 11	• at Southeast Missouri	3 pm
Oct. 18	HOWARD	4:30 pm
Oct. 25	• WESTERN ILLINOIS	1:30 pm
Nov. 1	• LINDENWOOD	3:30 pm
Nov. 8	• at UT Martin	1 pm
Nov. 15	• GARDNER-WEBB	1:30 pm
Nov. 22	• at Charleston Southern	1 pm
• OVC-Big South Game		All Times Central

STATS FCS MEDIA TOP 25
(Sept. 29 - Week 5)

Rk.	Team	Record
1.	North Dakota State (51)	4-0
2.	South Dakota State (4)	4-0
3.	Tarleton State (1)	5-0
4.	Montana	4-0
5.	Montana State	3-2
6.	Illinois State	3-1
7.	UC Davis	3-1
8.	Rhode Island	4-1
9.	Lehigh	5-0
10.	Southern Illinois	3-1
11.	Tennessee Tech	4-0
12.	Idaho	2-3
13.	Northern Arizona	4-1
14.	Monmouth	3-1
15.	North Dakota	2-2
16.	West Georgia	5-0
17.	Jackson State	3-1
18.	Villanova	2-2
19.	Abilene Christian	2-3
20.	Lamar	3-1
21.	South Dakota	2-3
22.	Austin Peay	3-2
23.	Presbyterian	5-0
24.	Youngstown State	3-1
25.	Harvard	2-0

FCS COACHES TOP 25
(Sept. 29 - Week 5)

Rk.	Team	Record
1.	North Dakota State (25)	4-0
2.	South Dakota State (1)	4-0
3.	Tarleton State	5-0
4.	Montana	4-0
5.	Montana State	3-2
6.	Illinois State	3-1
7.	UC Davis	3-1
8.	Lehigh	5-0
9.	Tennessee Tech	4-0
10.	Rhode Island	4-1
11.	Southern Illinois	3-1
12.	Monmouth	3-1
13.	Northern Arizona	4-1
14.	North Dakota	2-2
15.	Idaho	2-3
16.	West Georgia	5-0
17.	Jackson State	3-1
18.	Youngstown State	3-1
19.	Villanova	2-2
20.	Incarnate Word	2-3
21.	Austin Peay	3-2
22.	Mercer	3-1
23.	Abilene Christian	2-3
24.	Presbyterian	5-0
25.	Lamar	3-1

• For the second time this season Ja'Wuan Nickson and Tylan Foster both finished a game with double figure tackles. Nickson and Foster both tied for the team lead with ten tackles with both players currently tied for the season team lead with 32 stops (tied for 8th in the OVC-Big South). Nickson added one tackle for loss in the win at Western Illinois and has 2.5 TFL this season. Foster is tied for the EIU team lead in tackles for loss with 3.5. Nickson and Foster both reached double figure tackles in the Panthers Sept. 13 game with Illinois State.

• EIU added five tackles for loss to its team total on Saturday at Western Illinois with four different players picking up a solo tackle for loss and two players - Saipeti Maiava Jr and Jesse Garza combining for the other. On the year EIU is averaging 6.0 tackles for loss per game which ranks 43rd in the FCS. Tylan Foster and Drake Van Hyfte are currently tied for the team lead with 3.5 tackles for loss each. Seven different players this year have multiple tackles for loss for the season with 13 total players recording at least a half tackle for loss.

• Samuel Robles and Trevon Piggee each got to the Western Illinois quarterback on Saturday afternoon for sacks with Robles sack resulting in a forced fumble. On the year Robles and Drake Van Hyfte are tied for the team lead with two sacks each. Piggee and Alton Jefferson each have one sack to round out the Panthers team total. Last season EIU had 14 total sacks for the year with Nicholas Oliveira-Chace the leader with six.

• Safety Saipeti Maiava Jr was active once again on Saturday as the junior college transfer was third on the team with seven tackles including six solo stops. Maiava is third overall on EIU's team this season with 31 tackles (11th OVC-Big South) with his 20 solo tackles leading the Panthers. He currently ranks 23rd in the FCS in solo tackles. He made a season high 11 tackles in the second game of the year at Indiana State.

• Eastern Illinois defense limited Western Illinois to just 33 percent on third down conversions (5-of-15) on Saturday in Macomb. That landed right on the Panthers season number for third down defense as the 33 percent for the season ranks EIU 24th in the FCS. Last season EIU allowed opponents to convert at 46.7 percent on third down which ranked 112th in the FCS.

• Running back Charles Kellom churned out 74 yards on 10 carries (7.4 ypc) on Saturday at Western Illinois including his third rushing touchdown of the season midway through the second quarter. Kellom opened his EIU career with 133 yards against Dayton for his second career 100 yard rushing game (one at Akron). The junior currently has 315 yards rushing this season which places him 42nd in the FCS and third in the OVC-Big South.

• CJ Nelson hauled in one pass for 20 yards on Saturday at Western Illinois as the Panthers had just four completions during the road win. Nelson was coming off a big day against Illinois State where the redshirt junior had seven catches for 192 yards and two touchdowns. The 192 yards are the most in the OVC-Big South this season and second most in the FCS this year. He is currently averaging 23 yards per reception which is seventh in the FCS. Nelson has two career 100-yard receiving games to his credit.

• DeAirious Smith hauled in one pass for 33 yards on Saturday at Western Illinois, one of four pass completions EIU had in the game. He became the 36th player in program history to join the 1,000 yard receiving club in the second game of the season at Indiana State. Smith now has 68 receptions for 1,078 yards which ranks 31st on the EIU career list. His 15.85 yards per reception career average ranks him ninth all-time at EIU.

• Cooper Willman had three punt returns for 50 yards on Saturday at Western Illinois as the graduate student is now averaging 10.1 yards per punt return this season, good for 21st best in the FCS. For his career Willman is averaging 9.96 yards per punt return which ranks him fourth on the EIU career list. At WIU he moved into the EIU career top ten for career punt return yards with 279 (passing Charles Owens). Willman was held without a catch at Western Illinois ending his streak of 15 consecutive games with at least one pass reception.

• Mason Miller continues to be a weapon for Eastern Illinois special teams averaging 47.0 yards per punt on Saturday at Western Illinois with two punts downed inside the 20-yard line. He did have one punt blocked, the time since the 2023 season at Robert Morris that EIU had a punt blocked. On the season Miller has a season average of 48.0 which ranks fourth in the FCS. Last season he was an NAIA All-America leading that level in punting at 45.3. EIU's single season punting average record is 44.6 set by Kevin Cook in 2007.

• Kicker Drew Schiller is now 3-for-3 on field goal attempts this season after knocking home a 20-yard kick in the fourth quarter on Saturday at Western Illinois. Schiller also converted all four extra point attempts and is 12-of-12 on PATs this season. Last year he kicked in the opening four games of the year going 3-of-7 with a standout special teams game against Indiana State which won him OVC-Big South Freshman of the Week. He was 7-for-7 on extra points in those four games giving him 19 consecutive extra points made in his EIU career.

• Eastern Illinois completed just four passes on ten attempts on Saturday in the 31-23 win at Western Illinois. It was the fewest pass completions for the Panthers in a game since the end of the 2022 season when EIU completed just three passes in a loss to Southeast Missouri on Nov. 19, 2022. The Panthers had four games during the 2022 season where they completed seven or fewer passes. The ten passing attempts in the game were the fewest by an EIU team since the 2022 season as well when EIU went 6-of-9 for 48 yards through the air against Northwestern State. The Panthers did churn out 340 yards on the ground that afternoon for the win. The previous week EIU won its OVC opener on the road at Murray State also completing just six passes in the win.

2025 OVC-Big South Football Standings

Team	CONF	Pct	All	Pct
Eastern Illinois	1-0	1.000	2-2	500
Lindenwood	1-0	1.000	2-3	400
Tennessee Tech	1-0	1.000	4-0	1.000
UT Martin	1-0	1.000	1-4	200
Gardner-Webb	0-0	.000	2-2	500
Southeast Missouri	0-1	.000	1-4	200
Tennessee State	0-1	.000	1-3	250
Western Illinois	0-1	.000	1-4	200
Charleston Southern	0-1	.000	1-4	200

This Week In OVC-Big South Football**Saturday - October 4**

- Western Illinois at Tennessee Tech..... 12 pm
- Charleston Southern at Gardner-Webb..... 12:30 pm
- UT Martin at Lindenwood..... 1 pm
- Tennessee State at Eastern Illinois..... 2 pm

Southeast Missouri (open week)

- OVC-Big South Football Association Games

Eastern Illinois Captains

- 8 - Tienne Fridge (NICKEL)
- 13 - Cooper Willman (WR)
- 49 - Jesse Garza (LB)
- 54 - Nic DiSanto (OL)

OVC - Big South Order Of Finish

1. Tennessee Tech (5)
2. UT Martin (2)
3. Southeast Missouri (2)
4. Lindenwood
5. Western Illinois
6. EASTERN ILLINOIS
7. Gardner-Webb
8. Tennessee State
9. Charleston Southern

**Eastern Illinois
Returning All-Conference Players**

- 13 - Cooper Willman (1st Team WR / AP)



• On a roster filled with returning players, junior college and four year transfers; a couple of true freshmen have found their way into playing time early in the 2025 season. Linebacker Brock VanDeveer has played in all four games starting on the Panthers special teams unit with three tackles to his credit. Wide receiver Carlyun Neal has played on offense and special teams in three games. He has caught three passes for 47 yards and has three kickoff returns. The latest freshman to play was defensive lineman Tyler Fortis at Western Illinois with no statistics recorded.

• Eastern Illinois offense snapped a six game streak in which the Panthers had failed to score in the opening quarter when Connor Wolf plowed in from the 1-yard line with 5:52 to play in the first on Saturday at Western Illinois. In 2024 EIU scored in the opening quarter in four out of twelve games. This season EIU has been outscored 51-34 in the opening half with 27 of those 34 points coming in the second quarter. EIU's most productive offensive quarter has been the fourth with 51 points this year.

• Graduate student Brett Galletti has been named a semifinalist for the William V. Campbell Award which is presented to the top academic student in college football. Galletti earned his bachelor's degree in construction management with a 3.97 GPA and is currently enrolled in the MBA program at Eastern Illinois. Galletti opened the season as the starting long snapper, a role he has performed in for the past three years. He was one of 44 FCS players selected as semifinalists and four from the OVC-Big South.

• Eastern Illinois will be close to home for a large portion of the season before ending the year on November 22 at Alabama. The Panthers play five of their first six games in the state of Illinois with the lone trip out of state just across the border, 45 miles, to Terre Haute, Indiana. The Panthers play four of their first six contests at O'Brien Field with the other road game at Western Illinois to open OVC play. EIU then travels to Southeast Missouri in mid-October before a flight to Charleston Southern to wrap up October.

SEASON LONG NOTES

• Eastern Illinois once again has a mixture of players transferring from both the FBS and FCS level into the Panthers program. EIU currently has seven FBS transfers on its roster with program newcomers Cole LaCrue (Wisconsin), Charles Kellom (Akron) and Jack Tremblay (Central Michigan). The Panthers roster features eight FCS transfers with seven of those players new to EIU this year in Tylan Foster (Incarnate Word), Bruce Mitchell (Mississippi Valley State), Jihad McCall (Morehead State), Nick Vecchiarelli (Marist), Dante Thompson (Robert Morris), Jourden Hale-Frater (Tennessee State) and Jefferson McKinnon (Marist).

• Eastern Illinois jumps back into games with the Power Four FBS Conferences over the next several years as last season the Panthers played a pair of Big Ten schools with games at Illinois and Northwestern. This year's schedule dips back into the SEC as the Panthers end the 2025 regular season at Alabama. Other future FBS games on the EIU schedule include a trip to play at Minnesota in 2026, Illinois in 2027, Kentucky in 2028 and Indiana in 2029.

• 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. This year's graduate players are Tienne Fridge, Brett Galletti, Jesse Garza, Zeke Lewis, Jihad McCall, Mason Miller, Trayvon Moore, Phoenix Porter, DeAirious Smith, Joseph Solomon, Drake Van Hyfte and Cooper Willman.

• Based on a combination of COVID football seasons and redshirt football seasons, Eastern Illinois has seven players that will be competing in their sixth year of collegiate football this season. Moses Alexander, Jihad McCall, Mason Miller, DeAirious Smith, Joseph Solomon, Drake Van Hyfte and Cooper Willman all began their collegiate careers during the 2020 season. Of the seven, Smith (40 games), Van Hyfte (37 games) and Willman (48 games) have spent their entire careers at EIU.

• Eastern Illinois once again has several legacy players on its roster this season with offensive lineman Carson Fichtel and incoming freshmen Cale Kimbro and Barron Sholl. Fichtel's father Brad was an All-American lineman for the Panthers in the early 1990's. Kimbro and Sholl's fathers (Jared Kimbro and Scott Sholl) were also offensive linemen in the early 2000's blocking for quarterback Tony Romo and running back J.R. Taylor. Sholl was a multi-time All-OVC center. All three played at EIU for head coach Bob Spoo.

• Eastern Illinois football continues to expand its reach across both the United States and North America. EIU's roster features players from 23 different states spanning from California and Washington on the West Coast to New Jersey and Maryland on East Coast. Dejan Guzina gives the Panthers a player from Canada as EIU has had players on its roster from Canada, Finland, The Netherlands and Australia in recent years.

• The Ohio Valley Conference and Big South Conference merged into a joint conference for the sport of football in 2023 playing its inaugural season with ten members. Gardner-Webb was the league's first champion. Conference realignment once again impacted the FCS as Bryant and Robert Morris exited the league after one season and Western Illinois joined for the 2024 season. The conference rebranded as the OVC-Big South Football Association in 2025 and will play with nine member schools Eastern Illinois, Lindenwood, Southeast Missouri, Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech, UT Martin and Western Illinois from the OVC. The Big South is represented by Charleston Southern and Gardner-Webb. The league announced in July 2024 that the partnership would be extended to 2030 (previous deal was to 2026) with the OVC Conference Office overseeing the day-to-day operation of the league. Tennessee Tech has announced that it will depart the conference following the 2025-26 academic year.

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 ten years as the head coach at the University of Chicago. Wilkerson has a 66-50 (15-23 at EIU, 4th year) career record. He was the 2003 Big South-OVC Coach of the Year.

Complete Coach Chris Wilkerson bio available on page 6 of EIU game notes...

TENNESSEE STATE HEAD COACH REGGIE BARLOW

Former NFL wide receiver Reggie Barlow enters his first season as the head coach at Tennessee State and is off to a 1-3 start this season. Barlow coached the last two seasons in the XFL/UFL with the DC Defenders taking the team to the league championship game in 2023. He has previous college head coaching stops at Alabama State and Virginia State winning three SWAC East Division titles at ASU and taking VSU to the NCAA Division II playoffs one time. He has a collegiate coaching record of 84-61. Barlow played college football at Alabama State before an eight-year NFL career with stops in Jacksonville, Tampa Bay and Oakland.

SCOUTING TENNESSEE STATE

Tennessee State enters the weekend at 1-3 overall, 0-1 in the OVC-Big South following a loss to Tennessee Tech. The Tigers are under the direction of a new coaching staff rebuilding on last year's FCS playoff team. Dynamic running back Kendric Rhymes leads the TSU offense in both rushing and receiving this season. Rhymes has 359 yards rushing with three touchdowns with a team high 15 receptions and one score. TSU has used two quarterbacks during the season with Jonathan Palmer and Byron McNair. The Tigers once again have an active defense with Kaiki Baker (29 tackles / 4.5 TFL) and James Stewart (23 tackles / 4 TFL) leading the charge.

THE SERIES

Eastern Illinois and Tennessee State will be meeting for the 29th time as EIU hosts Tennessee State at O'Brien Field. EIU holds a 16-12 all-time lead in the series winning four of the last five games since the Spring 2021 COVID season. EIU's win came during the 2023 season at home. The Tigers had won in their previous two trips to Charleston in 2021 and 2018. Prior to the Spring 2021 TSU win to start the Tigers current streak in the series, EIU had won eight out of the previous ten games dating back to 2010.

LAST TEN MEETINGS

Oct. 12, 2024...	TSU 41, EIU 17 at Tennessee State
Nov. 11, 2023...	EIU 30, TSU 17 at Eastern Illinois
Oct. 22, 2022...	TSU 37, EIU 17 at Tennessee State
Oct. 23, 2021...	TSU 28, EIU 0 at Eastern Illinois
March 14, 2021...	TSU 21, EIU 20 at Tennessee State
Nov. 9, 2019...	EIU 49, TSU 38 at Tennessee State
Sept. 22, 2018...	TSU 41, EIU 40 at Eastern Illinois
Sept. 30, 2017...	EIU 19, TSU 16 at Tennessee State (2 OT)
Oct. 8, 2016...	EIU 35, TSU 34 at Eastern Illinois
Oct. 17, 2015...	EIU 25, TSU 22 at Tennessee State (OT)

SERIES DID YOU KNOW FACTS...

1.) Of the 28 meetings between Eastern Illinois and Tennessee State, two of those have occurred in the FCS playoffs with EIU beating TSU in 2013 (51-10) and TSU edging EIU 20-19 in 1982 in what later would be a game forfeited by the Tigers due to use of an ineligible player. TSU is one of three teams EIU has faced multiple times in the FCS playoffs with EIU playing both Northern Iowa and Southern Illinois three times.

2.) Eastern Illinois has had a its fair share of players reach the NFL with notable quarterbacks Tony Romo and Jimmy Garoppolo. Tennessee State has produced multiple NFL players through the years including Hall of Fame inductees Richard Dent and Claude Humphrey. In terms of the College Football Hall of Fame, EIU has two inductees in former coach Darrell Mudra along with quarterback Tony Romo. TSU is represented by former head coach John Merritt.

TALE OF THE TAPE

Points Per Game	24.8	14.0
Average Points Allowed	29.3	34.5
First Downs	79	57
Rushing Yards Per Game	174.8	106.8
Rushing Touchdowns	9	4
Passing Yards Per Game	195.0	145.5
Passing Touchdowns	4	2
Average Yards Per Game	369.8	252.3
Interceptions Thrown	5	6
Fumbles - Lost	3-2	8-3
Turnovers Gained	2	5
Punting Average	45.7	42.5
Field Goals (ATT/MADE)	3-of-3	4-of-7
3rd Down Conversions	19-of-56 (34%)	15-of-54 (28%)
4th Down Conversions	3-of-7 (43%)	0-of-1 (0%)
Sacks By (Yards)	6 (56)	9 (45)
Penalties (Yards)	24 (181)	27 (226)
Time of Possession (Game)	32:23	30:44

Statistical Leaders**RUSHING YARDS (Touchdowns)**

EASTERN ILLINOIS	TENNESSEE STATE
Charles Kellom 315 (3)	Kendric Rhymes 359 (3)
Cole LaCru 194 (3)	Zack Simmons-Brown 126 (1)

PASSING YARDS (Touchdowns)

EASTERN ILLINOIS	TENNESSEE STATE
Connor Wolf 613 (4)	Jonathan Palmer 288 (1)
Cole LaCru 167 (0)	Byron McNair 283 (1)

RECEPTIONS (Yards / TDs)

EASTERN ILLINOIS	TENNESSEE STATE
Cooper Willman 11 (154 / 1)	Kendric Rhymes 15 (130 / 1)
CJ Nelson 10 (230 / 2)	DeVaughn Slaughter .. 12 (179 / 1)
DeAirious Smith 8 (138 / 1)	Brock Montgomery 7 (68 / 0)

TACKLES

EASTERN ILLINOIS	TENNESSEE STATE
Ja'Wuan Nickson 32	Kaiki Baker 29
Tylan Foster 32	James Stewart 23
Saipeti Maiava Jr. 31	Jayden Cook 14
Isaiah Houi 17	Byron Davis 12
Kaleb Lyons 16	Dominique Dixon 11

TACKLES FOR LOSS / SACKS

EASTERN ILLINOIS	TENNESSEE STATE
Drake Van Hyfte 3.5 2	Kaiki Baker 4.5 0
Tylan Foster 3.5 0	James Stewart 4 2.4
Samuel Robles 2.5 2	Bryce Gray 3 2.5

Eastern Illinois In The OVC/NCAA Stats 2025

TEAM

TEAM	NCAA	CONF
Rushing Offense	37th	3rd
Passing Offense	73rd	5th
Passing Efficiency	65th	5th
Total Offense	47th	3rd
Scoring Offense	61st	3rd
Rushing Defense	39th	2nd
Pass Defense	88th	5th
Pass Efficiency Def.	90th	4th
Total Defense	58th	2nd
Scoring Defense	69th	2nd
Net Punting	17th	2nd
Punt Returns	40th	4th
Kickoff Returns	117th	9th
Turnover Margin	120th	9th
Turnovers Gained	120th	8th
Sacks	78th	6th
Tackles For Loss	43rd	5th
Sacks Allowed	78th	4th
3rd Down Conversion	88th	4th
4th Down Conversion	80th	5th
3rd Down Defense	24th	3rd
Red Zone Offense	59th	6th
Red Zone Defense	68th	3rd
Time of Possession	20th	2nd

INDIVIDUAL (Top 50)

INDIVIDUAL (Top 50)	NCAA	CONF
Cole LaCruce (Rushing Yards)	41st	5th
Connor Wolf (Completion Pct)	46th	4th
Connor Wolf (Passing Efficiency)	25th	3rd
Charles Kellom (Rushing Yards)	42nd	4th
CJ Nelson (Yards Per Reception)	7th	1st
Drake Van Hyfte (Fumbles Recovered)	19th	3rd
Isaiah Houi (Passes Defended)	6th	1st
Alton Jefferson (Blocked Kicks)	9th	1st
Tylan Foster (Fumbles Recovered)	19th	3rd
Saipeti Maiava Jr (Solo Tackles)	23rd	4th
Cooper Willman (Punt Returns)	21st	3rd
Mason Miller (Punting)	4th	2nd

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. EIU's current active streak is 11 games after they were shutout in 2024 season opener at Illinois.

Longest EIU Streaks

197 (1977-97) ended 8/28/97 at Western Illinois

139 (2003-15) ended 9/12/15 at Northwestern

Current EIU Streak

15 games (last time shutout 8/29/24 at Illinois)

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 *

5 - Southeast Missouri

4 - Tennessee State

3 - UT Martin

2 - Murray State

1 - Gardner-Webb

1 - Tennessee Tech

1 - Western Kentucky *

1 - Austin Peay *

* indicates team no longer in the OVC

2025 WEEKLY AWARDS

Sept. 15 - Connor Wolf (Freshman)

Sept. 29 - Jacarre' Fleming (Freshman) **

** Indicates National Player of the Week

NCAA PLAYOFF APPEARANCES

School.....# Appearances (Last)

Montana.....28 (2024)

Eastern Kentucky23 (2024)

Northern Iowa22 (2021)

Furman20 (2023)

New Hampshire18 (2024)

EASTERN ILLINOIS ... 16 (2015)

McNeese State16 (2015)

Villanova16 (2024)

Eastern Washington15 (2021)

North Dakota State15 (2024)

Idaho.....14 (2024)

Montana State14 (2024)

Richmond14 (2024)

South Dakota State14 (2024)

Former FCS members now playing at FBS level

Delaware19 (2023)

Appalachian State20 (2012)

Georgia Southern19 (2012)

James Madison18 (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

**4th year at Eastern Illinois as Head Coach
(11th season at EIU overall)**

Eastern Illinois, 1995

Follow on Twitter @EIU_FB and @FB_Coach_Wilk

Eastern Illinois

- * Hired as 26th head coach in Eastern Illinois history on January 26, 2022
- * Begins fourth year as head coach for 2025 season
- * Finished sixth in voting for Eddie Robinson FCS Coach of the Year Award

- * Named Big South-OVC Football Coach of the Year in 2023
- * Coached team from 2 wins in 2022 to 8 wins in 2023 and No. 24 FCS Coaches Poll final ranking
- * Coached six All-Conference selections in 2024 (three first team)
- * Team ranked 13th in the FCS in passing offense and 9th in FCS in fewest penalty yards
- * Team featured quarterback Pierce Holley who became just fourth QB in school history with 3,000 passing yards in a season
- * Wide receiver Cooper Willman set school single game record with 291 yards receiving against Gardner-Webb (3rd most in OVC history)
- * Coached team players that earned Big South-OVC honors in 2023 (six first team selections)
- * Coached four players that earned a total of seven All-America honors in 2023
- * Coached MJ Flowers - 2023 Jerry Rice Award runner-up and Big South-OVC Freshman of the Year
- * Team ranked second in the FCS in turnovers gained in 2023
- * Team ranked 18th in FCS in scoring defense in 2023
- * Team ranked 25th in FCS in passing offense in 2023
- * 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

Eastern Illinois

Year	Overall	Conf.	No. 24
2022	2-9	1-4 (OVC)	
2023	8-3	4-2 (OVC)	
2024	3-9	2-6 (OVC)	
2025	2-2	1-0 (OVC)	
EIU	15-23	8-12	

University of Chicago Record

2021	8-2	7-2 (MWC)	UAA title
2020	*Season cancelled COVID-19		
2019	6-3	6-1 (MWC)	
2018	7-3	7-1 (MWC)	
2017	6-4	6-2 (MWC)	
2016	4-6	4-4 (SAA)	9 years
2015	6-4	5-3 (SAA)	
2014	8-1	3-0 (UAA)	
2013	6-4	1-2 (UAA)	
Totals	51-27	39-15	
Career	66-50	47-27	

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



Kyle Derickson
Assoc HC / Off Cord / QBs
(4th year)
Butler, 2003



Andrew Strobel
Defensive Coordinator
(2nd year)
Northern Michigan, 2009



Andrew Brady
ST Cord. / Safeties
(4th year)
Wheaton College, 2019



Maurice Fleming
Def Pass Cord / DBs
(3rd year)
Iowa, 2016



Cole Hoover
Tight Ends
(2nd year)
Eastern Illinois, 2021



Tino Smith II
Wide Receivers
(2nd year)
Savannah State, 2021



Carlif Taylor
Defensive Line
(1st year)
Southern Connecticut, 2014



Spencer Treadwell
Running Backs
(1st year)
Miami (Ohio), 2015



Rodman Noel
Linebackers
(1st year)
North Carolina State, 2016



Mason Keeler
Tight Ends
(1st year)
Wyoming, 2020

FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF & QUALITY CONTROL

Graduate Assistant Coach - DefenseRyan DeMarois
Graduate Assistant Coach - OffenseJoshua George
Quality Control Coach - Defense.....Matt Lindsey
Quality Control Coach - Special Teams.....Kevin Moynihan
Player PersonnelLiam Whelan
Recruiting Analyst.....Brendan Lamanna
Graduate Assistant - OperationsAndrew Scheff
Student Assistant CoachPeyton Wilkerson
Student Assistant CoachRyan Kilburg

Football Athletic Trainers Jim Nave
.....Alexis Fenrick
.....Samantha Reinert
Football Equipment ManagerClint Bays
Director of Football OperationsDavid Brubaker
Football AcademicsNicole Jackson
NutritionTBA
Director of Football Performance.....Jacob Hillman
Graduate Assistant - Football Strength.....Andreas Missios
Quality Control Coach - Strength.....Arie Jenkins

ADDITIONAL FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF

Head Strength Coach.....Joe Neihaus
Head Athletic TrainerJim Nave
Orthopedic SurgeonSarah Bush Lincoln Sports Medicine
Team DoctorDr. Andy Bays
Team Dentist.....Dr. Jennifer Kennedy

EIU ADMINISTRATION

University President.....Dr. Jay Gatrell
Athletic DirectorTom Michael
Deputy Athletic DirectorMark Bonnstetter
Associate AD Development.....Mike Murray
Associate AD Media & PR.....Rich Moser
Assistant AD Academic Services / SWA.....Jenn King
Assistant AD ComplianceDwight Rutledge
Assistant AD Development / Corporate Sales.....Amber May
Assistant AD Marketing / Fan Engagement.....Elliott Hansing
Assistant AD Sports Performance / Wellness.....Jim Nave
Business Manager.....Christine Shick

EIU LAST TIME IT HAPPENED

Passed for more than 300 yards...

Pierce Holley, 338 vs. Western Illinois (Nov. 2, 2024)
Holley with six straight 300-yard passing games

Passed for more than 400 yards...

Connor Wolf, 411, vs. Illinois State (Sept. 13, 2025)

Threw four touchdown passes...

Connor Wolf, 4, vs. Illinois State (Sept. 13, 2025)

Rushed for more than 150 yards...

Cole LaCrue, 193, vs. Dayton (Aug. 28, 2025)

Rushed for more than 200 yards...

MJ Flowers, 201, vs. Tennessee State (Nov. 11, 2023)
MJ Flowers, 272, vs. McNeese (Sept. 23, 2023)

Rushed for three touchdowns...

Cole LaCrue, 3, vs. Dayton (Aug. 28, 2025)

Rushed for four touchdowns...

MJ Flowers, 4, vs. Tennessee State (Nov. 11, 2023)

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...

Cooper Willman, 3, at Gardner-Webb (Nov. 9, 2024)

Had 150 yards receiving...

CJ Nelson, 194, vs. Illinois State (Sept. 13, 2025)

Had 200 yards receiving...

Cooper Willman, 291, at Gardner-Webb (Nov. 9, 2024) **** EIU Single Game Record**

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...

Moses Alexander, 1, vs. Indiana State (Sept. 7, 2024) - (60 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...

Cody Silzer, 1 vs. Charleston Southern (Nov. 16, 2024)

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

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

Blocked a field goal...

Alton Jefferson, 1, vs. Dayton (Aug. 28, 2025)

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) - Pierce Holley vs. Bryant (Oct. 21, 2023)
- (Pass) - Eli Mirza from Pierce Holley vs. Lindenwood (Sept. 28, 2024)

Won a game on a field goal...

Julian Patino, 18 yards, vs Charleston Southern (Nov. 16, 2024) - overtime

Had 15 or more tackles on defense...

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

Had 3 or more sacks on defense...

Drake Van Hyfte, 3, at Robert Morris (Nov. 18, 2023)

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

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

Had 2 or more interceptions

NiJhay Burt, 2, vs. Indiana State (Sept. 27, 2024)

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

2025 EASTERN ILLINOIS TOUCHDOWNS

Qtr.....	Touchdown.....	Opponent
3.....	Cole LaCrue 11 run.....	Dayton
4.....	Cole LaCrue 1 run.....	Dayton
4.....	Cole LaCrue 6 run.....	Dayton
3.....	Charles Kellom 13 run.....	Indiana State
4.....	Charles Kellom 2 run.....	Indiana State
2.....	CJ Nelson 75 pass from Connor Wolf.....	Illinois State
4.....	Cooper Willman 18 pass from Connor Wolf.....	Illinois State
4.....	CJ Nelson 51 pass from Connor Wolf.....	Illinois State
4.....	DeAirious Smith 9 pass from Connor Wolf.....	Illinois State
1.....	Connor Wolf 1 run.....	Western Illinois
2.....	Charles Kellom 25 run.....	Western Illinois
2.....	Jacarre' Fleming 55 run.....	Western Illinois
4.....	Jacarre' Fleming 30 run.....	Western Illinois

EASTERN ILLINOIS NFL CONNECTIONS

DENVER BRONCOS

Sean Payton - Head Coach

LOS ANGELES RAMS

Jimmy Garoppolo - Quarterback

FREE AGENT (START 2025 SEASON)

Kamu Grugier-Hill - Linebacker

NEW YORK GIANTS

Tim Kelly - Tight Ends Coach

TENNESSEE TITANS

Matt Jones - Offensive Assistant Coach

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

OVERTIME

+ Nov. 27, 1982 vs. Jackson State.....	W 16-13
Sept. 11, 2004 vs. Indiana State.....	L 30-33
Nov. 6, 2004 at Tennessee Tech.....	L 37-40
Nov. 6, 2010 at Tennessee State.....	W 31-28
Sept. 22, 2012 vs. Murray State.....	W 50-49
Oct. 11, 2014 at Eastern Kentucky.....	L 33-36
Sept. 19, 2015 vs. Illinois State.....	L 31-34
Oct. 17, 2015 at Tennessee State.....	W 25-22
Nov. 4, 2017 vs. Eastern Kentucky.....	W 23-20
Oct. 20, 2018 vs. UT Martin.....	W 24-21
Oct. 7, 2023 vs. UT Martin.....	L 27-28
Oct. 21, 2023 vs. Bryant.....	W 25-24
Nov. 16, 2024 vs. Charleston Southern.....	W 16-13
+ 1982 & 1983 games in FCS playoffs	

MOST PLAYS IN A GAME:

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

MOST PLAYS IN A GAME BY BOTH TEAMS:

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

OPPONENTS AGAINST EASTERN ILLINOIS**TOTAL OFFENSE:**

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

RUSHING YARDAGE:

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

PASSING YARDAGE:

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

POINTS

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

LOWEST OFFENSIVE TOTAL:

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

OPPONENT FEWEST RUSHING YARDS:

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

OPPONENT FEWEST PASSING YARDS:

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

TOTAL OFFENSE:

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

RUSHING YARDAGE:

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

RUSHING ATTEMPTS:

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

Sean Payton.....	509 vs. Saginaw Valley.....	1985
Sean Payton.....	486 vs. SW Missouri.....	1984
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	480 vs. Illinois State.....	2013
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	477 at UT Martin.....	2013
Sean Payton.....	461 vs. W. Kentucky.....	1984
Pierce Holley.....	458 at Gardner-Webb.....	2024
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	453 vs. Austin Peay.....	2012
Jimmy Garoppolo.....	450 at Northern Illinois.....	2013

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):

Cooper Willman.....	291 at Gardner-Webb.....	2024
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

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:

Cole LaCrue.....	193 vs Dayton.....	2025
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TOUCHDOWNS:

Steve Turner.....	6 vs. Mecom Academy.....	1920
Kevin Staple.....	5 vs. Kentucky State.....	1982
MJ Flowers.....	4 vs. Tennessee State.....	2023
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,		
Steve Turk, Harry Woodbery, Pierce Holley		

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:

MJ Flowers.....	11 vs Southeast Missouri.....	2024
Devin Church.....	10 at Northern Iowa.....	2015
DuWayne Pitts.....	9 vs. SW Missouri.....	1984

INDIVIDUAL GAME RECORDS**LONGEST TOUCHDOWN PASS:**

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

LONGEST TOUCHDOWN RUN:

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

LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURN FOR TD:

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

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

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

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURN:

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

LONGEST PUNT:

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

LONGEST PUNT RETURN:

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

MOST BLOCKED KICKS:

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

MOST CONSECUTIVE PASSES COMPLETED:

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

MOST FIELD GOALS:

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

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

MOST INTERCEPTIONS THROWN:

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

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	YR	EXP	HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL/JC/LAST)
0	Alton Jefferson	DL	6-0	300	R-Sr	3	Louisville, Ky. (Trinity)
1	Tylan Foster	LB	5-11	225	Sr	TR	Houston, Texas (Cypress Woods / Univ. of Incarnate Word)
1	Jay Pearson	RB	6-0	210	R-Jr	2	McKees Rocks, Pa. (Sto-Rox Junior-Senior)
2	Bruce Mitchell	DB	6-0	190	R-So	TR	Little Rock, Ark. (Lone Star (Texas) / Mississippi Valley State Univ.)
2	CJ Nelson	WR	5-11	185	R-Jr	1	North Richland Hills, Texas (Richland / Univ. of Houston)
3	Daniel Autrey	DB	6-2	205	Jr	TR	Glendale, Calif. (Glendale / Glendale College)
3	Cole LaCrue	QB	6-1	205	R-So	TR	Broomfield, Colo. (Broomfield / Univ. of Wisconsin)
4	Moses Alexander	DB	6-3	195	R-Sr	1	Galveston, Texas (Ball / Univ. of Houston)
4	Quenton Rogers	WR	6-2	195	R-So	1	Mahomet-Seymour, Ill. (Mahomet-Seymour)
5	Surahz Buncom	WR	6-3	180	R-So	SQ	Chula Vista, Calif. (Mater Dei Catholic / Univ. of Kansas)
5	Ja'Wuan Nickson	LB	6-0	235	Jr	TR	Tuscaloosa, Ala. (Hillcrest / Riverside City College)
6	DeAirious Smith	WR	6-0	180	Grad	4	Lexington, Ky. (Lexington Christian Academy)
7	Blainey Dowling	QB	6-2	205	R-So	1	Chicago, Ill. (Chicago Mount Carmel)
7	Jihad McCall	SAF	6-0	205	Grad	TR	Jersey City, NJ (Hoboken / Morehead State Univ.)
8	Tienne Fridge	DB	6-2	210	Grad	2	Sacramento, Calif. (Elk Grove / Sacramento City College)
8	Landers Green	WR	6-3	190	R-Jr	RS	Wharton, NJ (St. Peter's Prep / Union College)
9	Brady Ford	QB	6-0	205	Fr	HS	Toledo, Ohio (Whitmer)
9	Trevon Piggee-Blake	DL	6-1	315	R-So	1	St. Louis, Mo. (DeSmet Jesuit)
11	Noah Williams	LB	5-11	205	R-Jr	TR	Dallas, Texas (Princeton / Dodge City CC)
12	Salah Hill	DB	5-11	185	R-Jr	TR	Norfolk, Va. (Chaminade Prep / Willamette Univ.)
12	Collin Willard	WR	5-11	200	R-Fr	RS	North Olmsted, Ohio (North Olmsted)
13	Mason Miller	P	6-0	185	Grad	TR	Avon, Ind. (Avon / Marian Univ.)
13	Cooper Willman	WR	6-1	205	Grad	4	Sterling, Ill. (Sterling)
14	Le'Javier Payne	DB	5-8	175	Fr	HS	Chicago, Ill. (Chicago Mt. Carmel)
15	Connor Wolf	QB	6-3	210	R-Fr	RS	Ada, Mich. (Grand Rapids Central Catholic)
15	Brandon Worsley	SAF	5-11	205	Jr	TR	San Marcos, Calif. (Mission Hill / San Diego Mesa College)
16	Reed Blake-Thomas	LB	6-0	235	Fr	HS	Brighton, Mich. (Brighton)
19	Alex Herrera	TE	6-2	240	R-Jr	RS	Linden, Calif. (Linden / College of the Sequoias)
20	Chris Caldwell	RB	5-9	200	R-So	RS	O'Fallon, Ill. (O'Fallon / Western Kentucky Univ.)
20	Saipeti Maiava Jr	SAF	5-11	200	Jr	TR	Fontana, Calif. (Etiwanda / Riverside City College)
21	Kaleb Lyons	DB	5-11	195	R-Jr	RS	Antioch, Tenn. (Brentwood Academy / Morehead State Univ.)
22	Charles Kellom	RB	6-0	205	R-Jr	TR	Cincinnati, Ohio (St. Xavier / Akron Univ.)
23	Isaiah Houi	DB	5-10	175	So	1	Rockton, Ill. (Hononegah)
24	Nick Vecchiarelli	SAF	6-0	220	Sr	TR	Howell, NJ (Howell / Marist College)
25	Christopher Sharp	CB	5-11	180	R-So	1	St. Louis, Mo. (DeSmet Jesuit)
26	Makhi Wilson	SAF	6-0	190	R-So	1	Bettendorf, Iowa (Pleasant Valley)
27	Josh Brown	SAF	6-1	200	R-Fr	RS	Suwanee, Ga. (Peachtree Ridge)
28	Jacarre Fleming	RB	5-8	195	R-Fr	RS	Hahira, Ga. (Lowndes)
29	Kham Boecker	SAF	6-2	205	R-Jr	TR	Toledo, Ohio (Whitmer / College of DuPage)
30	Joey Sprinkle	TE	6-4	240	R-Jr	RS	Monticello, Ill. (Monticello / St. Ambrose Univ.)
31	Johnovan Wysinger	WR	6-1	175	R-Fr	HS	Chicago, Ill. (Morgan Park)
32	Cale Kimbro	LB	6-1	215	Fr	HS	Mattoon, Ill. (Mattoon)
33	Micheal Curry Jr	RB	5-10	190	Fr	HS	Louisville, Ky. (Atherton)
34	Jordyn Stewart	LB	6-0	230	R-Fr	RS	Homewood, Ill. (Homewood-Flossmoor)
35	Isaac Engle	DL	6-1	210	Jr	TR	Highland Ranch, Colo. (Highland Ranch HS/Univ. South Dakota Mines)
36	Dillon Conway	SAF	6-3	225	R-Fr	RS	Chicago, Ill. (Chicago Mt. Carmel)
37	Taylor Goodson	SAF	5-10	205	R-Sr	SQ	Suwanee, Ga. (North Gwinnett / Iowa Western CC)
38	Max Loveall	WR	6-3	210	R-Fr	RS	Richmond, Ill. (Richmond-Burton)
39	Davian Humphrey	LB	6-2	210	Fr	HS	Chicago, Ill. (Phillips)
40	Isaiah Richardson	SAF	6-5	230	R-So	1	Suwanee, Ga. (Collins Hill)
41	Kennyan Chandler	LB	5-11	235	Fr	LB	Kankakee, Ill. (Kankakee)
42	Aaron Rice	P	6-5	205	So	TR	Naperville, Ill. (Neuqua Valley / College of DuPage)
43	Tovie Martin	DL	6-4	230	Jr	TR	Clovis, Calif. (Clovis / College of the Sequoias)
44	Samuel Robles	DL	6-2	260	Jr	HS	Alief, Texas (Alief Taylor / Tyler JC)
45	Caden Telleson	LB	5-11	220	R-So	RS	Redondo Beach, Calif. (Redondo Union)
46	Nico Carrier	K	5-9	175	R-Fr	SQ	Naperville, Ill. (Metea Valley)
47	Drew Schiller	K	6-1	175	R-Fr	RS	New Lenox, Ill. (Lincoln-Way Central)
48	Maximo Vaughn	DL	6-5	250	Jr	TR	San Diego, Calif. (Kearny / San Diego Mesa College)
49	Jesse Garza	LB	6-2	235	Grad	RS	Nipomo, Calif. (Nipomo / Allan Hancock College)
50	Jett Reese	LB	6-2	235	Fr	HS	Chicago, Ill. (DePaul College Prep)

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	YR	EXP	HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL/JC)
51	Steven Arteaga	LB	6-0	220	Jr	TR	Murrieta, Calif. (Vista Murrieta / Palomar CC)
52	Barron Sholl	DL	6-4	265	Fr	HS	Rockford, Ill. (Boylan Central Catholic)
53	King Smith	DL	6-3	315	R-Fr	RS	Decatur, Ill. (Decatur MacArthur)
54	Nic DiSanto	OL	6-5	330	Jr	2	Wyandotte, Mich. (Gabriel Richard)
55	James Collins	DL	6-2	295	R-Jr	TR	Mesquite, Texas (Mesquite Horn / College of the Sequoias)
56	Christian Takatch	DL	6-3	250	R-So	RS	Sunbury, Ohio (Big Walnut / Notre Dame College)
57	Panayiotis Mihalopoulos	OL	6-3	325	R-So	1	Chicago, Ill. (Loyola Academy)
58	Dante Thompson	OL	6-1	330	R-Sr	TR	Montgomery Village, Md. (Quince Orchard / Robert Morris (Pa.) Univ.)
59	Brock VanDeever	LB	5-11	225	Fr	HS	Mahomet, Ill. (Mahomet-Seymour)
60	Aidan Archibald	DL	6-2	260	R-Fr	RS	Charleston, Ill. (Charleston)
61	Ruben Popoca	K	5-11	185	R-So	SQ	Mundelein, Ill. (Carmel Catholic)
64	Cody Weaver	OL	6-6	330	Jr	TR	Turlock, Calif. (Turlock / Modesto JC)
65	Carson Fichtel	OL	6-3	310	R-Jr	SQ	Heath, Texas (Rockwall-Heath)
66	Jordan Yandila	OL	6-4	310	R-So	TR	Snohomish, Wash. (Glacier Peak / Adams State Univ.)
67	Dejan Guzina	OL	6-8	340	Fr	HS	Delta, British Columbia – Canada (Football Canada North)
69	Kwan Johnson	OL	6-5	310	R-Fr	RS	Blue Island, Ill. (Dwight D. Eisenhower)
70	Alejandro Arellano	OL	6-3	315	R-Jr	1	Sterling, Ill. (Sterling / College of DuPage)
71	Jourden Hale-Frater	OL	6-4	350	R-Jr	TR	Cincinnati, Ohio (Sycamore / Tennessee State Univ.)
72	Brandin Carpenter	OL	6-6	280	Fr	HS	Pasadena, Calif. (Pasadena)
73	Chuck Lanier	OL	6-6	260	Fr	HS	Springfield, Ill. (Sacred Heart Griffin)
74	Rahfeeq Katumbusi	OL	6-3	325	R-Fr	RS	Chicago, Ill. (Chicago Mt. Carmel)
75	Jonathan Arellano	OL	6-3	325	R-Sr	1	Lancaster, Calif. (Bishop Alemany / College of the Canyons)
76	Dominic Fasano	OL	6-3	320	Fr	HS	Plainfield, Ill. (Plainfield North)
77	Sandro Malicevic	OL	6-5	330	Jr	1	Saratoga, Calif. (Prospect / San Jose City College)
78	Joseph Solomon	OL	6-5	305	Grad	1	Indianapolis, Ind. (Bishop Chatard / Appalachian State Univ.)
79	Aidan Hubble	OL	6-7	320	R-Jr	TR	Boulder, Colo. (New Vista / San Diego Mesa College)
80	Carlyun Neal	WR	5-11	190	Fr	HS	Cincinnati, Ohio (Withrow)
81	Chase McConnell	TE	6-5	235	R-Fr	RS	Lebanon, Tenn. (Watertown)
82	Joe McNab	TE	6-6	260	R-Sr	2	Madison Heights, Mich. (Lamphere)
83	Taiye Ajose	WR	6-5	225	R-Fr	RS	Akron, Ohio (St. Vincent-St. Mary's)
84	Jeremy Reeves	WR	6-4	210	R-Fr	RS	Chicago, Ill. (Gary Comer College Prep)
85	Jefferson McKinnon	LS	6-0	240	R-Fr	TR	Copley, Ohio (Revere / Marist College)
86	Jack Tremblay	WR	6-0	210	R-Jr	TR	Frankfort, Ill. (Lincoln-Way East / Central Michigan Univ.)
87	Alex Ginnever	TE	6-5	240	R-Jr	1	Wentzville, Mo. (Holt)
88	Trayvon Moore	TE	6-4	235	Grad	TR	Hattiesburg, Miss. (Oak Grove / Univ. of Nebraska Kearney)
89	Kenny Ajose	WR	6-6	225	R-Fr	RS	Akron, Ohio (St. Vincent-St. Mary's)
90	Gerlaer Ervin	DL	6-4	260	R-Jr	TR	Baltimore, Md. (Dunbar / Riverside City College)
91	Knowledge Davis	DL	6-2	260	R-So	TR	Humble, Texas (Atascocita / Tyler JC)
92	Tyler Miller	DL	6-3	295	R-Jr	TR	Brooklyn Park, Minn. (Park Center / Independence CC)
93	Isaiah Hare	DL	6-2	295	R-Fr	RS	Mt. Washington, Ky. (Bullitt East)
94	Tyler Fortis	DL	6-3	290	Fr	HS	Park Ridge, Ill. (Maine South)
95	Drake Van Hyfte	DL	6-4	255	Grad	3	Annawan, Ill. (Annawan-Wethersfield)
96	Cole Silzer	DL	6-3	300	R-Jr	SQ	Lockport, Ill. (Lockport Township)
97	Tray Ross	DL	6-4	250	R-Fr	RS	Danville, Ind. (Danville Community)
98	Brett Galetti	LS	6-1	230	Grad	2	Frankfort, Ill. (Lincoln Way East)
99	Kefa Pereira	DL	6-1	305	R-Jr	TR	San Antonio, Texas (Veterans Memorial / Monterey Peninsula College)
	Jerry Addo-Boateng	DB	6-1	180	Sr	TR	Sanford, Fla. (Orangewood Christian / Defiance College)
	Jesse Lajes	RB	5-10	205	R-Jr	TR	Fremont, Calif. (American / San Jose City College)
	Zeke Lewis	RB	6-0	210	Grad	SQ	Decatur, Ill. (Decatur St. Teresa)

EASTERN ILLINOIS FOOTBALL PRONUNCIATIONS

1 TY-lun Foster
 3 Daniel AW-tree
 3 Cole Luh-CREW
 5 Suh-RAWZ Bun-kum
 5 Juh-WON Nickson
 7 Jih-HODD McCall
 8 TEE-en Fridge
 9 TRAY-von PIGGY
 12 Suh-LAW Hill
 14 Luh-HAW-vee-air Payne

20 SY-pecky My-AW-vuh
 23 Isaiah WHO-ee
 24 Nick VECK-uh-rely
 26 Muh-KY Wilson
 28 Juh-CAR-ee Fleming
 29 Cameron BO-ker
 31 Johnvan WHY-singer
 43 TOE-vee Martin
 44 Sam ROBE-lus
 45 Kayden TELL-uh-son

48 MAX-uh-mo Vaughn
 51 Steven Ar-tee-AY-guh
 52 Baron Sholl (rhymes with "toll")
 54 Nic Duh-SAWN-toe
 56 Christian TOCK-awtch
 57 PAN-ee-OAT-ee MEEK-uh-LOP-oh-lis
 59 Brock VAN-duh-VEER
 60 AY-dun Archibald
 61 Ruben Puh-POKE-uh
 65 Carson FICK-tul

66 Jordan Yan-DEE-luh
 67 Dan Guh-ZEE-nuh
 70 All-uh-HAWN-dro ARE-ee-ON-oh
 74 Raw-FEEK Cat-um-BOO-see
 75 Jonathan ARE-ee-ON-oh
 76 Dominic Fuh-SAW-no
 77 SAWN-dro Muh-LEECH-uh-vitch
 79 AY-dun Hubble
 80 CARLY-on Neal
 83 TY-ay Uh-JOE-say

87 Alex Jin-EVER
 88 TRAY-von Moore
 89 KEN-yay Uh-JOE-say
 90 Jer-LEER Ervin
 95 Drake Van Hefty
 98 Brett Guh-LETTY
 99 KEY-fuh Puh-RARE-uh

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

	Jerry Addo-Boateng	DB	20	Saipeti Maiava Jr	SAF
89	Kenny Ajose	WR	77	Sandro Malicevic	OL
83	Taiye Ajose	WR	43	Tovie Martin	DL
4	Moses Alexander	DB	7	Jihad McCall	SAF
60	Aidan Archibald	DL	81	Chase McConnell	TE
70	Alejandro Arellano	OL	85	Jefferson McKinnon	LS
75	Jonathan Arellano	OL	82	Joe McNab	TE
51	Steven Arteaga	LB	57	Panayiotis Mihalopoulos	OL
3	Daniel Autrey	DB	13	Mason Miller	P
16	Reed Blake-Thomas	LB	92	Tyler Miller	DL
29	Kham Boecker	SAF	2	Bruce Mitchell	DB
27	Josh Brown	SAF	88	Trayvon Moore	TE
5	Surahz Buncom	WR	80	Carlyun Neal	WR
20	Chris Caldwell	RB	2	CJ Nelson	WR
72	Brandin Carpenter	OL	5	Ja'Wuan Nickson	LB
46	Nico Carrier	K	14	Le' Javier Payne	DB
41	Kennyan Chandler	LB	1	Jay Pearson	RB
55	James Collins	DL	99	Kefa Pereira	DL
36	Dillon Conway	SAF	9	Trevon Piggee	DL
33	Micheal Curry Jr	RB	61	Ruben Popoca	K
91	Knowledge Davis	DL	50	Jett Reese	LB
54	Nic DiSanto	OL	84	Jeremy Reeves	WR
7	Blainey Dowling	QB	42	Aaron Rice	P
35	Isaac Engle	DL	40	Isaiah Richardson	SAF
90	Gerliaer Ervin	DL	44	Samuel Robles	DL
76	Dominic Fasano	OL	4	Quenton Rogers	WR
65	Carson Fichtel	OL	97	Tray Ross	DL
28	Jacarre Fleming	RB	47	Drew Schiller	K
9	Brady Ford	QB	25	Christopher Sharp	CB
94	Tyler Fortis	DL	52	Barron Sholl	DL
1	Tylan Foster	LB	96	Cole Silzer	DL
8	Tienne Fridge	DB	6	DeAirious Smith	WR
98	Brett Galetti	LS	53	King Smith	DL
49	Jesse Garza	LB	78	Joseph Solomon	OL
87	Alex Ginnever	TE	30	Joey Sprinkle	TE
37	Taylor Goodson	SAF	34	Jordyn Stewart	LB
8	Landers Green	WR	56	Christian Takatch	DL
67	Dejan Guzina	OL	45	Caden Telleson	LB
71	Jourden Hale-Frater	OL	58	Dante Thompson	OL
93	Isaiah Hare	DL	86	Jack Tremblay	WR
19	Alex Herrera	TE	59	Brock VanDeever	LB
12	Salah Hill	DB	95	Drake Van Hyfte	DL
23	Isaiah Houi	DB	48	Maximo Vaughn	DL
79	Aidan Hubble	OL	24	Nick Vecchiarelli	SAF
39	Davian Humphrey	LB	64	Cody Weaver	OL
0	Alton Jefferson	DL	12	Collin Willard	WR
69	Kwan Johnson	OL	11	Noah Williams	LB
74	Rahfeeq Katumbusi	OL	13	Cooper Willman	WR
22	Charles Kellom	RB	26	Makhi Wilson	SAF
32	Cale Kimbro	LB	15	Connor Wolf	QB
3	Cole LaCrue	QB	15	Brandon Worsley	SAF
	Jesse Lajes	RB	31	Johnovan Wysinger	WR
73	Chuck Lanier	OL	66	Jordan Yandila	OL
	Zeke Lewis	RB			
38	Max Loveall	WR			
21	Kaleb Lyons	DB			

MISC. SEASON NOTES & STATS

EIU NCAA FBS TRANSFERS

2 - CJ Nelson (Univ. of Houston)
 3 - Cole LaCrue (Univ. of Wisconsin)
 4 - Moses Alexander (Univ. of Houston)
 5 - Surahz Buncom (Univ. of Kansas)
 22 - Charles Kellom (Akron Univ.)
 78 - Joseph Solomon (Appalachian State Univ.)
 86 - Jack Tremblay (Central Michigan Univ.)

EIU NCAA FCS TRANSFERS

1 - Tylan Foster (Univ. of Incarnate Word)
 2 - Bruce Mitchell (Mississippi Valley State Univ.)
 7 - Jihad McCall (Morehead State Univ.)
 21 - Kaleb Lyons (Morehead State Univ.)
 24 - Nick Vecchiarelli (Marist College)
 58 - Dante Thompson (Robert Morris (Pa.) Univ.)
 71 - Jourden Hale-Frater (Tennessee State Univ.)
 85 - Jefferson McKinnon (Marist College)

EIU ROSTER BY CLASS

Graduate Student 11
 Senior 8
 Junior 34
 Sophomore 18
 RS-Freshman 21
 Freshman 15

EIU ROSTER BY STATE

Illinois 35
 California 16
 Ohio 10
 Texas 9
 Georgia 4
 Kentucky 4
 Indiana 3
 Michigan 3
 Missouri 3
 New Jersey 3
 Colorado 2
 Maryland 2
 Tennessee 2
 Alabama 1
 Arkansas 1
 Florida 1
 Iowa 1
 Minnesota 1
 Mississippi 1
 Pennsylvania 1
 Virginia 1
 Washington 1

 Canada 1

EIU OFFENSE (games played / started)**QUARTERBACK**

15.... Connor Wolf (4 / 2)..... 6-3 210 R-Fr Ada, Mich.
or 3.... Cole LaCrue (3 / 2) 6-1 205... R-So..... Broomfield, Colo.

RUNNING BACK

22.... Charles Kellom (29 / 5)..... 6-0 205.... R-Jr Cincinnati, Ohio
28.... Jacarre Fleming (8 / 0)..... 5-8 195.... R-Fr Hahira, Ga.

TIGHT END

19.... Alex Herrera (8 / 3) 6-2 240 R-Jr Linden, Calif.
87.... Alex Ginnever (16 / 7) 6-5 240 R-Jr Wentzville, Mo.

RIGHT TACKLE

77.... Sandro Malicevic (14 / 6)..... 6-5 330 Jr Saratoga, Calif.
54.... Nic DiSanto (23 / 23) 6-5 330 Jr Wyandotte, Mich.

RIGHT GUARD

54.... Nic DiSanto (23 / 23) 6-5 330 Jr Wyandotte, Mich.
57.... Panayiotis Mihalopoulos (12 / 2)..... 6-3 325... R-So..... Chicago, Ill.

CENTER

74.... Rahfeeq Katumbusi (3 / 3) ... 6-3 325.... R-Fr Chicago, Ill.
65.... Carson Fichtel (4 / 1) 6-3 310 R-Jr Heath, Texas

LEFT GUARD

70.... Alejandro Arellano (15 / 1)..... 6-3 315.... R-Jr Sterling, Ill.
58.... Dante Thompson (38 / 26)..... 6-1 330 R-Sr Montgomery Village, Md.

LEFT TACKLE

69.... Kwan Johnson (4 / 4)..... 6-5 310 R-Fr Blue Island, Ill.
75.... Jonathan Arellano (19 / 5) 6-3 325 R-Sr Lancaster, Calif.

RECEIVER

6.... DeAirious Smith (39 / 11)..... 6-0 180... Grad..... Lexington, Ky.
8.... Landers Green (20 / 9)..... 6-3 190 R-Jr Wharton, NJ

RECEIVER

2.... CJ Nelson (29 / 7) 5-11 185.... R-Jr..... North Richland Hills, Texas
80.... Carlyun Neal (3 / 0)..... 5-11 190..... Fr..... Cincinnati, Ohio

RECEIVER

13.... Cooper Willman (48 / 30)..... 6-1 205... Grad..... Sterling, Ill.
4.... Quenton Rogers (14 / 4)..... 6-2 195... R-So..... Mahomet, Ill.

EIU COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Chris Wilkerson (Eastern Illinois, 1994) - 4th year
Career 66-50 (13), EIU Record 15-22 (4); OVC Record 8-13 (4)

Associate HC/OC/QB's: Kyle Derickson (4th year)

Offensive Line: Cole Hoover (2nd year)

Running Backs: Spencer Treadwell (1st year)

Tight Ends: Mason Keeler (1st year)

Wide Receivers: Tino Smith II (2nd year)

Graduate Assistant Offensive Coach: Joshua George (1st year)

Defensive Coordinator: Andrew Strobel (2nd year)

Special Teams Coordinator / Safeties: Andrew Brady (4th year)

Defensive Backs / Def. Pass Game Cord.: Maurice Fleming (3rd year)

Defensive Line: Carlif Taylor (2nd year)

Linebackers: Rodman Noel (1st year)

Graduate Assistant Defensive Coach: Ryan DeMarois (2nd year)

Director of Football Ops: David Brubaker (3rd year)

Director of Football Performance: Jacob Hillman (2nd year)

Trainers: Alexis Fenrick (3rd year) and Samantha Reinert (3rd year)

Equipment Manager: Clint Bays (16th year)

Quality Control Staff: Matt Lindsey (Def.), Kevin Moynihan (ST), Liam Whelan (Player Personnel), Brendan Lamanna (Recruiting)

Student Assistants: Peyton Wilkerson and Ryan Kilburg

EIU DEFENSE (games played / started)**DEFENSIVE END**

44.... Samuel Robles (4 / 4) 6-2 260 Jr Alief, Texas
60.... Aidan Archibald (4 / 0)..... 6-2 260 R-Fr Charleston, Ill.

NOSE TACKLE

0.... Alton Jefferson (32 / 12) 6-0 300 R-Sr Louisville, Ky.
99.... Kefa Pereira (4 / 0)..... 6-1 305 R-Jr San Antonio, Texas

DEFENSIVE TACKLE

55.... James Collins (4 / 3) 6-2 295 R-Jr Mesquite, Texas
9.... Trevon Piggee (14 / 1)..... 6-1 315... R-So..... St. Louis, Mo.

DEFENSIVE END

95.... Drake Van Hyfte (37 / 6)..... 6-4 255... Grad..... Annawan, Ill.
91.... Knowledge Davis (4 / 0)..... 6-2 260... R-So..... Humble, Texas

LINEBACKER

5.... Ja'Wuan Nickson (4 / 4)..... 6-0 235 Jr Tuscaloosa, Ala.
34.... Jordyn Stewart (5 / 0)..... 6-0 230 R-Fr Homewood, Ill.

LINEBACKER

1.... Tylan Foster (23 / 16)..... 5-11 225 Sr Houston, Texas
49.... Jesse Garza (11 / 1) 6-2 235... Grad..... Nipomo, Calif.

NICKEL or LINEBACKER

8.... Tienne Fridge (19 / 6)..... 6-2 210... Grad..... Sacramento, Calif.
37.... Taylor Goodson (5 / 0) 5-10 205.... R-Sr Suwanee, Ga.

CORNER

21.... Kaleb Lyons (29 / 18)..... 5-11 195 R-Jr Antioch, Tenn.
4.... Moses Alexander (15 / 6) 6-3 195 R-Sr Galveston, Texas

STRONG SAFETY

20.... Saipeti Maiava Jr (4 / 4)..... 5-11 200 Jr Fontana, Calif.
36.... Dillon Conway (8 / 0)..... 6-3 225 R-Fr Chicago, Ill.

FREE SAFETY

7.... Jihad McCall (45 / 37)..... 6-0 205... Grad..... Jersey City, NJ
15.... Brandon Worsley (4 / 0) 5-11 205 Jr San Marcos, Texas

CORNER

23.... Isaiah Houi (11 / 6) 5-10 175 So Rockton, Ill.
25.... Christopher Sharp (18 / 1) 5-11 180 R-So..... St. Louis, Mo.

EIU SPECIALISTS (games played)**KICKER**

47.... Drew Schiller (8) 6-1 175 R-Fr New Lenox, Ill.
46.... Nico Carrier (0) 5-9 175 R-Fr Naperville, Ill.

KICKOFF

47.... Drew Schiller (8) 6-1 175 R-Fr New Lenox, Ill.

PUNTER

13.... Mason Miller (26) 6-0 185... Grad..... Avon, Ind.
42.... Aaron Rice (0)..... 6-5 205 So Naperville, Ill.

HOLDER

13.... Mason Miller (26) 6-0 185... Grad..... Avon, Ind.

LONG SNAPPER

98.... Brett Galletti (25)..... 6-1 230... Grad..... Frankfort, Ill.
85.... Jefferson McKinnon (0)..... 6-0 240 R-Fr Copley, Ohio

PUNT RETURNS

13.... Cooper Willman (48) 6-1 205... Grad..... Sterling, Ill.
80.... Carlyun Neal (3)..... 5-11 190..... Fr..... Cincinnati, Ohio

KICK RETURNS

28.... Jacarre Fleming (8)..... 5-8 195 R-Fr Hahira, Ga.
1.... Jay Pearson (19 / 0) 6-0 210 R-Jr McKees Rocks, Pa.



GAME 1 - Aug. 28, 2025

Dayton14
Eastern Illinois24

Charleston, Ill.
O'Brien Field (6,775)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Dayton	7	0	0	7	14
Eastern Illinois	0	3	7	14	24

FIRST QUARTER

UD - Lochow 48 pass from Schondelmyer (Smart kick) - 9:55

SECOND QUARTER

EIU - Schiller 25 field goal - 6:12

THIRD QUARTER

EIU - LaCrue 11 run (Schiller kick) - 6:03

FOURTH QUARTER

EIU - LaCrue 1 run (Schiller kick) - 10:26

UD - Mussari 67 pass from Schondelmyer (Smart kick) - 9:31

EIU - LaCrue 6 run (Schiller kick) - 2:15

TEAM STATS	EIU	UD
First Downs	25	9
Rushes-Yards	62-336	19-31
Passing-Yards	129	261
Comp-Att-Int	9-18-1	17-31-0
Total Offense	465	292
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	2-1
Penalties-Yards	5-44	2-18
Int Returns-Yards-TD	0-0-0	1-0-0
Time of Possession	40:17	19:43
Sacks-Yards	3-17	1-4

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

EIU - LaCrue (26-193-3), Kellom (30-133-0)

UD - Hackett (8-24-0), Hansen (6-15-0)

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

EIU - LaCrue (17-9-1-129-0), Willman (1-0-0-0-0)

UD - Schondelmyer (31-17-0-261-2)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Willman (3-50-0), Smith (2-58-0), Herrera (2-12-0)

UD - Lochow (6-124-1), Mussari (6-101-1)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Maiava (5-1-0), Nickson (4-1-0), Robles (2-3-1.5)

UD - Mitchell (6-4-1), Firenze (7-2-0)

RECAP

Eastern Illinois opened the season at home for the first time since the 2016 season and the result did not disappoint as the Panthers rushed past Dayton 24-14. Quarterback Cole LaCrue set the school record for single game rushing yards by a quarterback with 193 while scoring all three EIU touchdowns. Running back Charles Kellom added 133 yards on the ground as the Panthers churned out 336 total yards with a 5.4 yards per carry average. After a slow start in the first half, EIU turned a 7-3 halftime deficit into a third quarter lead on the first of LaCrue's three scores. The defense was solid holding Dayton to just 31 yards rushing on 19 carries. Saipeti Maiava Jr led EIU's defense with six tackles while Ja'Wuan Nickson, Christopher Sharp and Samuel Robles each added five stops.



GAME 2 - Sept. 6, 2025

Eastern Illinois14
Indiana State38

Terre Haute, Ind.
Memorial Stadium (5,281)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Eastern Illinois	0	0	7	7	14
Indiana State	7	10	7	14	38

FIRST QUARTER

INS - Lawrence 19 pass from Owens (Lopez kick) - 11:49

SECOND QUARTER

INS - Stephens 4 pass from Patterson (Lopez kick) - 6:18

INS - Lopez 25 field goal - 3:19

THIRD QUARTER

EIU - Kellom 13 run (Schiller kick) - 8:47

INS - Lawrence 4 run (Lopez kick) - 3:34

FOURTH QUARTER

EIU - Kellom 2 run (Schiller kick) - 10:20

INS - Rochelle 40 pass from Patterson (Lopez kick) - 8:42

INS - Osho 31 run (Lopez kick) - 3:10

TEAM STATS	EIU	INS
First Downs	18	22
Rushes-Yards	45-89	36-211
Passing-Yards	150	201
Comp-Att-Int	16-25-1	21-28-0
Total Offense	239	412
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	7-28	6-65
Int Returns-Yards-TD	0-0-0	1-16-0
Time of Possession	35:00	25:00
Sacks-Yards	1-10	5-39

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

EIU - Kellom (23-86-2), Pearson (5-7-0)

INS - Patterson (5-78-0), Owens (9-50-0)

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

EIU - LaCrue (12-7-1-38-0), Wolf (13-9-0-112-0)

INS - Owens (10-9-0-67-1), Patterson (17-11-0-111-2)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Willman (3-18-0), Fleming (3-11-0)

INS - Stephens (5-63-1), Rochelle (5-57-1)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Maiava (5-6-0.5), Lyons (6-1-3), Foster (1-6-0.5)

INS - Clark (5-5-0), Wilson (4-5-3),

RECAP

Indiana State held Eastern Illinois run game in check for a majority of the game as the Sycamores beat the Panthers 38-14. Charles Kellom rushed for 86 yards and two second half touchdowns but as a team EIU finished the day with just 89 yards on the ground. Redshirt freshman Connor Wolf came in to provide a second half spark through the air to move the ball going 9-of-13 for 112 yards. Both teams finished the game with back-up quarterbacks leading the charge. Elijah Owens left in the first half with Indiana State up 7-0. Back-up Keegan Patterson rushed for a team high 78 yards and passed for 111 and two touchdowns to lead the ISU offense.



GAME 3 - Sept. 13, 2025

#4 Illinois State42
Eastern Illinois30

Charleston, Ill.
O'Brien Field (6,720)
113th Mid-America Classic

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Illinois State	7	14	7	14	42
Eastern Illinois	0	10	0	20	30

FIRST QUARTER

ILS - Wright 2 run (Maldonado kick) - 7:13

SECOND QUARTER

ILS - Sobkowicz 10 run from Rittenhouse (Maldonado kick) - 13:49

EIU - Nelson 75 pass from Wolf (Schiller kick) - 13:30

EIU - Schiller 43 field goal

ILS - Mailander 46 pass from Rittenhouse (Maldonado kick) - 0:08

THIRD QUARTER

ILS - Wright 18 run (Maldonado kick) - 7:21

FOURTH QUARTER

EIU - Willman 18 pass from Wolf (Schiller kick) - 11:43

EIU - Nelson 51 pass from Wolf (run failed) - 8:30

ILS - Wright 16 run (Maldonado kick) - 6:21

ILS - Sobkowicz 22 pass from Rittenhouse (Maldonado kick) - 3:13

EIU - D. Smith 9 pass from Wolf (Schiller kick) - 1:47

TEAM STATS	EIU	ILS
First Downs	20	24
Rushes-Yards	28-35	37-186
Passing-Yards	411	299
Comp-Att-Int	28-44-2	24-35-0
Total Offense	446	485
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	7-54	8-80
Int Returns-Yards-TD	0-0-0	2-0-0
Time of Possession	29:30	30:30
Sacks-Yards	0-0	2-17

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

EIU - Kellom (15-22-0), Fleming (3-16-0)

ILS - Wright (14-94-3), Dawson (12-42-0)

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

EIU - Wolf (43-22-2-411-4), Willman (1-0-0-0-0)

ILS - Rittenhouse (35-24-0-299-3)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Nelson (7-194-2), Willman (5-86-1), Kellom (4-28-0)

ILS - Sobkowicz (6-95-2), Mailander (5-109-1)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Nickson (4-8-1), Foster (8-3-1), Maiava (5-2-0)

ILS - Niekamp (10-4-2), Anderson (2-3-0), Dwyer (2-3-0.5)

RECAP

Eastern Illinois threatened No. 4 Illinois State on several occasions in the 113th Mid-America Classic but each time the Redbirds countered picking up a 42-30 win over EIU. Redshirt freshman Connor Wolf passed for an EIU freshman single game passing record of 411 yards with four touchdown tosses. He connected twice with CJ Nelson on long touchdown strikes as Nelson finished with seven catches for 194 yards. Cooper Willman and DeAirious Smith caught the other touchdowns from Wolf. On defense linebackers Ja'Wuan Nickson (12) and Tylan Foster (11) led the team in tackles with both finishing in double figures.



GAME 4 - Sept. 27, 2025
 Eastern Illinois31
 Western Illinois.....23

Macomb, Ill.
 Hanson Field (2,183)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Eastern Illinois	7	14	0	10	31
Western Illinois	0	6	10	7	23

FIRST QUARTER

EIU - Wolf 1 run (Schiller kick) - 5:52

SECOND QUARTER

WIU - Chadha 34 field goal - 14:56

EIU - Kellom 25 run (Schiller kick) - 10:52

WIU - Chadha 49 field goal - 2:31

EIU - Fleming 55 run (Schiller kick) - 1:46

THIRD QUARTER

WIU - Williams 8 pass from Carswell (Chadha kick) - 9:36

WIU - Chadha 22 field goal - 0:34

FOURTH QUARTER

EIU - Fleming 30 run (Schiller kick) - 10:37

EIU - Schiller 20 field goal - 4:49

WIU - Williams 6 pass from Carswell (Chadha kick) - 0:22

TEAM STATS	EIU.....	WIU
First Downs.....	16	23
Rushes-Yards	41-239	38-124
Passing-Yards	90	202
Comp-Att-Int	4-10-1	27-42-0
Total Offense	329	326
Fumbles-Lost.....	0-0	2-1
Penalties-Yards	5-55	14-95
Int Returns-Yards-TD.....	0-0-0	1-0-0
Time of Possession	24:45	35:15
Sacks-Yards	2-29	1-6

LEADERS

RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)

EIU - Fleming (9-111-2), Kellom (10-74-1), Pearson (11-59-0)

WIU - Holman (23-91-0), Carswell (4-20-0)

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

EIU - Wolf (10-4-1-90-0)

WIU - Irvin (20-11-0-84-0), Carswell (22-16-0-118-2)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - D. Smith (1-33-0), Green (1-32-0)

WIU - Duncan (10-78-0), Anaya (6-40-0), Williams (3-20-2)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Nickson (7-3-1), Foster (4-6-0), Maiava (6-1-0.5)

WIU - Aumua-Tuisavura (4-3-1), Washington (5-0-1)

RECAP

Jacarre' Fleming rushed for a career high 111 yards on nine carries with two long touchdown runs to help Eastern Illinois post its first win in Macomb since 1990. Fleming scored just before halftime on a 55-yard touchdown to put EIU up 21-6. His early fourth quarter score from 30-yards out put the Panthers back in front by two scores. EIU rushed for 239 yards with Charles Kellom and Connor Wolf also adding rushing touchdowns. Ja'Wuan Nickson and Tylan Foster both racked up ten tackles to lead the Panthers defense.

2025 EIU PANTHERS FOOTBALL
EASTERN ILLINOIS Game Results

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall Record	Conf Record	Time	Attend
----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----	-----
Aug 28, 2025	DAYTON	W 24-14	1-0	0-0	3:13	6,775
Sep 6, 2025	at Indiana State	14-38 L	1-1	0-0	3:47	5,281
Sep 13, 2025	ILLINOIS STATE	30-42 L	1-2	0-0	3:24	6,720
* Sep 27, 2025	at Western Illinois	W 31-23	2-2	1-0	3:30	2,183
* Oct 4, 2025	TENNESSEE STATE					
* Oct 11, 2025	GARDNER-WEBB					
* Oct 18, 2025	at Southeast Missouri					
* Oct 25, 2025	at Charleston Southern					
* Nov 1, 2025	UT MARTIN					
* Nov 8, 2025	TENNESSEE TECH					
* Nov 15, 2025	at Lindenwood					
Nov 22, 2025	at Alabama					

* indicates OVC-Big South Football Association Game

2025 EASTERN ILLINOIS STARTERS

OPPONENT	WR/TE	WR	RT	RG	C	LG	LT	WR	TE	RB	QB
Dayton	Hernandez	Willman	J. Arellano	DiSanto	Fichtel	Thompson	K. Johnson	D. Smith	Ginnever	Kellom	LaCrue
Indiana State	Nelson	Willman	DiSanto	Mihalopoulos	Katumbusi	Thompson	K. Johnson	D. Smith	McNab	Kellom	LaCrue
Illinois State	Nelson	Willman	DiSanto	Mihalopoulos	Katumbusi	Thompson	K. Johnson	Green	Hernandez	Kellom	Wolf
Western Illinois	Nelson	Willman	Malicevic	DiSanto	Katumbusi	A. Arellano	K. Johnson	D. Smith	McNab	Kellom	Wolf
Tennessee St											
Gardner-Webb											
SE Missouri											
Charleston Sou.											
UT Martin											
Tennessee Tech											
Lindenwood											
Alabama											

OPPONENT	DE	NT	DT	DE	LB	LB	NICKEL	CB	SAF	SAF	CB
Dayton	Robles	Jefferson	Collins	Van Hyfte	Nickson	Foster	Fridge	Houi	McCall	Maiava	Lyons
Indiana State	Robles	Jefferson	Collins	Van Hyfte	Nickson	Foster	Fridge	Sharp	McCall	Maiava	Lyons
Illinois State	Robles	Jefferson	Piggee	Van Hyfte	Nickson	Foster	Fridge	Houi	McCall	Maiava	Lyons
Western Illinois	Robles	Jefferson	Collins	Van Hyfte	Nickson	Garza	Fridge	Houi	McCall	Maiava	Lyons
Tennessee St											
Gardner-Webb											
SE Missouri											
Charleston Sou.											
UT Martin											
Tennessee Tech											
Lindenwood											
Alabama											



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Overall Team Statistics
All games

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as of Sep 28, 2025

Team Statistics

	EIU	OPP
Scoring	99	117
Points per game	24.8	29.3
Points Off Turnovers	0	20
First Downs	79	78
Rushing	39	36
Passing	28	35
Penalty	12	7
Rushing Yardage	699	552
Yards gained rushing	824	648
Yards lost rushing	125	96
Rushing attempts	176	130
Average per rush	4.0	4.2
Average per game	174.8	138.0
TDs Rushing	9	5
Passing Yardage	780	963
Comp-Att-Int	57-97-5	89-136-0
Average per pass	8.0	7.1
Average per catch	13.7	10.8
Average per game	195.0	240.8
TDs Passing	4	10
Total offense	1479	1515
Total plays	273	266
Average per play	5.4	5.7
Average per game	369.8	378.8
Kick returns: #-Yards	10-149	10-216
Punt returns: #-Yards	9-91	13-105
Int returns: #-Yards	0-0	5-16
Kick return average	14.9	21.6
Punt return average	10.1	8.1
Int return average	0.0	3.2
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	4-2
Penalties-Yards	24-181	30-258
Average per game	45.3	64.5
Punts-Yards	21-959	22-956
Average per punt	45.7	43.5
Net punt average	39.7	41.0
Kickoffs-Yards	19-1157	22-1338
Average per kick	60.9	60.8
Net kick average	37.4	40.4
Time of possession / game	32:23	27:38
3rd-down conversion	19/56	18/54
3rd-down pct	34%	33%
4th-down conversion	3/7	3/7



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Overall Team Statistics
All games

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as of Sep 28, 2025

	EIU	OPP
4th-down pct	43%	43%
Sacks by-Yards	6-56	9-66
Misc Yards	0	0
Touchdowns scored	13	15
Field goals - attempts	3-3	4-6
On-Side kicks	0-1	0-1
Red-zone scores	(10-12) 83%	(12-14) 86%
Red-zone touchdowns	(8-12) 67%	(9-14) 64%
PAT-attempts	(12-12) 100%	(15-15) 100%
2-point conversion-attempts	(0-1) 0%	(0-0) 0%
Attendance	13495	7464
Games / Avg per game	2/6748	2/3732
Neutral site games	-	0/0

Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	TOT
Eastern Ill.	7	27	14	51	0	99
Opponents	21	30	24	42	0	117



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Individual Statistics
All games

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as of Sep 28, 2025

Rushing

Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Charles Kellom	4	78	334	19	315	4.0	3	25	78.8
Cole LaCrue	3	42	241	47	194	4.6	3	28	64.7
Jacarre Fleming	4	14	134	0	134	9.6	2	55	33.5
Jay Pearson	3	19	85	11	74	3.9	0	26	24.7
CJ Nelson	3	1	2	0	2	2.0	0	2	0.7
Cooper Willman	4	1	1	0	1	1.0	0	1	0.3
Connor Wolf	4	17	27	43	-16	-0.9	1	7	-4.0
Team	4	4	0	5	-5	-1.3	0	0	-1.3
Total	4	176	824	125	699	4.0	9	55	174.8
Opponents	4	130	648	96	552	4.2	5	47	138.0

Passing

Player	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Connor Wolf	4	151.0	41-66-3	62.1	613	4	75	153.3
Cole LaCrue	3	89.8	16-29-2	55.2	167	0	47	55.7
Cooper Willman	4	0.0	0-2-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	4	129.6	57-97-5	58.8	780	4	75	195.0
Opponents	4	149.2	89-136-0	65.4	963	10	67	240.8

Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Cooper Willman	4	11	154	14.0	1	41	38.5
CJ Nelson	3	10	230	23.0	2	75	76.7
DeAirious Smith	4	8	138	17.3	1	47	34.5
Jacarre Fleming	4	8	41	5.1	0	17	10.3
Alex Herrera	4	5	44	8.8	0	13	11.0
Charles Kellom	4	4	28	7.0	0	18	7.0
Alex Ginnever	4	3	22	7.3	0	15	5.5
Landers Green	4	3	69	23.0	0	32	17.3
Carlyun Neal	3	3	47	15.7	0	20	15.7
Jay Pearson	3	1	2	2.0	0	2	0.7
Quenton Rogers	2	1	5	5.0	0	5	2.5
Total	4	57	780	13.7	4	75	195.0
Opponents	4	89	963	10.8	10	67	240.8

Punt Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Cooper Willman	9	91	10.1	0	37
Total	9	91	10.1	0	37
Opponents	13	105	8.1	0	26

Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Total	0	0	0.0	0	0
Opponents	5	16	3.2	0	16

Kick Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Jacarre Fleming	7	120	17.1	0	26
Carlyun Neal	3	29	9.7	0	15
Total	10	149	14.9	0	26
Opponents	10	216	21.6	0	30

Fumbles Recovered

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Drake Van Hyfte	1	0	0.0	0	0
Tylan Foster	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	2	0	0.0	0	0
Opponents	2	0	0.0	0	0



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Individual Statistics
All games

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as of Sep 28, 2025

Scoring

Player	td	fg	PAT						pts
			kick	rush	rcv	pass	dxp	saf	
Drew Schiller	-	3-3	12-12	-	-	-	-	-	21
Charles Kellom	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Cole LaCrue	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
CJ Nelson	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Jacarre Fleming	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
DeAirious Smith	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Cooper Willman	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Connor Wolf	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Total	13	3-3	12-12	0	0	0	0	0	99
Opponents	15	4-6	15-15	0	0	0	0	0	117

Total Offense

Player	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Connor Wolf	4	83	-16	613	597	149.3
Cole LaCrue	3	71	194	167	361	120.3
Charles Kellom	4	78	315	0	315	78.8
Jacarre Fleming	4	14	134	0	134	33.5
Jay Pearson	3	19	74	0	74	24.7
CJ Nelson	3	1	2	0	2	0.7
Cooper Willman	4	3	1	0	1	0.3
Team	4	0	-5	0	-5	-1.3
Total	4	273	699	780	1479	369.8
Opponents	4	266	552	963	1515	378.8

Field Goals

Player	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
Drew Schiller	3-3	100.0	0-0	2-2	0-0	1-1	0-0	43	0
Opponents	4-6	66.7	0-0	2-2	1-2	1-1	0-1	49	1

Punting

Player	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
Mason Miller	20	959	48.0	65	1	1	6	8	0
Team	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	21	959	45.7	65	1	1	6	8	1
Opponents	22	956	43.5	55	1	7	6	3	0

FG Sequence

Team Name	Eastern Ill.	Opponents
Dayton	(25)	33,50
Indiana St.		(25)
Illinois St.	(43)	
Western Ill.	(20)	(34),(49),(22)

Kickoffs

Player	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	retn	net	ydl
Drew Schiller	19	1157	60.9	6	1			
Total	19	1157	60.9	6	1	10	37.4	27
Opponents	22	1338	60.8	12	0	10	40.4	24

Numbers in (parentheses) indicate field goal was made

All Purpose

Player	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
Charles Kellom	4	315	28	0	0	0	343	85.8
Jacarre Fleming	4	134	41	0	120	0	295	73.8
Cooper Willman	4	1	154	91	0	0	246	61.5
CJ Nelson	3	2	230	0	0	0	232	77.3
Cole LaCrue	3	194	0	0	0	0	194	64.7
DeAirious Smith	4	0	138	0	0	0	138	34.5
Jay Pearson	3	74	2	0	0	0	76	25.3
Carlyun Neal	3	0	47	0	29	0	76	25.3
Landers Green	4	0	69	0	0	0	69	17.3
Alex Herrera	4	0	44	0	0	0	44	11.0
Alex Ginnever	4	0	22	0	0	0	22	5.5
Quenton Rogers	2	0	5	0	0	0	5	2.5
Connor Wolf	4	-16	0	0	0	0	-16	-4.0
Team	4	-5	0	0	0	0	-5	-1.3
Total	4	699	780	91	149	0	1719	429.8
Opponents	4	552	963	105	216	16	1852	463.0



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Overall Defense Statistics
All games

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Team Defense

#	Player	gp	Tackles				Sacks		Pass defense		Fumbles		blkd	
			ua	a	tot	tfl/yds	no-yds	int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf
1	Tylan Foster	4	17	15	32	3.5-11	.	.	.	1	1-0	.	.	.
5	Ja'Wuan Nickson	4	15	17	32	2.5-5	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
20	Saipeti Maiava Jr	4	20	11	31	1-1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
23	Isaiah Houi	4	14	3	17	1-4	.	.	7	.	.	.	.	.
21	Kaleb Lyons	4	14	2	16	3-11	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
7	Jihad McCall	4	12	3	15	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
44	Samuel Robles	4	9	6	15	2.5-23	2-22	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
8	Tienne Fridge	4	6	8	14	0.5-1	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	.
49	Jesse Garza	4	5	8	13	1.5-4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
95	Drake Van Hyfte	4	5	7	12	3.5-18	2-14	.	1	2	1-0	1	.	.
25	Christopher Sharp	4	7	3	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
0	Alton Jefferson	4	3	6	9	1-7	1-7	.	.	2	.	.	1	.
36	Dillon Conway	4	4	3	7	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
55	James Collins	4	2	4	6	2-4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
60	Aidan Archibald	4	3	3	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15	Brandon Worsley	4	4	1	5	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
91	Knowledge Davis	4	2	3	5	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.
99	Kefa Pereira	4	1	4	5	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
34	Jordyn Stewart	3	4	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
37	Taylor Goodson	4	3	1	4	1-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
9	Trevon Piggee	4	2	1	3	1-13	1-13	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
59	Brock VanDeveer	4	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
51	Steven Arteaga	3	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
53	King Smith	2	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
27	Josh Brown	3	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3	Daniel Autrey	2	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
35	Isaac Engle	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
40	Isaiah Richardson	4	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3	Cole LaCrue	3	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
8	Landers Green	4	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
87	Alex Ginnever	4	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
98	Brett Galletti	4	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Totals		4	161	114	275	24-103	6-56	0-0	18	8	2-0	3	1	0
Opponents		4	167	108	275	36-125	9-66	5-16	11	10	2-0	2	1	0



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Team Game-by-Game
All games

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Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp	att	int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds		td	lg
08/28/2025	Dayton	62	336	3	28	9	129	0	47	9-18-1 129 0 47				0	0	0	0	3	19	0	15	465
09/06/2025	at Indiana St.	45	89	2	15	16	150	0	30	16-25-1 150 0 30				3	29	0	15	1	7	0	7	239
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	28	35	0	9	28	411	4	75	28-44-2 411 4 75				4	59	0	24	2	15	0	13	446
09/27/2025	at Western Ill.	41	239	4	55	4	90	0	33	4-10-1 90 0 33				3	61	0	26	3	50	0	37	329
Eastern Ill.		176	699	9	55	57	780	4	75	57-97-5 780 4 75				10	149	0	26	9	91	0	37	1479
Opponents		130	552	5	47	89	963	10	67	89-136-0 963 10 67				10	216	0	30	13	105	0	26	1515

Eastern Ill. Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
4	4.0	13.7	129.6	14.9	10.1	429.8	369.8

Date	Opponent	ua	Tackles		tfl-yds	no-yds	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd kick	PAT attempts			off		
			a	total			ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup		kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
08/28/2025	Dayton	31	18	49	8.0-31	3-17	1	1-0	0-0	4	4	1	3-3	0	0	0	0	24
09/06/2025	at Indiana St.	31	48	79	8.0-32	1-10	0	0-0	0-0	1	2	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	14
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	47	20	67	3.0-7	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	7	0	3-3	0	0	0	0	30
09/27/2025	at Western Ill.	52	28	80	5.0-33	2-29	2	1-0	0-0	2	5	0	4-4	0	0	0	0	31
Eastern Ill.		161	114	275	24.0-103	6-56	3	2-0	0-0	8	18	1	12-12	0	0	0	0	99
Opponents		167	108	275	36.0-125	9-66	2	2-0	5-16	10	11	1	15-15	0	0	0	20	117

Date	Opponent	no.	yds	Punting							Field Goals			Kickoffs			
				avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb ob
08/28/2025	Dayton	4	200	50.0	57	0	0	1	3	1	1-1	25	0	5	320	64.0	2 0
09/06/2025	at Indiana St.	8	381	47.6	59	0	1	0	3	2	0-0	0	0	3	166	55.3	2 0
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	5	237	47.4	65	0	0	0	1	1	1-1	43	0	5	293	58.6	2 1
09/27/2025	at Western Ill.	4	141	35.3	55	1	0	0	1	2	1-1	20	0	6	378	63.0	0 0
Eastern Ill.		21	959	45.7	65	1	1	1	8	6	3-3	43	0	19	1157	60.9	6 1
Opponents		22	956	43.5	55	0	1	7	3	6	4-6	49	1	22	1338	60.8	12 0



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Opponents Game-by-Game
All games

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Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot		
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp	att	int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	off
08/28/2025	Dayton	19	31	0	19	17	261	2	67	17	31	0	261	2	67	3	77	0	30	3	36	0	14	292
09/06/2025	at Indiana St.	36	211	2	47	21	201	3	40	21	28	0	201	3	40	1	20	0	20	4	50	0	26	412
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	37	186	3	21	24	299	3	46	24	35	0	299	3	46	2	41	0	24	3	6	0	6	485
09/27/2025	at Western Ill.	38	124	0	16	27	202	2	17	27	42	0	202	2	17	4	78	0	21	3	13	0	12	326
Opponents		130	552	5	47	89	963	10	67	89	136	0	963	10	67	10	216	0	30	13	105	0	26	1515
Eastern Ill.		176	699	9	55	57	780	4	75	57	97	5	780	4	75	10	149	0	26	9	91	0	37	1479

Opponents Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
4	4.2	10.8	149.2	21.6	8.1	463.0	378.8

Date	Opponent	ua	Tackles		tfl-yds	no-yds	Fumble		int-yds	Pass Defense		blkd kick	PAT attempts			off		
			a	total			ff	fr-yds		qbh	brup		kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
08/28/2025	Dayton	53	24	77	8.0-20	1-4	1	2-0	1-0	1	6	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	14
09/06/2025	at Indiana St.	38	44	82	14.0-52	5-39	1	0-0	1-16	0	4	0	5-5	0	0	0	3	38
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	40	24	64	7.0-29	2-17	0	0-0	2-0	7	1	0	6-6	0	0	0	14	42
09/27/2025	at Western Ill.	36	16	52	7.0-24	1-6	0	0-0	1-0	2	0	1	2-2	0	0	0	3	23
Opponents		167	108	275	36.0-125	9-66	2	2-0	5-16	10	11	1	15-15	0	0	0	20	117
Eastern Ill.		161	114	275	24.0-103	6-56	3	2-0	0-0	8	18	1	12-12	0	0	0	0	99

		Punting										Field Goals			Kickoffs				
Date	Opponent	no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	
08/28/2025	Dayton	7	299	42.7	47	0	0	3	0	2	0-2	0	1	3	195	65.0	3	0	
09/06/2025	at Indiana St.	4	179	44.8	55	0	0	1	1	1	1-1	25	0	7	416	59.4	4	0	
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	7	314	44.9	53	0	1	2	2	3	0-0	0	0	7	408	58.3	3	0	
09/27/2025	at Western Ill.	4	164	41.0	48	0	0	1	0	0	3-3	49	0	5	319	63.8	2	0	
Opponents		22	956	43.5	55	0	1	7	3	6	4-6	49	1	22	1338	60.8	12	0	
Eastern Ill.		21	959	45.7	65	1	1	1	8	6	3-3	43	0	19	1157	60.9	6	1	



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Team Game Highs
All games

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Eastern Ill. - Game Highs

RUSHES	62	Dayton (08/28/2025)
YARDS RUSHING	336	Dayton (08/28/2025)
YARDS PER RUSH	5.8	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
TD RUSHES	4	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
PASS ATTEMPTS	44	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
PASS COMPLETIONS	28	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
YARDS PASSING	411	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
YARDS PER PASS	9.3	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
TD PASSES	4	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
TOTAL PLAYS	80	Dayton (08/28/2025)
TOTAL OFFENSE	465	Dayton (08/28/2025)
YARDS PER PLAY	6.5	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
POINTS	31	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
SACKS BY	3	Dayton (08/28/2025)
FIRST DOWNS	25	Dayton (08/28/2025)
PENALTIES	7	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
	7	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
PENALTY YARDS	55	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
TURNOVERS	3	Dayton (08/28/2025)
PUNTS	8	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
PUNTING AVG	50.0	Dayton (08/28/2025)
LONG PUNT	65	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	2	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
	2	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
LONG PUNT RETURN	37	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Opponent Match Highs
All games

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Opponent - Game Highs

RUSHES	38	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
YARDS RUSHING	211	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
YARDS PER RUSH	5.9	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
TD RUSHES	3	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
PASS ATTEMPTS	42	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
PASS COMPLETIONS	27	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
YARDS PASSING	299	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
YARDS PER PASS	8.5	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
TD PASSES	3 3	Illinois St. (09/13/2025) at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
TOTAL PLAYS	80	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
TOTAL OFFENSE	485	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
YARDS PER PLAY	6.7	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
POINTS	42	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
SACKS BY	5	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
FIRST DOWNS	24	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
PENALTIES	14	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
PENALTY YARDS	95	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
TURNOVERS	1 1	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
PUNTS	7 7	Illinois St. (09/13/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
PUNTING AVG	44.9	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
LONG PUNT	55	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	3	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
LONG PUNT RETURN	26	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Team Match Lows
All games

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Eastern Ill. - Game Lows

RUSHES	28	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
YARDS RUSHING	35	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
YARDS PER RUSH	1.3	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
TD RUSHES	0	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
PASS ATTEMPTS	10	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
PASS COMPLETIONS	4	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
YARDS PASSING	90	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
YARDS PER PASS	6.0	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
TD PASSES	0 0 0	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) at Indiana St. (09/06/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
TOTAL PLAYS	51	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
TOTAL OFFENSE	239	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
YARDS PER PLAY	3.4	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
POINTS	14	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
SACKS BY	0	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
FIRST DOWNS	16	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
PENALTIES	5 5	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
PENALTY YARDS	28	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
INTERCEPTIONS BY	0 0 0 0	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) Illinois St. (09/13/2025) at Indiana St. (09/06/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
PUNTS	4 4	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
PUNTING AVG	35.3	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
LONG PUNT	55	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	1 1	Illinois St. (09/13/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
LONG PUNT RETURN	7	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Opponent Match Lows
All games

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Opponent - Game Lows

RUSHES	19	Dayton (08/28/2025)
YARDS RUSHING	31	Dayton (08/28/2025)
YARDS PER RUSH	1.6	Dayton (08/28/2025)
TD RUSHES	0 0	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
PASS ATTEMPTS	28	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
PASS COMPLETIONS	17	Dayton (08/28/2025)
YARDS PASSING	201	at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
YARDS PER PASS	4.8	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
TD PASSES	2 2	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
TOTAL PLAYS	50	Dayton (08/28/2025)
TOTAL OFFENSE	292	Dayton (08/28/2025)
YARDS PER PLAY	4.1	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
POINTS	14	Dayton (08/28/2025)
SACKS BY	1 1	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
FIRST DOWNS	9	Dayton (08/28/2025)
PENALTIES	2	Dayton (08/28/2025)
PENALTY YARDS	18	Dayton (08/28/2025)
INTERCEPTIONS BY	1 1 1	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) at Indiana St. (09/06/2025) Dayton (08/28/2025)
PUNTS	4 4	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
PUNTING AVG	41.0	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
LONG PUNT	47	Dayton (08/28/2025)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	0	at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
LONG PUNT RETURN	6	Illinois St. (09/13/2025)



2025-26 Eastern III. Football
Individual Game Highs
All games

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Eastern III. - Individual Game Highs

RUSHES	30	Charles Kellom vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
YARDS RUSHING	193	Cole LaCrue vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
TD RUSHES	3	Cole LaCrue vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
LONG RUSH	55	Jacarre Fleming at Western III. (09/27/2025)
PASS ATTEMPTS	43	Connor Wolf vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
PASS COMPLETIONS	28	Connor Wolf vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
YARDS PASSING	411	Connor Wolf vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
TD PASSES	4	Connor Wolf vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
LONG PASS	75	Connor Wolf vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
RECEPTIONS	7	CJ Nelson vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
YARDS RECEIVING	194	CJ Nelson vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
TD RECEPTIONS	2	CJ Nelson vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
LONG RECEPTION	75	CJ Nelson vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
PUNTS	8	Mason Miller at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
PUNTING AVG	50.0	Mason Miller vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
LONG PUNT	65	Mason Miller vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	2	Mason Miller at Western III. (09/27/2025)
	2	Mason Miller at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
LONG PUNT RETURN	37	Cooper Willman at Western III. (09/27/2025)
LONG KICKOFF RETURN	26	Jacarre Fleming at Western III. (09/27/2025)
TACKLES	12	Ja'Wuan Nickson vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
SACKS	1	Trevon Piggee at Western III. (09/27/2025)
	1	Samuel Robles at Western III. (09/27/2025)
	1	Drake Van Hyfte at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
	1	Drake Van Hyfte vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
	1	Alton Jefferson vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
	1	Samuel Robles vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
TACKLES FOR LOSS	3	Kaleb Lyons at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Opponent Individual Match Highs
All games

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Opponent - Individual Game Highs

RUSHES	23	Markell Holman at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
YARDS RUSHING	94	Wenkers Wright vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
TD RUSHES	3	Wenkers Wright vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
LONG RUSH	47	Keegan Patterson at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
PASS ATTEMPTS	35	Tommy Rittenhouse vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
PASS COMPLETIONS	24	Tommy Rittenhouse vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
YARDS PASSING	299	Tommy Rittenhouse vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
TD PASSES	3	Tommy Rittenhouse vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
LONG PASS	67	Bryce Schondelmyer vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
RECEPTIONS	10	Tristin Duncan at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
YARDS RECEIVING	124	Gavin Lochow vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
TD RECEPTIONS	2 2	Alex Williams at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) Daniel Sobkowicz vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
LONG RECEPTION	67	Michael Mussari vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
FIELD GOALS	3	Antonio Chadha at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
LONG FIELD GOALS	49	Antonio Chadha at Western Ill. (09/27/2025)
PUNTS	7 7	Hayden Futch vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025) Logan Forcum vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
PUNTING AVG	44.9	Hayden Futch vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
LONG PUNT	55	Harry Traum at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	3	Hayden Futch vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
LONG PUNT RETURN	26	Rashad Rochelle at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
LONG KICKOFF RETURN	30	Mason Hackett vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
TACKLES	14	Tye Niekamp vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025)
SACKS	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Christian Pierce at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) Travis Jones vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025) Ben Harman vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025) Logan Wilson at Indiana St. (09/06/2025) Ahmond Glass at Indiana St. (09/06/2025) Braxton Sampson at Indiana St. (09/06/2025) Jayden Childers at Indiana St. (09/06/2025) Brandon Martin vs Dayton (08/28/2025)
TACKLES FOR LOSS	3	Braxton Sampson at Indiana St. (09/06/2025)
INTERCEPTIONS	1 1 1 1 1	Malini Ti'a at Western Ill. (09/27/2025) Jack Dwyer vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025) Shadwel Nkuba II vs Illinois St. (09/13/2025) Jayden Childers at Indiana St. (09/06/2025) Tehron Spencer, Jr. vs Dayton (08/28/2025)



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Red-Zone Results
All games

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Eastern Ill. Inside Opponent Red-Zone

				Times	Times	Total		Rush	Pass	FGs	Failed to score inside RZ					
Date	Opponent		Score	In RZ	Scored	Pts	TDs	TDs	TDs	Made	FGA	Down	Int	Fumb	Half	Game
08/28/2025	Dayton	W	24-14	5	4	24	3	3	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
09/06/2025	at Indiana St.	L	14-38	2	2	14	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	L	30-42	3	2	14	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
09/27/2025	at Western Ill.	W	31-23	2	2	10	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Totals 10 of 12 (83.3%)			12	10	62	8	6	2	2	2	1	0	1	0	0

Opponents Inside Eastern Ill. Red-Zone

				Times	Times	Total		Rush	Pass	FGs	Failed to score inside RZ					
Date	Opponent		Score	In RZ	Scored	Pts	TDs	TDs	TDs	Made	FGA	Down	Int	Fumb	Half	Game
08/28/2025	Dayton	W	24-14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
09/06/2025	Indiana St.	L	14-38	4	4	24	3	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	L	30-42	4	4	28	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/27/2025	Western Ill.	W	31-23	5	4	20	2	0	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0
	Totals 12 of 14 (85.7%)			14	12	72	9	4	5	3	4	1	0	0	0	0



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
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3rd-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
08/28/2025	Dayton	W 24-14	9-17 52.9	2-5 40.0	0-4 0.0	3-4 75.0	4-4 100.0	0-0 0.0
09/06/2025	at Indiana St.	L 14-38	5-16 31.3	2-5 40.0	0-2 0.0	2-4 50.0	1-5 20.0	0-0 0.0
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	L 30-42	3-14 21.4	1-4 25.0	0-4 0.0	1-5 20.0	1-1 100.0	0-0 0.0
09/27/2025	at Western Ill.	W 31-23	2-9 22.2	1-3 33.3	0-1 0.0	1-3 33.3	0-2 0.0	0-0 0.0
Eastern Ill.			19-56 33.9	6-17 35.3	0-11 0.0	7-16 43.8	6-12 50.0	0-0 0.0
Opponents			18-54 33.3	9-15 60.0	1-15 6.7	2-11 18.2	6-13 46.2	0-0 0.0

4th-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
08/28/2025	Dayton	W 24-14	0-1 0.0	0-0 0.0	0-1 0.0	0-0 0.0	0-0 0.0	0-0 0.0
09/06/2025	at Indiana St.	L 14-38	1-2 50.0	0-0 0.0	0-0 0.0	0-0 0.0	1-2 50.0	0-0 0.0
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	L 30-42	1-3 33.3	0-1 0.0	0-0 0.0	1-2 50.0	0-0 0.0	0-0 0.0
09/27/2025	at Western Ill.	W 31-23	1-1 100.0	0-0 0.0	0-0 0.0	0-0 0.0	1-1 100.0	0-0 0.0
Eastern Ill.			3-7 42.9	0-1 0.0	0-1 0.0	1-2 50.0	2-3 66.7	0-0 0.0
Opponents			3-7 42.9	0-0 0.0	2-5 40.0	0-0 0.0	1-2 50.0	0-0 0.0

Time of Possession

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
08/28/2025	Dayton	W 24-14	40:17	08:28	11:32	06:53	13:24	00:00
09/06/2025	at Indiana St.	L 14-38	35:00	10:33	05:58	08:30	09:59	00:00
09/13/2025	Illinois St.	L 30-42	29:30	07:57	08:04	07:09	06:20	00:00
09/27/2025	at Western Ill.	W 31-23	24:45	06:56	02:59	05:27	09:23	00:00
Eastern Ill.			Total 129:32	33:54	28:33	27:59	39:06	00:00
			Avg. 32:23	08:28	07:08	07:00	09:47	00:00
Opponents			Total 110:34	15:17	42:16	25:28	27:33	00:00
			Avg. 27:38	03:49	10:34	06:22	06:53	00:00



2025-26 Eastern Ill. Football
Team Game-by-Game Comparison
All games

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Opponent	Score	First Downs				Rushing Number-Yards	Passing		Total Offense Plays-Yards	Return Yards	Turn- Overs
		Total	Rush	Pass	Pen		Comp-Att.-Int	Yards			
Dayton	24-14	25 / 9	18 / 2	6 / 6	1 / 1	62-336 / 19-31	9-18-1 / 17-31-0	129 / 261	80-465 / 50-292	19 / 113	3 / 1
Indiana St.	14-38	18 / 22	8 / 12	6 / 7	4 / 3	45-89 / 36-211	16-25-1 / 21-28-0	150 / 201	70-239 / 64-412	36 / 86	1 / 0
Illinois St.	30-42	20 / 24	3 / 12	13 / 11	4 / 1	28-35 / 37-186	28-44-2 / 24-35-0	411 / 299	72-446 / 72-485	74 / 47	2 / 0
Western Ill.	31-23	16 / 23	10 / 10	3 / 11	3 / 2	41-239 / 38-124	4-10-1 / 27-42-0	90 / 202	51-329 / 80-326	111 / 91	1 / 1
Totals	99-117	79 / 78	39 / 36	28 / 35	12 / 7	176-699 / 130-552	57-97-5 / 89-136-0	780 / 963	273-1479 / 266-1515	240 / 337	7 / 2

Opponents	3rd Down Conversion	4th Down Conversion	Time of Possession	TOP Margin	Avg Yds/Rush	Avg Yds/Pass	Avg Yds/Play	Punting Number-Avg	Penalties Number-Yards	Sacks
Dayton	9-17 / 3-13	0-1 / 0-1	40:17 / 19:43	20:34	5.4 / 1.6	7.2 / 8.4	5.8 / 5.8	4-50.0 / 7-42.7	5-44.0 / 2-18.0	3 / 1
Indiana St.	5-16 / 3-9	1-2 / 0-1	35:00 / 25:06	09:54	2.0 / 5.9	6.0 / 7.2	3.4 / 6.4	8-47.6 / 4-44.8	7-28.0 / 6-65.0	1 / 5
Illinois St.	3-14 / 7-17	1-3 / 1-2	29:30 / 30:30	-01:00	1.3 / 5.0	9.3 / 8.5	6.2 / 6.7	5-47.4 / 7-44.9	7-54.0 / 8-80.0	0 / 2
Western Ill.	2-9 / 5-15	1-1 / 2-3	24:45 / 35:15	-10:30	5.8 / 3.3	9.0 / 4.8	6.5 / 4.1	4-35.3 / 4-41.0	5-55.0 / 14-95.0	2 / 1
Totals	19-56 / 18-54	3-7 / 3-7	129:32 / 110:34	18:58	4.0 / 4.2	8.0 / 7.1	5.4 / 5.7	21-45.7 / 22-43.5	24-181.0 / 30-258.0	6 / 9

Note: Game totals are displayed in the format TEAM/OPPONENT for each category