



EASTERN ILLINOIS PANTHER FOOTBALL

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GAME 5



COACHES:

Chris Wilkerson (Eastern Illinois, 1995)

EIU Record..... 17-33 (5th)

OVC Record..... 9-18 (5th)

Career Record..... 68-60 (14th)

vs. South Dakota State First Meeting

Dan Jackson (Omaha)

SDSU Record..... 12-6 (2nd)

MVFC Record 4-4 (2nd)

Career Record..... Same

vs. Eastern Illinois First Meeting

SERIES

2nd meeting, SDSU leads 1-0

Last: @SDSU 58, EIU 10 on Nov. 24, 2012

RANKINGS

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

South Dakota State 2nd / 2nd

.....STATS Media/AFCA Coaches

RADIO

Hit Mix 88.9 FM

www.wei.net/hitmix/

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

Analyst Dave Kidwell

TELEVISION

ESPN+

Play-by-Play..... Tyler Merriam

Analyst Kurtiss Riggs

Sideline

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EIU Football Visits No. 2 South Dakota State

Eastern Illinois at No. 2 South Dakota State

Dykhouse Stadium (19,340) • Brookings, SD

September 26, 2026 • 6 pm • TV: ESPN+

NOTES TO KNOW

• Eastern Illinois wraps up the non-conference portion of its 2026 schedule on Saturday as the Panthers travel to play at No. 2 South Dakota State. It will be EIU's second straight game against an FCS Top 5 opponent after playing last week at No. 4 Illinois State in the 114th Mid-America Classic. EIU is 1-3 on the season, winning the season opener at Murray State, before three straight losses at Minnesota, to Indiana State and at Illinois State. South Dakota State moved up to No. 2 in both FCS polls with a win over Youngstown State improving to 3-1 on the season.

• Quarterback Cole LaCrue was 15-of-25 for 150 yards on Saturday at Illinois State as the junior starter has now gone through four straight games without a turnover. LaCrue ended the game rushing for an additional 15 yards and the Panthers lone touchdown in the game. This season he has now passed for 584 yards with five touchdowns and a 59.6 completion percentage. He has rushed for another 120 yards and two scores. LaCrue has 89 consecutive pass attempts without an interception. The EIU and OVC record is 230 set by Johnathan Brantley in 2018.

• Aidan Archibald and Premiere Whitley combined for the lone sack of the game on Saturday between Eastern Illinois and Illinois State as the Panthers had one sack while not allowing a sack by the Redbirds defense. Archibald currently leads the Panthers with 1.5 sacks this season with nine total tackles. Whitley also has nine tackles this year with the half sack. Isaac Engle is second on the EIU roster this year with one sack as EIU has four as a team.

• Sophomore Jeremy Reeves was the Panthers most effective receiver on Saturday at Illinois State finishing with two catches for 44 yards. Reeves caught his first collegiate pass in the week two game at Minnesota. Last week against Indiana State he hauled in two more passes including his first career touchdown in the third quarter. Reeves has five catches this season for 81 yards to average 16.2 yards per reception.

• Linebacker Mafileo Tupou and safety Nick Vecchiarelli finished as the Panthers leaders in tackles on Saturday at Illinois State with both players finishing with nine stops. It marked the third time this season that a different player has finished a game as the team leader in tackles. Tupou is in his first season as a transfer from Adams State. He currently ranks tied for third on the team with 16 tackles this season along with a forced fumble. Vecchiarelli is in his second year as a transfer from Marist. He now has 13 tackles this season and one of two EIU fumble recoveries.

• Kicker Drew Schiller knocked home field goals of 41 and 21 yards on Saturday as he is now 2-for-3 on field goals this season. Schiller now has 16 career field goals entering his third year in the program (16-of-27) with the 41-yard connection on Saturday the fourth 40-plus yard field goal of his career. He was successful on his one extra point and is now 11-of-11 on extra points this season and 39-of-41 on extra points in his Panthers career.

Eastern Illinois (1-3)

Date	Opponent	Score/Time
Aug. 27	at Murray State	W 28-14
Sept. 3	at Minnesota	L 7-59
Sept. 12	INDIANA STATE	L 35-42
Sept. 19	at #4 Illinois State	L 49-13
Sept. 26	at South Dakota State	6 pm
Oct. 10	• at Gardner-Webb	2:30 pm
Oct. 17	• LINDENWOOD	2 pm
Oct. 24	• SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	2 pm
Oct. 31	• at UT Martin	2 pm
Nov. 7	• WESTERN ILLINOIS	2 pm
Nov. 14	• at Tennessee State	2:30 pm
Nov. 21	• CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	12 pm
• OVC Game		All Times Central

South Dakota State (3-1)

Date	Opponent	Score/Time
Aug. 29	STETSON	W 70-7
Sept. 5	at Northwestern	L 18-34
Sept. 12	NEW HAVEN	W 57-14
Sept. 19	• YOUNGSTOWN STATE	W 27-20
Sept. 26	EASTERN ILLINOIS	6 pm
Oct. 2	• at Illinois State	6 pm
Oct. 17	• at North Dakota	1 pm
Oct. 24	• MURRAY STATE	2 pm
Oct. 31	• SOUTH DAKOTA	TBA
Nov. 7	• at Northern Iowa	1 pm
Nov. 14	• at Southern Illinois	1 pm
Nov. 21	• INDIANA STATE	2 pm
• MVFC Game		All Times Central

STATS FCS MEDIA TOP 25
(SEPTEMBER 21)

Rk.	Team	Record
1.	Montana State (46)	4-0
2.	South Dakota State (10)	3-1
3.	Illinois State (1)	4-0
4.	Tarleton State	4-0
5.	Montana	3-1
6.	Lehigh	4-0
7.	North Dakota	3-1
8.	South Dakota	3-1
9.	Stephen F. Austin	4-0
10.	UC Davis	3-1
11.	Youngstown State	2-2
12.	Tennessee Tech	3-0
13.	Austin Peay	3-1
14.	Idaho State	3-0
15.	Lamar	2-1
16.	South Carolina State	4-0
17.	Yale	1-0
18.	Northern Arizona	3-1
19.	Rhode Island	2-2
20.	West Florida	2-1
21.	Harvard	1-0
22.	Campbell	3-1
23.	Villanova	2-2
24.	Southern Illinois	2-2
25.	Mercer	2-2

FCS COACHES TOP 25
(SEPTEMBER 21)

Rk.	Team	Record
1.	Montana State (25)	4-0
2.	South Dakota State	3-1
3.	Tarleton State	4-0
T4.	Illinois State (1)	4-0
T4.	Montana	3-1
6.	Stephen F. Austin	4-0
7.	Lehigh	4-0
8.	North Dakota	3-1
9.	UC Davis	3-1
10.	Tennessee Tech	3-0
11.	Austin Peay	3-1
12.	South Dakota	3-1
13.	Youngstown State	2-2
14.	South Carolina State	4-0
15.	Lamar	2-1
16.	Idaho State	3-0
17.	Northern Arizona	3-1
18.	Yale	1-0
19.	Richmond	3-1
20.	West Florida	2-1
21.	Rhode Island	2-2
22.	Villanova	2-2
T23.	Colgate	3-1
T23.	Mercer	2-2
25.	Harvard	1-0

• Eastern Illinois will be facing a Top 25 FCS opponent for the 109th time program history when the Panthers play No.2 South Dakota State on Saturday night in Brookings, SD. EIU is 26-82 all-time in those match-ups against nationally ranked opponents with the last win on Sept. 15, 2023 against No. 14 Illinois State (W, 14-13). The Panthers are 5-20 all-time against teams ranked in the Top 5 in the FCS polls with the last win over a Top 5 ranked team coming in the 2016 Mid-America Classic, a 24-21 win over No. 4 Illinois State on Sept. 17, 2016. This will be the first time in program history that EIU has played teams ranked in the Top 5 in back-to-back weeks. The closest was in the 1989 in the FCS playoffs when EIU beat No. 6 Idaho (W, 38-21) on Nov. 25 and then lost at No. 4 Montana (L, 19-25) on Dec. 2.

• Despite being held to just two yards on ten carries on Saturday at Illinois State, senior Charles Kellom still leads the Ohio Valley Conference in rushing this season with 299 yards, a total that ranks him 23rd in the FCS. Kellom has a pair of 100-yard games to his credit this season with 171 in the opener at Murray State and 106 at home against Indiana State. Kellom went over the 1,000 yard mark for his EIU career against Indiana State now has 1,010 career yards at EIU.

• Eastern Illinois played its third game, out of four, this season without committing a turnover as the Panthers have given up the football just one time this season on a fumble against Indiana State. As a team the Panthers currently rank second in the FCS in fewest turnovers given up with Butler the lone team in the FCS ranks to not have turned the ball over this season. EIU currently ranks 13th in turnover margin with five turnovers gained.

• Eastern Illinois offensive line did not allow a sack to Illinois State in Saturday's 114th Mid-America Classic. It marked the first time since October 8, 2022 (Northwestern State) that the Panthers offensive line had not allowed a sack in a game (a span of 47 games). The Panthers starting unit up front on Saturday included four players that have started every game this season in center Rahfeeq Katumbusi, guards David Trujillo and Panayiotis Mihalopoulos and tackle Jordan Yandila. Senior transfer Antonie De Lau made his first EIU start at left tackle.

• Punter Cade Cox averaged 51.0 yards per punt on six punt attempts on Saturday at Illinois State with a long punt of 56 yards and one punt inside the 20-yard line. Cox is a transfer from UC Davis and has stepped in to replace All-American punter Mason Miller. This season Cox ranks 15th in the FCS in punting average at 44.6 yards per game. Cox has eight punts covering 50+ yards with six punts inside the 20-yard line. Four of his 27 punts have gone for a touchback.

• Ten different Panthers caught at least one pass at Illinois State with running back Tyren Buggs the game leader with three receptions. It marked the first reception of the season for kick returner / receiver Carlyun Neal while it was the second catch of the season for tight ends Whitten Weems and Alex Ginnever. For the season 12 different Panthers have at least one reception this year with Charles Kellom and Devin Whitlock the team leaders with 10 catches each.

• A week after converting at 60 percent on third down opportunities against Indiana State, Eastern Illinois offense was held in check on third down at Illinois State as the Panthers converted just 4-of-12 for 33 percent. On the season EIU is 55th in the FCS in 3rd down conversion at 37.7 percent. The Panthers are a perfect 2-for-2 on 4th down conversions this season, one of eight teams tied for the national lead with a 100 percent 4th down conversion rate.

• Senior linebacker Ja'Wuan Nickson finished with six tackles on Saturday against Illinois State as he continues to lead the Panthers in both total tackles (27) and tackles for loss (4.5) for the season. Last season Nickson ranked second on the team in total tackles with 95 while posting a team leading 8.5 tackles for loss. In the OVC this season Nickson is currently eighth in the conference in tackles and third in tackles for loss. He was the OVC Defensive Player of the Week following the game against Indiana State after making 10 tackles with 1.5 TFL and an interception.

• Defensive backs Nasir Maryland and Kaleb Lyons were both active in the game against Illinois State with Maryland making eight tackles at corner while Lyons had seven stops splitting time between both a corner and safety spot during the game. Maryland is third on the team with 16 tackles this season and has 45 career tackles including his time at Merrimack. Lyons has 15 tackles and one interception this season. He now has 102 career tackles in his time at EIU and Morehead State with nine career interceptions which ranks him third among active FCS players.

• Carlyun Neal had the lone kickoff return between the two teams on Saturday at Illinois State as he returned the kick 12 yards for the Panthers. On the season Neal has become the primary kickoff returner for the Panthers averaging 30.3 yards per return on the season. As a true freshman last season Neal appeared in 11 games returning six kickoffs for an average of 16.6 yards per return.

• Devin Whitlock is the lone wide receiver to have caught at least one pass in each of the Panthers four games this season with ten receptions for 60 yards this year. Last season while playing at NCAA Division II Indiana University (Pa.), Whitlock caught at least one pass in all 11 games giving him an active streak of 15 straight games with at least one reception. At IUP he had three games with double figure receptions and three 100-plus yard receiving games.

• Eastern Illinois is one of seven teams in the FCS that have not thrown an interception this season as the Panthers get set for their fifth game of the season. Of the seven teams, five of those have played four games this year with Butler, Lehigh, Prairie View A&M and Tarleton State joining the Panthers. Yale and Columbia from the Ivy League are the others playing just one game this season. Last season EIU threw 12 interceptions, tied for 89th most in the FCS.

• After playing its two closest opponents on the 2026 schedule over the past two weeks - Indiana State (45 miles away) at home and Illinois State (105 miles away) on the road, the Panthers will face their two farthest road opponents for their next two games. EIU travels to South Dakota State (727 miles) this week and then opens Ohio Valley Conference play on Oct. 10 at Gardner-Webb (650 miles) in North Carolina. The farthest opponent on the Panthers schedule is OVC member Charleston Southern (841 miles away) with the Buccaneers set to visit Charleston, Illinois this season.

2026 OVC Football Standings

Team	CONF	Pct	All	Pct
Lindenwood	1-0	1.000	1-2	333
Southeast Missouri	0-0	.000	2-2	500
Western Illinois	0-0	.000	2-2	.500
Eastern Illinois	0-0	.000	1-3	250
UT Martin	0-0	.000	1-3	250
Gardner-Webb	0-0	.000	1-3	250
Tennessee State	0-0	.000	1-3	250
Charleston Southern	0-1	.000	2-2	500

This Week In OVC Football

Saturday - September 26

Lindenwood at Eastern Michigan	12 pm
UT Martin at Austin Peay	1 pm
Gardner-Webb at Marshall	2:30 pm
Western Illinois at North Alabama	3 pm
West Florida at Southeast Missouri	6 pm
Eastern Illinois at South Dakota State	6 pm

Open Week - Charleston Southern & Tennessee State

• OVC Game



Eastern Illinois Captains

- 1 - Saipeti Maiava Jr (SAF)
- 4 - Charles Kellom (RB)
- 5 - Ja'Wuan Nickson (LB)
- 41 - Aidan Archibald (DL)
- 74 - Rahfeeq Katumbusi (OL)

2026 OVC Order Of Finish

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



Eastern Illinois Returning All-Conference Players

- 74 - Rahfeeq Katumbusi (OL) ... 2nd Team
- 5 - Ja'Wuan Nickson (LB) ... 2nd Team
- 9 - Trevon Piggee (DL) ... Honorable Mention

• Eastern Illinois offensive lineman Alejandro Arellano has been named a candidate for the National Football Foundation Walter Campbell Trophy. The award is considered the academic Heisman of college football and presented to the top academic football player in the nation. Arellano is entering his third season as a member of the Panthers program after two years at College of DuPage. He earned his undergraduate degree from EIU this summer with a 3.78 GPA from EIU in Exercise Science.

SEASON LONG NOTES

• Eastern Illinois football has two pairs of siblings on the Panthers roster for 2026 with both sets of brothers playing the same position as their sibling. Twins Taiye Ajose and Kenny Ajose are back for their third season with the Panthers with both seeing playing time at wide receiver last year as redshirt freshmen. On the opposite side of the ball Nephi Maiava joins his older brother Saipeti Maiava Jr., on the Panthers roster. Saipeti was a starting safety for EIU in 2025 while Nephi joined the Panthers roster for 2026.

• Eastern Illinois once again has a mixture of players transferring from both the FBS and FCS level into the Panthers program. EIU currently has eight FBS transfers on its roster with program newcomers Jeremiah Salem (Eastern Michigan), Alex Stoyanovich (Colorado), Erik Hehl (UMass), Daniel Viramontes (Central Michigan), Cole Roberson (Jacksonville State) and Adam Kaminski (Central Michigan). The Panthers roster features ten FCS transfers with six of those players new to EIU this year in Nasir Maryland (Merrimack College), Premiere Whitley (Prairie View A&M), Lonnie Burt (Portland State), Cade Cox (UC Davis), Jacob Gettman (Samford) and Antonie De Lau (Delaware State).

• Eastern Illinois jumps back into games with the Power Four FBS Conferences over the next several years as last season the Panthers played at FBS traditional power Alabama. This season EIU ventured back into the Big Ten Conference with its September 3 game at Minnesota. Other future FBS games on the EIU schedule include at Ole Miss and Illinois in 2027, Kentucky in 2028 and Indiana in 2029.

• Eastern Illinois football has seven 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 Cade Cox, Jeremiah Salem, Zeke Lewis, Eric Hehl, Carson Fichtel, Alejandro Arellano and Nick Vecchiarelli.

• In this transfer portal era of college athletics Zeke Lewis, Alex Ginnever and Carson Fichtel may be the exception for the Panthers as all three players have played their entire collegiate careers at Eastern Illinois. Lewis joined the Panthers as a freshman in 2021 and was granted a sixth year for 2026 as a medical hardship. Fichtel and Ginnever both came in as part of the class of 2022 and are playing their final year having used a redshirt season. Lewis and Fichtel have both already finished their undergraduate degree from Eastern Illinois. EIU has four additional players entering their fourth year in the program as redshirt juniors in Trevon Piggee, Makhi Wilson, Panayiotis Mihalopoulos and Christopher Sharp.

• Eastern Illinois once again has several legacy players on its roster this season with offensive lineman Carson Fichtel, safety Dillon Conway and redshirt freshmen Cale Kimbro and Barron Sholl. Fichtel's father Brad was an All-American lineman for the Panthers in the early 1990's. Conway's dad Duane played offensive line at EIU in the early 1990's signing as a free agent with the Indianapolis Colts. 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 four 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 North Carolina on the East Coast. This year the Panthers roster also spans the globe with players from Canada (Dejan Guzina & Adam Kaminski), Germany (Leon Müller) and the tiny island nation of Curaçao (Antonie De Lau). Those international players join players from 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 moved back under the banner of the Ohio Valley Conference in 2026. The football membership includes Eastern Illinois, Lindenwood, Southeast Missouri, Tennessee State, UT Martin and Western Illinois from the OVC. The Big South affiliate members are Charleston Southern and Gardner-Webb. All information for OVC football can be found at www.OVCsports.com

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 68-60 (17-33 at EIU, 5th 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...

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HEAD COACH DAN JACKSON

Dan Jackson is in his second season as the head coach at South Dakota State. In his first season he led the Jackrabbits to a 9-5 overall record including a 4-4 mark in the Missouri Valley Football Conference and FCS playoff bid. This season SDSU is ranked in the FCS Top 5 in the nation as they look to make another run deep into the FCS playoffs. Jackson is a former player and assistant coach at South Dakota State and was a graduate assistant on the SDSU team that beat Eastern Illinois in the 2012 FCS playoffs. He has additional coaching stops at Northern Illinois, Vanderbilt and Idaho before returning to South Dakota State. He now has a career record of 12-6.

SCOUTING SOUTH DAKOTA STATE

South Dakota State appears set to make another run into the FCS playoffs as the Jackrabbits are ranked in the FCS Top 5 early in the 2026 season. They moved to 3-1 on the season with a conference win over Youngstown State last weekend. In the game running back Josiah Johnson was named the FCS National Offensive Player of the Week. He leads the Jackrabbits offense with 428 yards rushing and five touchdowns. Chase Mason leads the passing attack with three SDSU receivers all with double figure catches early in the season. Jes Krcil leads an active defense with 19 tackles followed by Dontay Johnson with 18.

THE SERIES

Eastern Illinois and South Dakota State meet for just the second time in program history with the Jackrabbits winning the other contest, 58-10, in the 2012 FCS playoffs in Brookings. Jake Walker rushed for 125 yards and a touchdown while Erik Lora hauled in 12 passes for 133 yards in the loss for the Panthers. EIU was unable to contain the Jackrabbits rushing attack led by Zach Zenner with 295 yards and three touchdowns.

LAST TEN MEETINGS

Nov. 24, 2012

South Dakota State 58, EIU 10 at SDSU

ADDITIONAL SOUTH DAKOTA MEETINGS

Sept. 1, 1979

EIU 24, South Dakota 15 at EIU

Sept. 6, 1980

EIU 34, South Dakota 21 at EIU

Nov. 15, 1980

EIU 52, Augustana 13 at EIU

Sept. 5, 1981

EIU 19, South Dakota 17 at SD

SERIES DID YOU KNOW FACTS...

1.) The 2012 FCS playoff game between Eastern Illinois and South Dakota State featured three of the top FCS offensive players in the nation that season. EIU wide receiver Erik Lora set the FCS single season receptions record and finished fourth in voting for 2012 Walter Payton Award. South Dakota State running back Zach Zenner finished seventh in voting that season while Panthers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo was tenth in voting in 2012. Garoppolo would go on to win the award during the 2013 season with Zenner sixth in 2013 voting and Lora seventh in 2013 voting.

2.) Eastern Illinois will be making its third all-time trip to the state of South Dakota when the Panthers fly to Brookings, South Dakota for this weekend's contest with the Jackrabbits. EIU is 4-1 all-time in games against teams from the state of South Dakota beating the University of South Dakota three times and Augustana University one time. EIU lost in the FCS playoffs at South Dakota State in 2012. The Panthers other trip to the Mount Rushmore State was in 1981 playing its first-ever game as an FCS level school at South Dakota in Vermillion.

TALE OF THE TAPE



Points Per Game	20.8	43.0
Average Points Allowed	41.0	18.8
First Downs	58	102
Rushing Yards Per Game	142.0	276.0
Rushing Touchdowns	6	15
Passing Yards Per Game	148.0	232.3
Passing Touchdowns	5	5
Average Yards Per Game	290.0	508.3
Interceptions Thrown	0	1
Fumbles - Lost	1-1	5-2
Turnovers Gained	5	5
Punting Average	44.6	47.8
Field Goals (ATT/MADE)	2-of-3	8-of-10
3rd Down Conversions	20-of-53 (38%)	19-of-52 (37%)
4th Down Conversions	2-of-2 (100%)	8-of-8 (100%)
Sacks By (Yards)	4 (33)	7 (34)
Penalties (Yards)	29 (67.3 pypg)	27 (52.3 pypg)
Time of Possession (Game)	28:10	32:10

Statistical Leaders

RUSHING YARDS (Touchdowns)

EASTERN ILLINOIS

Charles Kellom	299 (4)
Cole LaCru	120 (2)

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE

Josiah Johnson	428 (5)
James Basinger	195 (3)

PASSING YARDS (Touchdowns)

EASTERN ILLINOIS

Cole LaCru	584 (5)
Jeremiah Salem	8 (0)

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE

Chase Mason	834 (4)
Josh Holst	94 (1)

RECEPTIONS (Yards / TDs)

EASTERN ILLINOIS

Charles Kellom	10 (74 / 1)
Devin Whitlock	10 (60 / 0)
Samuel Gonzalez	8 (133 / 0)

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE

Graham Goering	15 (283 / 0)
Jack Smith	13 (231 / 1)
Lofton O'Groske	11 (154 / 0)

TACKLES

EASTERN ILLINOIS

Ja'Wuan Nickson	27
Lonnie Burt	18
Nasir Maryland	16
Brandon Worsley	16
Mafileo Tupou	16

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE

Jes Krcil	19
Dontay Johnson	18
Michael Farr	14
Chase Van Tol	14
Myles Green	12

TACKLES FOR LOSS / SACKS

EASTERN ILLINOIS

Ja'Wuan Nickson	4.5	0.5
Isaac Engle	3	1
Erik Hehl	3	0

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE

Carter Sitzman	3	1
Jes Krcil	2.5	0
Cullen McShane	2	2

**Eastern Illinois In The
OVC/NCAA Stats
2026 SEASON**

TEAM

	NCAA.....	CONF
Rushing Offense	59th	4th
Passing Offense	104th	8th
Passing Efficiency	53rd	2nd
Total Offense	99th	7th
Scoring Offense	79th	6th
Rushing Defense	58th	6th
Pass Defense	115th	7th
Pass Efficiency Def.	98th	5th
Total Defense	108th	7th
Scoring Defense	110th	8th
Net Punting	114th	8th
Punt Returns	38th	3rd
Kickoff Returns	25th	3rd
Turnover Margin	13th	1st
Turnovers Gained	42nd	3rd
Sacks	92nd	2nd
Tackles For Loss	50th	5th
Sacks Allowed	83rd	4th
3rd Down Conversion	55th	6th
4th Down Conversion	T1st	T1st
3rd Down Defense	120th	8th
Red Zone Offense	54th	3rd
Red Zone Defense	72nd	4th
Fewest Penalties	90th	6th
Time of Possession	94th	8th

INDIVIDUAL (Top 50)

	NCAA.....	CONF
Charles Kellom (Rushing Yards).....	23rd	1st
Charles Kellom (Rushing TDs).....	14th	2nd
Cole LaCrue (Passing TDs).....	46th	2nd
Nick Vecchiarelli (Fumbles Recovered).....	10th	1st
Isaac Engle (Fumbles Recovered)	10th	1st
Ja'Wuan Nickson (Interceptions).....	18th	1st
Cade Cox (Punting).....	15th	1st
Devin Whitlock (Punt Returns)	15th	1st

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

4 games (last time shutout 11/22/2025 at Alabama)

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

2026 WEEKLY AWARDS

Aug. 31 - Charles Kellom (Offensive)

Sept. 14 - Cole LaCrue (Offensive)

Sept. 14 - Ja'Wuan Nickson (Defensive)

**** Indicates National Player of the Week**

NCAA PLAYOFF APPEARANCES

School.....# Appearances (Last)

Montana.....	29 (2025)
Eastern Kentucky	23 (2024)
Northern Iowa	22 (2021)
Furman	20 (2023)
New Hampshire	19 (2025)
Villanova	17 (2025)
EASTERN ILLINOIS ... 16 (2015)	
McNeese State	16 (2015)
Eastern Washington	15 (2021)
Montana State	15 (2025)
South Dakota State	15 (2025)
Idaho.....	14 (2024)
Richmond	14 (2024)

Former FCS members now playing at FBS level

Delaware	19 (2023)
Appalachian State	20 (2012)
Georgia Southern	19 (2012)
James Madison	18 (2021)
North Dakota State	16 (2025)

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

5th year at Eastern Illinois as Head Coach

(12th 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 fifth year as head coach for 2026 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 OVC-Big South Special Teams Player of the Year Mason Miller in 2025 (two time All-American)
- * Coached 12 All-Conference selections in 2025 (two first team)
- * Defense ranked first in the OVC-Big South in turnovers gained (18), 29th in FCS in 2025
- * Offense set EIU single game record by rushing yards by a quarterback with 193 vs Dayton
- * Offense set EIU single game passing record by a freshman with 411 yards vs Illinois State
- * Defense ranked second in FCS in fourth down defense and 15th in red zone defense in 2025
- * 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

Prior To Eastern Illinois

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

Personal

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

Eastern Illinois

Year	Overall	Conf.
2022	2-9	1-4 (OVC)
2023	8-3	4-2 (OVC)
2024	3-9	2-6 (OVC)
2025	3-9	2-6 (OVC)
2026	1-2	0-0 (OVC)
EIU	17-33	9-18

No. 24

University of Chicago Record

2021	8-2	7-2 (MWC)
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)
2015	6-4	5-3 (SAA)
2014	8-1	3-0 (UAA)
2013	6-4	1-2 (UAA)
Totals	51-27	39-15

UAA title

9 years

Career 68-60 48-33



Kyle Derickson

Assoc HC / Off Cord / QBs
(5th year)
Butler, 2003



Mason Keeler

Special Teams / Tight Ends
(2nd year)
Wyoming, 2020



Tino Smith II

Wide Receivers
(3rd year)
Savannah State, 2021



Shaun Wick

Running Backs
(1st year)
Wyoming, 2017



Mike McClanathan

Offensive Line
(1st year)
Drake, 2015



Andrew Strobel

Def Cord / Safeties
(3rd year)
Northern Michigan, 2009



Rodman Noel

Linebackers
(2nd year)
North Carolina State, 2016



Alex Gray

Defensive Backs
(1st year)
Walsh University



Casey Walker

Defensive Line
(1st year)
Oklahoma



Tre'jon Lewis

Asst. Defensive Line
(1st year)
Eastern Illinois, 2023

FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF & QUALITY CONTROL

Graduate Assistant Coach - Defense Matt Lindsey
Graduate Assistant Coach - Offense Kevin Moynihan
Quality Control Coach - Special Teams Dustin Zieman
Graduate Assistant - Operations Andrew Scheff
Student Assistant Coach Peyton Wilkerson
Graduate Assistant Football Performance Zac Vereen
Graduate Assistant Football Performance Noam Cohen

Football Athletic Trainers Alexis Fenrick
..... Samantha Reinert
..... Kyrrah Randolph
Football Equipment Manager Clint Bays
Director of Football Operations David Brubaker
Football Academics Nicole Jackson
Nutrition Amanda Davis
Director of Football Performance Andreas Missios

ADDITIONAL FOOTBALL SUPPORT STAFF

Head Strength Coach Joe Neihaus
Head Athletic Trainer Jim Nave
Orthopedic Surgeon Sarah Bush Lincoln Sports Medicine
Team Doctor Dr. Daniel Fishel
Team Dentist Dr. Jennifer Kennedy

EIU ADMINISTRATION

University President Dr. Jay Gatrell
Athletic Director Mark Wilson (Begin Sept. 1)
Deputy Athletic Director Mark Bonnstetter
Associate AD Development TBA
Associate AD Media & PR Rich Moser
Assistant AD Academic Services / SWA Jenn King
Assistant AD Compliance Dwight Rutledge
Assistant AD Marketing / Fan Engagement Will Hunker
Assistant AD Sports Performance / Wellness Jim Nave
Business Manager Cristine 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...

Charles Kellom, 171, at Murray State (Aug. 27, 2026)

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...

Charles Kellom, 3, at Murray State (Aug. 27, 2026)

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...

Premiere Whitley, 1, at Murray State (Aug. 27, 2026)

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 10 or more solo tackles on defense...

Tylan Foster, 11, vs. UT Martin (Nov. 8, 2025)

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

2026 EASTERN ILLINOIS TOUCHDOWNS

Qtr.....	Touchdown.....	Opponent
2.....	Charles Kellom 10 run	at Murray State
2.....	Charles Kellom 88 run	at Murray State
3.....	Charles Kellom 2 run	at Murray State
4.....	Landers Green 20 pass from Cole LaCrue.....	at Murray State
2.....	Tyren Buggs 8 pass from Cole LaCrue.....	at Minnesota
1.....	Charles Kellom 76 run	Indiana State
3.....	Jeremy Reeves 21 pass from Cole LaCrue.....	Indiana State
3.....	Cole LaCrue 8 run	Indiana State
4.....	Jacarre Fleming-Page 7 pass from Cole LaCrue	Indiana State
4.....	Charles Kellom 8 pass from Cole LaCrue	Indiana State
4.....	Cole LaCrue 1 run	at Illinois State

EASTERN ILLINOIS NFL CONNECTIONS (During 2026 NFL SEASON)

DENVER BRONCOS

Sean Payton - Head Coach

NEW YORK GIANTS

Tim Kelly - Tight Ends Coach

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Adam Gristick - Linebackers Assistant

DALLAS COWBOYS

Steven Bravo Brown - Wide Receivers Assistant

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Ryan Pace - Football Advisor

BROADCAST

Tony Romo - CBS Color Analyst with Jim Nantz

FREE AGENT

Jimmy Garoppolo - Quarterback

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:

34.....	at Alabama	Nov. 22, 2025
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
Nov. 1, 2025	vs. UT Martin	L 20-27

+ 1982 & 1983 games in FCS playoffs

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

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)		

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 Woodberry.....	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 Woodberry, 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/LAST)
0	Nasir Maryland	DB	6-2	200	R-Sr	TR	Ramsey, NJ (Don Bosco Prep / Merrimack College)
0	Carlyun Neal	WR	5-11	190	So	1	Cincinnati, Ohio (Withrow)
1	Saipeti Maiava Jr	SAF	5-11	200	Sr	1	Fontana, Calif. (Etiwanda / Riverside City College)
1	Jacarre Fleming-Page	RB	5-9	195	R-So	1	Hahira, Ga. (Lowndes)
2	Bruce Mitchell	DB	6-0	200	R-Jr	1	Little Rock, Ark. (Lone Star Texas / Mississippi Valley State Univ.)
2	Devin Whitlock	WR	5-7	160	R-Jr	TR	Monessen, Pa. (Belle Vernon Area / Indiana (Pa.) Univ.)
3	Daniel Autrey	DB	6-2	205	R-Jr	RS	Glendale, Calif. (Glendale / Glendale College)
3	Samuel Gonzalez	WR	6-1	185	R-Jr	TR	Daytona Beach, Fla. (Seabreeze / MidAmerica Nazarene Univ.)
4	Dillon Conway	SAF	6-3	230	R-So	1	Chicago, Ill. (Chicago Mt. Carmel)
4	Charles Kellom	RB	6-0	215	R-Sr	1	Cincinnati, Ohio (St. Xavier / Akron Univ.)
5	Ja'Wuan Nickson	LB	6-0	240	Sr	1	Tuscaloosa, Ala. (Hillcrest / Riverside City College)
5	Taiye Ajose	WR	6-6	230	R-So	1	Akron, Ohio (St. Vincent-St. Mary's)
6	Jerry Addo-Boateng	DB	6-1	190	R-Sr	RS	Sanford, Fla. (Orangewood Christian / Defiance College)
6	Eli Evans	WR	6-1	190	Jr	TR	Lacey, Wash. (Timberline / Santa Rosa JC)
7	Collin Henry	DB	6-3	185	R-So	TR	LaVerne, Calif. (Bonita / Chaffey College)
7	Cole LaCrue	QB	6-1	210	R-Jr	1	Broomfield, Colo. (Broomfield / Univ. of Wisconsin)
8	Nick Vecchiarelli	SAF	6-0	220	Grad	RS	Howell, NJ (Howell / Marist College)
8	Landers Green	WR	6-4	195	R-Sr	1	Wharton, NJ (St. Peter's Prep / Union College)
9	Trevon Piggee	DL	6-1	305	R-Jr	2	St. Louis, Mo. (DeSmet Jesuit)
9	Ayden Billups	WR	6-1	185	Jr	TR	San Diego, Calif. (Lincoln / Grossmont CC)
11	Noah Williams	LB	5-11	210	R-Jr	RS	Dallas, Texas (Princeton / Dodge City CC)
11	Kenny Ajose	WR	6-6	225	R-So	1	Akron, Ohio (St. Vincent-St. Mary's)
12	Salah Hill	DB	5-11	180	R-Sr	SQ	Norfolk, Va. (Chaminade Prep / Willamette Univ.)
12	Jadhari Young	WR	6-0	205	Jr	TR	Stafford, Va. (Brooke Point / De Anza College)
13	Premiere Whitley	DL	6-2	285	Sr	TR	San Diego, Calif. (Helix Charter / Prairie View A&M Univ.)
13	Jazel Riley IV	QB	6-1	205	R-Jr	TR	Lakewood, Colo. (Golden / College of the Canyons)
14	Le'Javier Payne	DB	5-8	180	R-Fr	RS	Chicago, Ill. (Chicago Mt. Carmel)
14	Logan Duhachek	QB	6-4	225	Fr	HS	Arvada, Colo. (Arvada West)
15	Brandon Worsley	SAF	6-0	200	Sr	1	San Marcos, Calif. (Mission Hills / San Diego Mesa College)
15	Jeremiah Salem	QB	6-3	205	Grad	TR	Germantown, Tenn. (Houston / Eastern Michigan Univ.)
16	Micah Valenzuela	LB	6-0	225	R-So	TR	Pacoima, Calif. (Lincoln / Riverside City College)
16	Payton Faker	QB	6-5	215	So	TR	Burien, Wash. (Kennedy Catholic / College of the Sequoias)
19	Mafileo Tupou	LB	5-11	240	R-Sr	TR	Riverside, Calif. (John W. North / Adams State Univ.)
20	Nephi Maiava	SAF	5-8	190	R-Fr	TR	Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. (Etiwanda / Riverside City College)
21	Kaleb Lyons	DB	6-0	195	R-Sr	1	Antioch, Tenn. (Brentwood Academy / Morehead State Univ.)
22	Tyren Buggs	RB	6-2	215	So	TR	LaGrange, Ga. (Callaway / Andrew College)
23	Kendall Ayersman	DB	6-1	175	5th	TR	Las Vegas, Nev. (Green Valley / Angelo State Univ.)
24	Alex Koulovas	SAF	6-2	205	R-So	TR	Charlotte, NC (Providence / Long Beach City College)
25	Christopher Sharp	CB	5-11	180	R-Jr	2	St. Louis, Mo. (DeSmet Jesuit)
26	Makhi Wilson	SAF	6-0	185	R-Jr	1	Bettendorf, Iowa (Pleasant Valley)
27	Josh Brown	SAF	6-1	205	R-So	1	Suwanee, Ga. (Peachtree Ridge)
28	Micheal Curry Jr	RB	5-11	200	R-Fr	RS	Louisville, Ky. (Atherton)
29	Kham Boecker	SAF	6-0	210	R-Sr	SQ	Toledo, Ohio (Whitmer / College of DuPage)
30	Dajon Doss	LB	6-1	220	R-So	TR	Lancaster, Calif. (St. Bonaventure Univ. of Arkansas Monticello)
31	Azeon Nelson	RB	5-10	200	R-Jr	TR	Kennett, Mo. (Kennett / El Camino City College)
32	Cale Kimbro	LB	6-2	225	R-Fr	RS	Mattoon, Ill. (Mattoon)
33	Chris Viveros	TE	6-4	215	R-So	TR	Frisco, Texas (Lone Star / Navarro JC)
34	Jordyn Stewart	LB	6-1	230	R-So	1	Homewood, Ill. (Homewood-Flossmoor)
35	Zeke Lewis	RB	6-0	205	Grad	SQ	Decatur, Ill. (Decatur St. Teresa)
36	Jesse Eaton	TE	6-5	220	Fr	HS	Clarksville, Tenn. (Clarksville Academy)
37	Calvin Ogawa	K	6-1	200	Fr	HS	San Diego, Calif. (Carlsbad)
38	Matthew Toledo	LS	6-0	225	R-So	TR	Fairfield, Ohio (Fairfield / Univ. of Rio Grande)
39	Davian Humphrey	LB	6-2	230	R-Fr	RS	Chicago, Ill. (Phillips)
40	Alex Stoyanovich	K	5-9	175	R-So	TR	South Lyon, Mich. (South Lyon / Univ. of Colorado)
41	Aidan Archibald	DL	6-2	250	R-So	1	Charleston, Ill. (Charleston)
42	Isaac Engle	DL	6-1	230	R-Jr	RS	Highland Ranch, Colo. (Highland Ranch / Univ. South Dakota Mines)
43	Lonnie Burt	LB	6-0	225	Jr	TR	Portland, Ore. (Jesuit / Portland State Univ.)
45	Erik Hehl	DL	6-0	245	Grad	TR	Newport Beach, Calif. (Newport Harbor / Univ. of Massachusetts)

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	YR	EXP	HOMETOWN (HIGH SCHOOL/JC)
46	Cade Cox	P	6-0	175	Grad	TR	Redding, Calif. (Foothill / UC Davis)
47	Drew Schiller	K	6-1	185	R-So	1	New Lenox, Ill. (Lincoln-Way Central)
48	Maximo Vaughn	DL	6-5	245	R-Jr	RS	San Diego, Calif. (Kearny / San Diego Mesa College)
50	Jacob Simmons	LB	6-1	200	Fr	HS	Charlotte, NC (Charlotte Christian School)
51	Jacob Gettman	P	6-0	185	R-So	TR	Daytona Beach, Fla. (Mainland / Samford Univ.)
52	Barron Sholl	DL	6-4	255	R-Fr	RS	Rockford, Ill. (Boylan Central Catholic)
53	Daniel Viramontes	DL	6-1	275	R-Jr	TR	Anaheim, Calif. (Katella / Central Michigan Univ.)
55	James Collins II	DL	6-2	295	R-Sr	1	Mesquite, Texas (Mesquite Horn / College of the Sequoias)
56	Christian Markum	DL	6-0	275	Jr	TR	Jacksonville, Fla. (Trinity Christian Academy / College of the Sequoias)
57	Panayiotis Mihalopoulos	OL	6-3	310	R-Jr	1	Chicago, Ill. (Loyola Academy)
59	Tyler Fortis	DL	6-3	295	R-Fr	RS	Park Ridge, Ill. (Maine South)
61	Antonie De Lau	OL	6-7	320	Sr	TR	Willemsted, Curaçao (Bishop Alemany (Calif.) / Delaware State Univ.)
62	Cole Roberson	OL	6-3	305	R-Jr	TR	River Forest, Ill. (Oak Park-River Forest / Jacksonville State Univ.)
63	Nick Thomas	OL	6-4	295	Fr	HS	Hannibal, Mo. (Hannibal)
65	Carson Fichtel	OL	6-3	310	Grad	1	Heath, Texas (Rockwall-Heath)
66	Jalin Strowder	OL	6-1	340	Fr	HS	Mundelein, Ill. (Carmel Catholic)
67	Dejan Guzina	OL	6-8	325	R-Fr	RS	Delta, British Columbia – Canada (Football Canada North)
69	Tatum Bentley	OL	6-3	290	Jr	TR	Cedar Park, Texas (Vista Ridge / Monterey Peninsula College)
70	Alejandro Arellano	OL	6-3	300	Grad	2	Sterling, Ill. (Sterling / College of DuPage)
71	Peter Williams	OL	6-5	340	Fr	HS	San Diego, Calif. (University City)
72	Brandin Carpenter	OL	6-6	315	So	1	Pasadena, Calif. (Pasadena)
73	Jordan Yandila	OL	6-4	300	R-Jr	SQ	Snohomish, Wash. (Glacier Peak / Adams State Univ.)
74	Rahfeeq Katumbusi	OL	6-3	320	R-So	1	Chicago, Ill. (Chicago Mt. Carmel)
75	David Trujillo	OL	6-2	310	Jr	TR	Ontario, Calif. (Ontario / Riverside City College)
76	Dominic Fasano	OL	6-3	300	R-Fr	RS	Plainfield, Ill. (Plainfield North)
77	Gianni Pangallo	OL	6-6	310	Jr	TR	Farmingdale, NY (Farmingdale / SUNY Buffalo State)
78	Grady Farley	OL	6-6	280	Fr	HS	Brookfield, Wis. (Brookfield East)
79	Aidan Hubble	OL	6-7	305	R-Sr	SQ	Boulder, Colo. (New Vista / San Diego Mesa College)
80	Johnovan Wysinger	WR	6-1	185	R-So	SQ	Chicago, Ill. (Morgan Park)
81	Max Loveall	TE	6-3	220	R-So	1	Richmond, Ill. (Richmond-Burton)
82	Whitten Weems	TE	6-5	255	Jr	TR	Crawford, Texas (Crawford / East Texas Baptist Univ.)
83	Niko Menos	WR	6-2	200	Fr	HS	Roselle, Ill. (Lake Park)
84	Jeremy Reeves	WR	6-4	205	R-So	SQ	Chicago, Ill. (Gary Comer College Prep)
85	Jefferson McKinnon	LS	6-0	225	R-So	SQ	Copley, Ohio (Revere / Marist College)
86	OJ Powell	WR	6-3	195	Fr	HS	Villa Park, Ill. (Willowbrook)
87	Alex Ginnever	TE	6-5	230	R-Sr	2	Wentzville, Mo. (Holt)
88	Abbas Clark	TE	6-3	240	R-So	TR	Lake Elsinore, Calif. (Temescal Canyon / Mt. San Jacinto College)
89	Danny Mahoney	LS	6-1	230	Fr	HS	Carol Stream, Ill. (Glenbard North)
92	Aidan Flores	DL	6-1	280	R-Jr	TR	Sparks, Nev. (Reed / Feather River College)
93	Osvaldo Avila	DL	6-2	290	R-Jr	TR	Chula Vista, Calif. (Otay Ranch / San Diego Mesa College)
95	Leon Müller	DL	6-4	250	Sr	TR	Munich, Germany (Fachoberschule Karlsfeld / Kentucky State Univ.)
96	Micah Williams	DL	6-2	250	R-So	TR	Jacksonville, Fla. (Riverside / Dodge City CC)
97	David Uzoma	DL	6-2	250	R-Jr	TR	Los Angeles, Calif. (Westchester / LA Southwestern College)
98	Adam Kaminski	DL	6-7	260	R-So	TR	Cambridge, Ontario – Canada (Asheville School (NC) / Central Michigan Univ.)
99	Joey Hiner	DL	6-0	290	R-Jr	TR	Chula Vista, Calif. (Mater Dei Catholic / San Diego Mesa College)
	Jaxon Cummings	LS	6-0	215	Jr	TR	Chapel Hill, Texas (Chapel Hill / Navarro JC)

EASTERN ILLINOIS FOOTBALL PRONUNCIATIONS

0 NAW-seer Maryland
 0 Carly-on Neal
 1 Sy-PETTY MAW-vuh
 1 juh-CAR-ee Fleming-Page
 5 TY-ay uh-JOE-say
 6 Jerry AW-doo
 8 Nick VECK-uh-RELLY
 9 TRAY-von Piggy
 11 Kenny uh-JOE-say
 12 suh-LAW Hill
 12 juh-DAR-ee Young
 13 JAY-zell Riley
 14 luh-HAW-vee-air Payne

14 Logan doo-HAW-check
 16 Micah VAL-en-ZWAY-luh
 16 Payton Faker (Rhymes with "Baker")
 19 LAY-oh TOO-po
 20 NEE-fuh MAW-vuh
 20 Jeremiah kuh-DET
 24 Alex Koo-luh-VOT-us
 26 muh-KY Wilson
 29 Cam BO-ker (Rhymes with "Poker")
 30 DAY-zhawn Doss
 31 AY-zee-on Nelson
 33 Chris vuh-VAIR-os
 40 Alex stoy-AW-nuh-vitch

45 Eric HALE
 48 MAX-uh-mo Vaughn
 53 Daniel VEER-uh-MON-tez
 57 panny-OH-tee MEEK-uh-LOP-oh-lis
 59 Tyler FOR-tis (Rhymes with "Tortoise")
 61 an-TONE duh-LOW
 65 Carson FICK-tul
 67 DAY-un guh-ZEE-nuh
 70 Alejandro ARE-ee-AW-no
 73 Jordan yan-DEE-luh
 74 raw-FEEK KAT-um-BOO-see
 75 David true-HEE-oh
 76 Dominic fuh-SAW-no

77 jee-AW-nee pan-GAL-oh
 83 Niko MEN-os
 87 Alex juh-NEVER
 88 uh-BOSS Clark
 92 Aidan FLOOR-ez
 93 OHS-valdo AW-vee-lah
 95 Leon Mueller (Rhymes with "Ruler")
 97 David Ew-ZOM-uh

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

6	Jerry Addo-Boateng	DB	20	Nephi Maiava	SAF
11	Kenny Ajose	WR	1	Saipeti Maiava Jr	SAF
5	Taiye Ajose	WR	56	Christian Markum	DL
41	Aidan Archibald	DL	0	Nasir Maryland	DB
70	Alejandro Arellano	OL	85	Jefferson McKinnon	LS
3	Daniel Autrey	DB	83	Niko Menos	WR
93	Osvaldo Avila	DL	57	Panayiotis Mihalopoulos	OL
23	Kendall Ayersman	DB	2	Bruce Mitchell	DB
69	Tatum Bentley	OL	95	Leon Müller	DL
9	Ayden Billups	WR	0	Carlyun Neal	WR
29	Kham Boecker	SAF	31	Azeon Nelson	RB
27	Josh Brown	SAF	5	Ja'Wuan Nickson	LB
22	Tyren Buggs	RB	37	Calvin Ogawa	K
43	Lonnie Burt	LB	77	Gianni Pangallo	OL
72	Brandin Carpenter	OL	14	Le'Javier Payne	DB
88	Abbas Clark	TE	9	Trevon Piggee	DL
55	James Collins II	DL	86	OJ Powell	WR
4	Dillon Conway	SAF	84	Jeremy Reeves	WR
46	Cade Cox	P	13	Jazel Riley IV	QB
	Jaxon Cummings	LS	62	Cole Roberson	OL
28	Micheal Curry Jr	RB	15	Jeremiah Salem	QB
61	Antonie De Lau	OL	47	Drew Schiller	K
30	Dajon Doss	LB	25	Christopher Sharp	CB
14	Logan Duhachek	QB	52	Barron Sholl	DL
36	Jesse Eaton	TE	50	Jacob Simmons	LB
42	Isaac Engle	DL	34	Jordyn Stewart	LB
6	Eli Evans	WR	40	Alex Stoyanovich	K
16	Payton Faker	QB	66	Jalin Strowder	OL
78	Grady Farley	OL	63	Nick Thomas	OL
76	Dominic Fasano	OL	38	Matthew Toledo	LS
65	Carson Fichtel	OL	75	David Trujillo	OL
1	Jacarre Fleming-Page	RB	19	Mafileo Tupou	LB
92	Aidan Flores	DL	97	David Uzoma	DL
59	Tyler Fortis	DL	16	Micah Valenzuela	LB
51	Jacob Gettman	P	48	Maximo Vaughn	DL
87	Alex Ginnever	TE	8	Nick Vecchiarelli	SAF
3	Samuel Gonzalez	WR	53	Daniel Viramontes	DL
8	Landers Green	WR	33	Chris Viveros	TE
67	Dejan Guzina	OL	82	Whitten Weems	TE
45	Erik Hehl	DL	13	Premiere Whitley	DL
7	Collin Henry	DB	2	Devin Whitlock	WR
12	Salah Hill	DB	96	Micah Williams	DL
99	Joey Hiner	DL	11	Noah Williams	LB
79	Aidan Hubble	OL	71	Peter Williams	OL
39	Davian Humphrey	LB	26	Makhi Wilson	SAF
98	Adam Kaminski	DL	15	Brandon Worsley	SAF
74	Rahfeeq Katumbusi	OL	80	Johnovan Wysinger	WR
4	Charles Kellom	RB	73	Jordan Yandila	OL
32	Cale Kimbro	LB	12	Jadhari Young	WR
24	Alex Koulovatos	SAF			
7	Cole LaCrue	QB			
35	Zeke Lewis	RB			
81	Max Loveall	TE			
21	Kaleb Lyons	DB			
89	Danny Mahoney	LS			

MISC. SEASON NOTES & STATS

EIU NCAA FBS TRANSFERS

- 4 - Charles Kellom (Akron Univ.)
- 7 - Cole LaCrue (Univ. of Wisconsin)
- 15 - Jeremiah Salem (Eastern Michigan Univ.)
- 40 - Alex Stoyanovich (Univ. of Colorado)
- 45 - Erik Hehl (Univ. of Massachusetts)
- 53 - Daniel Viramontes (Central Michigan Univ.)
- 62 - Cole Roberson (Jacksonville State Univ.)
- 98 - Adam Kaminski (Central Michigan Univ.)

EIU NCAA FCS TRANSFERS

- 0 - Nasir Maryland (Merrimack College)
- 2 - Bruce Mitchell (Mississippi Valley State Univ.)
- 8 - Nick Vecchiarelli (Marist College)
- 13 - Premiere Whitley (Prairie View A&M Univ.)
- 21 - Kaleb Lyons (Morehead State Univ.)
- 43 - Lonnie Burt (Portland State Univ.)
- 46 - Cade Cox (UC Davis)
- 51 - Jacob Gettman (Samford Univ.)
- 61 - Antonie De Lau (Delaware State Univ.)
- 85 - Jefferson McKinnon (Marist College)

EIU ROSTER BY CLASS

Graduate Student	7
Senior	18
Junior	31
Sophomore	27
RS-Freshman	9
Freshman	11

EIU ROSTER BY STATE

Illinois	22
California	22
Ohio	7
Texas	7
Colorado	5
Florida	5
Missouri	5
New Jersey	3
Tennessee	3
Washington	3
Georgia	2
North Carolina	2
Nevada	2
Virginia	2
Alabama	1
Arkansas	1
Iowa	1
Kentucky	1
Michigan	1
New York	1
Oregon	1
Pennsylvania	1
Wisconsin	1
Canada	2
Curaçao	1
Germany	1

EIU OFFENSE (games played / started)

QUARTERBACK

7.... Cole LaCrue (15 / 11) 6-1 210 R-Jr Broomfield, Colo.
15.... Jeremiah Salem (5 / 0) 6-3 205 Grad Germantown, Tenn.

RUNNING BACK

4.... Charles Kellom (41 / 17) 6-0 215 R-Sr Cincinnati, Ohio
22.... Tyren Buggs (4 / 0) 6-2 215 So LaGrange, Ga.

TIGHT END

87.... Alex Ginnever (28 / 16) 6-5 230 R-Sr Wentzville, Mo.
82.... Whitten Weems (15 / 0) 6-5 255 Jr Crawford, Texas

RIGHT TACKLE

73.... Jordan Yandila (6 / 3) 6-4 300 R-Jr Snohomish, Wash.
67.... Dejan Guzina (8 / 1) 6-8 325 R-Fr Delta, B.C.

RIGHT GUARD

75.... David Trujillo (4 / 4) 6-2 310 Jr Ontario, Calif.
70.... Alejandro Arellano (26 / 9) 6-3 300 Grad Sterling, Ill.

CENTER

74.... Rahfeeq Katumbusi (15 / 15) 6-3 320 R-So Chicago, Ill.
65.... Carson Fichtel (9 / 1) 6-3 310 Grad Heath, Texas

LEFT GUARD

57.... Panayiotis Mihalopoulos (16 / 6) 6-3 310 R-Jr Chicago, Ill.
67.... Dejan Guzina (8 / 1) 6-8 325 R-Fr Delta, B.C.

LEFT TACKLE

61.... Antonie De Lau (14 / 3) 6-7 320 Sr Willemsted, Curaçao
72.... Brandin Carpenter (11 / 3) 6-6 315 So Pasadena, Calif.

RECEIVER

6.... Eli Evans (4 / 2) 6-1 190 Jr Lacey, Wash.
2.... Devin Whitlock (15 / 13) 5-7 160 R-Jr Monessen, Pa.

RECEIVER

3.... Samuel Gonzalez (15 / 15) 6-1 185 R-Jr Daytona Beach, Fla.
84.... Jeremy Reeves (4 / 0) 6-4 205 R-So Chicago, Ill.

RECEIVER

8.... Landers Green (31 / 15) 6-4 195 R-Sr Wharton, NJ
5.... Taiye Ajose (12 / 0) 6-6 230 R-So Akron, Ohio

EIU COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Chris Wilkerson (Eastern Illinois, 1994) - 5th year
Career 68-60 (14), EIU Record 17-33 (5); OVC Record 9-18 (5)

Associate HC/OC/QB's: Kyle Derickson (5th year)

Offensive Line: Mike McClanathan (1st year)

Running Backs: Shaun Wick (1st year)

Special Teams Coordinator / Tight Ends: Mason Keeler (2nd year)

Wide Receivers: Tino Smith II (3rd year)

Graduate Assistant Offensive Coach: Kevin Moynihan (2nd year)

Defensive Coordinator / Safeties: Andrew Strobel (3rd year)

Defensive Backs: Alex Gray (1st year)

Defensive Line: Casey Walker (1st year)

Assistant Defensive Line: Tre'jon Lewis (1st year)

Linebackers: Rodman Noel (2nd year)

Graduate Assistant Defensive Coach: Matt Lindsey (3rd year)

Director of Football Ops: David Brubaker (4th year)

Football Ops Assistant / Video: Andrew Scheff (3rd year)

Director of Football Performance: Andreas Missios (2nd year)

Football Athletic Trainers: Alexis Fenrick, Samantha Reinert, Kyrrah Randolph

Equipment Manager: Clint Bays

Quality Control: Dustin Ziemann (ST), Noam Coehn (S&C), Zac Vereen (S&C)

Student Assistants: Peyton Wilkerson

EIU DEFENSE (games played / started)

DEFENSIVE END

41.... Aidan Archibald (16 / 3) 6-2 250 R-So Charleston, Ill.
53.... Daniel Viramontes (4 / 0) 6-1 275 R-Jr Anaheim, Calif.

NOSE TACKLE

9.... Trevon Piggee (24 / 11) 6-1 305 R-Jr St. Louis, Mo.
55.... James Collins (14 / 6) 6-2 295 R-Jr Mesquite, Texas

DEFENSIVE TACKLE

13.... Premiere Whitley (12 / 4) 6-2 285 Sr San Diego, Calif.
56.... Christian Markum (3 / 0) 6-0 275 Jr Jacksonville, Fla.

DEFENSIVE END

42.... Issac Engle (30 / 20) 6-1 230 R-Jr Highland Ranch, Colo.
45.... Erik Hehl (16 / 2) 6-0 245 Grad Newport Beach, Calif.

LINEBACKER

5.... Ja'Wuan Nickson (16 / 16) 6-0 240 Sr Tuscaloosa, Ala.
43.... Lonnie Burt (16 / 1) 6-0 225 Jr Portland, Ore.

LINEBACKER

19.... Mafileo Tupou (14 / 11) 5-11 240 R-Sr Riverside, Calif.
34.... Jordyn Stewart (17 / 8) 6-1 230 R-So Homewood, Ill.

LINEBACKER OR NICKEL

4.... Dillon Conway (20 / 2) 6-3 230 R-So Chicago, Ill.
16.... Micah Valenzuela (2 / 0) 6-0 225 R-So Pacoima, Calif.

CORNER

6.... Jerry Addo-Boateng (33 / 17) 6-1 190 R-Sr Sanford, Fla.
25.... Christopher Sharp (27 / 4) 5-11 180 R-Jr St. Louis, Mo.

STRONG SAFETY

15.... Brandon Worsley (12 / 5) 6-0 200 Sr San Marcos, Texas
8.... Nick Vecchiarelli (37 / 22) 6-0 220 Grad Howell, NJ

FREE SAFETY

21.... Kaleb Lyons (41 / 23) 6-0 195 R-Sr Antioch, Tenn.
27.... Josh Brown (19 / 1) 6-1 205 R-So Suwanee, Ga.

CORNER

0.... Nasir Maryland (29 / 21) 6-2 200 R-Sr Ramsey, NJ
7.... Collin Henry (4 / 1) 6-3 185 R-So LaVerne, Calif.

EIU SPECIALISTS (games played)

KICKER

47.... Drew Schiller (20) 6-1 185 R-So New Lenox, Ill.
40.... Alex Stoyanovich (3) 5-9 175 R-So South Lyon, Mich.

KICKOFF

47.... Drew Schiller (20) 6-1 185 R-So New Lenox, Ill.

PUNTER

46.... Cade Cox (13) 6-0 175 Grad Redding, Calif.
47.... Drew Schiller (20) 6-1 185 R-So New Lenox, Ill.

HOLDER

46.... Cade Cox (13) 6-0 175 Grad Redding, Calif.

LONG SNAPPER

38.... Matthew Toledo (20) 6-0 225 R-So Fairfield, Ohio
85.... Jefferson McKinnon (1) 6-0 225 R-So Copley, Ohio

PUNT RETURNS

2.... Devin Whitlock (15) 5-7 160 R-Jr Monessen, Pa.
6.... Eli Evans (4) 6-1 190 Jr Lacey, Wash.

KICK RETURNS

0.... Carlyun Neal (15) 5-11 190 So Cincinnati, Ohio
9.... Ayden Billups (4) 6-1 185 Jr San Diego, Calif.



GAME 1 - Aug. 27, 2026
 Eastern Illinois28
 Murray State14

Murray, Ky.
 Roy Stewart Stadium (5,671)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Eastern Illinois	0	14	7	7	28
Murray State	0	14	0	0	14

SECOND QUARTER

MUR - Porter 13 pass from Shannon (kick failed) - 14:29
 EIU - Kellom 10 run (Schiller kick) - 9:36
 EIU - Kellom 88 run (Schiller kick) - 0:58
 MUR - Firestone 7 pass from Shannon (Firestone rec) - 0:00

THIRD QUARTER

EIU - Kellom 2 run (Schiller) - 9:05

FOURTH QUARTER

EIU - Green 20 pass from LaCrue (Schiller) - 8:25

TEAM STATS	EIU	MUR
First Downs	20	18
Rushes-Yards	47-267	26-63
Passing-Yards	101	257
Comp-Att-Int	11-18-0	26-40-2
Total Offense	368	320
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards	3-45	4-30
Int Returns-Yards-TD	2-40-0	0-0-0
Time of Possession	33:11	26:49
Sacks-Yards	1-8	5-24

LEADERS

RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)

EIU - Kellom (19-171-3), Fleming-Page (13-81-0)
 MUR - Allen (10-54-0), Campbell (8-21-0)

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

EIU - LaCrue (18-11-0-101-1)
 MUR - Shannon (40-26-2-257-2)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Gonzalez (3-50-0), Green (2-23-1)
 MUR - Campbell (5-66-0), Firestone (10-50-1)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Nickson (7-3-2), Maiava (6-1-0), Sharp (3-2-0)
 MUR - Ingram (3-7-0), Rowsey (2-6-0), McCall (2-6-0)

RECAP

Charles Kellom rushed for 171 and three touchdowns to power Eastern Illinois to a season opening 28-14 win over Murray State. Kellom broke off an 88-yard run before halftime and his 2-yard plunge in the third quarter helped give the Panthers the win. EIU's defense picked up two turnovers with Ja'Wuan Nickson's fourth quarter interception icing the game for EIU. Cole LaCrue passed for 101 yards with one touchdown pass to Landers Green in the fourth quarter. Nickson had a team-high ten tackles with Kaleb Lyons picking off a pass for EIU's other turnover gained.



GAME 2 - Sept. 3, 2026
 Eastern Illinois7
 Minnesota59

Minneapolis, Minn.
 Huntington Bank Stadium (41,048)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Eastern Illinois	0	7	0	0	7
Minnesota	14	21	10	14	59

FIRST QUARTER

UM - Taylor 1 run (Jackson kick) - 4:29
 UM - Tracy 87 punt return (Jackson kick) - 2:14

SECOND QUARTER

UM - Taylor 27 run (Jackson kick) - 14:20
 EIU - Buggs 8 pass from LaCrue (Schiller kick) - 9:00
 UM - Taylor 3 run (Jackson kick) - 3:15
 UM - Walsh 1 pass from Lindsey (Jackson kick) - 0:06

THIRD QUARTER

UM - Tracy 69 pun return (Jackson kick) - 13:26
 UM - Jackson 31 field goal - 3:17

FOURTH QUARTER

UM - Shikenjanski 2 run (Jackson kick) - 12:29
 UM - Ford 1 run (Sunderland kick) - 0:25

TEAM STATS	EIU	MINN
First Downs	4	24
Rushes-Yards	28-51	38-147
Passing-Yards	59	348
Comp-Att-Int	9-15-0	26-33-0
Total Offense	110	495
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	2-1
Penalties-Yards	6-35	210
Int Returns-Yards-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Time of Possession	23:39	36:21
Sacks-Yards	0-0	1-3

LEADERS

RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)

EIU - LaCrue (5-22-0), Kellom (7-20-0)
 MINN - Taylor (14-56-3), Thomas (7-52-0)

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

EIU - LaCrue (12-7-0-51-1), Salem (3-2-0-10-0)
 MINN - Lindsey (24-19-0-264-1), Palmer (6-4-0-34-0)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Kellom (4-15-0), Buggs (2-38-1)
 MINN - Tracy (5-98-0), Jennings (3-57-0)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Burt (4-2-2.5), Brown (4-1-0), Sharp (3-2-0)
 MINN - Baranowski (1-5-1), Bush (2-2-1.5), Harden (2-2-1.5)

RECAP

Minnesota used a first quarter special teams play to spark its momentum as the Gophers beat Eastern Illinois, 59-7 in the second ever meeting between the two schools. Javon Tracy returned two punts for touchdowns covering 87 yards in the opening quarter and 69 yards to open the third quarter. EIU did find some offensive rhythm midway through the second quarter with Tyren Buggs hauling in two big passes including an eight yard pass from Cole LaCrue to put EIU on the board. Lonnie Burt led EIU's defense with six tackles including 2.5 tackles for loss.



GAME 3 - Sept. 12, 2026
 Indiana State42
 Eastern Illinois35

Charleston, Ill.
 O'Brien Field (6,971)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Indiana State	14	14	7	7	42
Eastern Illinois	7	0	14	14	35

FIRST QUARTER

ISU - Ball 3 run (Lopez kick) - 12:06
 EIU - Kellom 76 run (Schiller kick) - 11:18
 ISU - Owens 1 run (Lopez kick) - 0:10

SECOND QUARTER

ISU - Pardridge 35 pass from Owens (Lopez kick) - 7:50
 ISU - Ball 1 pass from Owens (Lopez kick) - 0:07

THIRD QUARTER

ISU - Wuest 42 pass from Owens (Lopez kick) - 11:11
 EIU - Reeves 21 pass from LaCrue (Schiller kick) - 4:23
 EIU - LaCrue 8 run (Schiller kick) - 1:23

FOURTH QUARTER

ISU - Owens 15 run (Lopez kick) - 10:40
 EIU - Fleming-Page 7 pass from LaCrue (Schiller kick) - 6:16
 EIU - Kellom 8 pass from LaCrue (Schiller kick) - 4:03

TEAM STATS	EIU	ISU
First Downs	20	26
Rushes-Yards	32-184	37-208
Passing-Yards	282	284
Comp-Att-Int	20-34-0	21-34-1
Total Offense	466	492
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	0-0
Penalties-Yards	15-145	5-52
Int Returns-Yards-TD	1-12-0	0-0-0
Time of Possession	30:04	29:56
Sacks-Yards	2-14	3-16

LEADERS

RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)

EIU - Kellom (14-106-1), LaCrue (12-65-1)
 ISU - Owens (17-98-2), Ball (13-87-1)

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

EIU - LaCrue (34-20-0-282-3)
 ISU - Owens (33-210-1-284-3)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Gonzalez (4-78-0), Kellom (4-44-1), Whitlock (4-30-0)
 ISU - Wuest (6-142-1), Singleton (5-66-0)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Nickson (5-5-1.5), Worsley (4-3-1), Engle (4-1-2)
 ISU - Sampson (5-2-1), Rose (2-5-0), Harris (4-2-1)

RECAP

Eastern Illinois come back effort came up just short in a 42-35 loss to Indiana State. The Panthers trailed 35-7 at one point narrowing the margin to 42-35 with four minutes left in the game. Cole LaCrue led a solid effort by the Panthers passing for 282 yards and three touchdowns while rushing for 65 yards and another score. Charles Kellom posted his second 100-yard rushing game of the season with 106 and a long TD run in the first quarter. Ja'Wuan Nickson had ten tackles and a big interception that set up a Panthers score late in the fourth quarter.



GAME 4 - Sept. 19, 2026
 Eastern Illinois 13
 #4 Illinois State 49

Normal, Ill.
 Hancock Stadium (11,589)

Scoring	1	2	3	4	Final
Eastern Illinois	3	3	0	7	13
Illinois State	14	14	14	7	49

FIRST QUARTER

ISU - Lofton 12 run (Cosentino kick) - 12:38
 ISU - Herrera 2 pass from Roy (Cosentino kick) - 7:51
 EIU - Schiller 41 field goal - 1:50

SECOND QUARTER

ISU - Gary 37 pass from Pellant (Cosentino kick) - 14:15
 EIU - Schiller 21 field goal - 6:00
 ISU - Lord 4 pass from Roy (Cosentino kick) - 2:45

THIRD QUARTER

ISU - Lord 79 punt return (Cosentino kick) - 13:25
 ISU - Hall 3 run (Cosentino kick) - 5:30

FOURTH QUARTER

ISU - Lofton 1 run (Cosentino kick) - 14:08
 EIU - LaCrue 1 run (Schiller kick) - 7:59

TEAM STATS	EIU	ISU
First Downs	14	34
Rushes-Yards	26-66	45-226
Passing-Yards	150	330
Comp-Att-Int	15-26-0	25-33-0
Total Offense	216	556
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	5-44	8-61
Int Returns-Yards-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Time of Possession	25:45	34:15
Sacks-Yards	1-11	0-0

LEADERS

RUSHING (No-Yds-TD)

EIU - Buggs (9-23-0), LaCrue (5-15-1)
 ISU - Lofton (15-62-2), Hall (11-58-1)

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

EIU - LaCrue (25-15-0-150-0)
 ISU - Roy (19-13-0-172-2), Pellant (11-9-0-116-1)

RECEIVING (No -Yds -TD)

EIU - Reeves (2-44-0), Green (2-23-0), Whitlock (2-22-0)
 ISU - Lord (6-77-1), Gary (3-26-1)

DEFENSE (Tackles - Solo, Assist, TFL)

EIU - Tupou (3-6-0), Vecchiarelli (1-8-0), Maryland (4-4-0)
 ISU - Niekamp (2-6-0), Corona (0-6-0.5)

RECAP

Illinois State held Eastern Illinois offense in check as the No. 4 ranked Redbirds beat the Panthers 49-13 in the 114th playing of the Mid-America Classic. ISU jumped up 14-0 before EIU was able to get on the board with the first of two Drew Schiller field goals. Midway through the second quarter ISU stuffed an EIU drive in the redzone as the Panthers settled for a second Schiller field goal trailing 28-6 at the half. Dylan Lord had a 79-yard punt return for touchdown to start the second half ISU scoring as the Redbirds picked up the win. Cole LaCrue scored late in the fourth quarter for the Panthers touchdown.

2026 EIU PANTHERS FOOTBALL
EASTERN ILLINOIS Game Results

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall Record	Conf Record	Time	Attend
----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----	-----
Aug 27, 2026	at Murray State	W 28-14	1-0	0-0	3:06	5,671
Sep 3, 2026	at Minnesota	7-59 L	1-1	0-0	3:16	41,048
Sep 12, 2026	INDIANA STATE	35-42 L	1-2	0-0	3:31	6,971
Sep 19, 2026	at #4 Illinois State	13-49 L	1-3	0-0	3:05	11,589

* indicates OVC Game

2026 EASTERN ILLINOIS STARTERS

OPPONENT	WR/TE	WR	RT	RG	C	LG	LT	WR	TE	RB	QB
Murray State	Gonzalez	Evans	Yandila	Trujillo	Katumbusi	Mihalopoulos	Carpenter	Green	Ginnever	Kellom	LaCrue
Minnesota	Gonzalez	Whitlock	Yandila	Trujillo	Katumbusi	Mihalopoulos	Carpenter	Green	Ginnever	Kellom	LaCrue
Indiana State	Gonzalez	Whitlock	Yandila	Trujillo	Katumbusi	Mihalopoulos	Guzina	Green	Ginnever	Kellom	LaCrue
Illinois State	Gonzalez	Evans	Yandila	Trujillo	Katumbusi	Mihalopoulos	De Lau	Green	Ginnever	Kellom	LaCrue

OPPONENT	DE	NT	DT	DE	LB	LB	LB / NICKEL	CB	SAF	SAF	CB
Murray State	Hehl	Fortis	Collins	Whitley	Nickson	Stewart	Valenzuela	Sharp	Lyons	S. Maiava	Maryland
Minnesota	Hehl	Archibald	Collins	Whitley	Nickson	Stewart	Conway	Sharp	Lyons	Worsley	Maryland
Indiana State	Engle	Archibald	Piggee	Whitley	Nickson	Stewart	Conway	Henry	Brown	S. Maiava	Maryland
Illinois State	Collins	Archibald	Piggee	Whitley	Nickson	Tupou	Engle	Addo-Boateng	Lyons	Worsley	Maryland



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
Overall Team Statistics
All games

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as of Sep 20, 2026

Team Statistics

	EIU	OPP
Scoring	83	164
Points per game	20.8	41.0
Points Off Turnovers	10	7
First Downs	58	102
Rushing	25	33
Passing	26	56
Penalty	7	13
Rushing Yardage	568	644
Yards gained rushing	658	735
Yards lost rushing	90	91
Rushing attempts	133	146
Average per rush	4.3	4.4
Average per game	142.0	161.0
TDs Rushing	6	11
Passing Yardage	592	1219
Comp-Att-Int	55-93-0	98-140-3
Average per pass	6.4	8.7
Average per catch	10.8	12.4
Average per game	148.0	304.8
TDs Passing	5	9
Total offense	1160	1863
Total plays	226	286
Average per play	5.1	6.5
Average per game	290.0	465.8
Kick returns: #-Yards	5-122	6-134
Punt returns: #-Yards	6-72	11-300
Int returns: #-Yards	3-52	0-0
Kick return average	24.4	22.3
Punt return average	12.0	27.3
Int return average	17.3	0.0
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	4-2
Penalties-Yards	29-269	19-153
Average per game	67.3	38.3
Punts-Yards	27-1203	11-460
Average per punt	44.6	41.8
Net punt average	30.5	35.3
Kickoffs-Yards	17-1055	27-1714
Average per kick	62.1	63.5
Net kick average	38.0	39.0
Time of possession / game	28:10	31:50
3rd-down conversion	20/53	33/57
3rd-down pct	38%	58%
4th-down conversion	2/2	4/5



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
Overall Team Statistics
All games

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as of Sep 20, 2026

	EIU	OPP
4th-down pct	100%	80%
Sacks by-Yards	4-33	9-43
Misc Yards	0	0
Touchdowns scored	11	23
Field goals - attempts	2-3	1-3
On-Side kicks	0-0	0-0
Red-zone scores	(10-12) 83%	(17-20) 85%
Red-zone touchdowns	(9-12) 75%	(16-20) 80%
PAT-attempts	(11-11) 100%	(21-22) 95%
2-point conversion-attempts	(0-0) 0%	(1-1) 100%
Attendance	6971	58308
Games / Avg per game	1/6971	3/19436
Neutral site games	-	0/0

Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	TOT
Eastern Ill.	10	24	21	28	0	83
Opponents	42	63	31	28	0	164



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
Individual Statistics
All games

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as of Sep 20, 2026

Rushing

Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Charles Kellom	4	46	319	20	299	6.5	4	88	74.8
Cole LaCruce	4	32	163	43	120	3.8	2	23	30.0
Jacarre Fleming-Page	4	22	111	3	108	4.9	0	27	27.0
Tyren Buggs	4	20	39	8	31	1.6	0	9	7.8
Devin Whitlock	4	6	20	6	14	2.3	0	9	3.5
Zeke Lewis	2	5	6	4	2	0.4	0	5	1.0
Team	4	2	0	6	-6	-3.0	0	0	-1.5
Total	4	133	658	90	568	4.3	6	88	142.0
Opponents	4	146	735	91	644	4.4	11	57	161.0

Passing

Player	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Cole LaCruce	4	133.2	53-89-0	59.6	584	5	54	146.0
Jeremiah Salem	1	89.1	2-3-0	66.7	8	0	10	8.0
Devin Whitlock	4	0.0	0-1-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	4	130.4	55-93-0	59.1	592	5	54	148.0
Opponents	4	160.1	98-140-3	70.0	1219	9	55	304.8

Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Charles Kellom	4	10	74	7.4	1	28	18.5
Devin Whitlock	4	10	60	6.0	0	21	15.0
Samuel Gonzalez	4	8	133	16.6	0	33	33.3
Landers Green	4	6	116	19.3	1	54	29.0
Tyren Buggs	4	6	39	6.5	1	30	9.8
Jeremy Reeves	4	5	81	16.2	1	34	20.3
Eli Evans	4	3	20	6.7	0	9	5.0
Alex Ginnever	4	2	38	19.0	0	31	9.5
Whitten Weems	4	2	8	4.0	0	5	2.0
Zeke Lewis	2	1	10	10.0	0	10	5.0
Jacarre Fleming-Page	4	1	7	7.0	1	7	1.8
Carlyun Neal	4	1	6	6.0	0	6	1.5
Total	4	55	592	10.8	5	54	148.0
Opponents	4	98	1219	12.4	9	55	304.8

Punt Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Devin Whitlock	5	70	14.0	0	43
Kenny Ajose	1	2	2.0	0	2
Total	6	72	12.0	0	43
Opponents	11	300	27.3	3	87

Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Ja'Wuan Nickson	2	37	18.5	0	25
Kaleb Lyons	1	15	15.0	0	15
Total	3	52	17.3	0	25
Opponents	0	0	0.0	0	0

Kick Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Carlyun Neal	3	91	30.3	0	61
Jacarre Fleming-Page	2	31	15.5	0	17
Total	5	122	24.4	0	61
Opponents	6	134	22.3	0	49

Fumbles Recovered

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Nick Vecchiarelli	1	0	0.0	0	0
Isaac Engle	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	2	0	0.0	0	0
Opponents	1	1	1.0	0	1



**2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
Individual Statistics
All games**

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as of Sep 20, 2026

Scoring

Player	td	fg	PAT						pts
			kick	rush	rcv	pass	dxp	saf	
Charles Kellom	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Drew Schiller	-	2-3	11-11	-	-	-	-	-	17
Cole LaCrue	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Landers Green	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Jacarre Fleming-Page	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Jeremy Reeves	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Tyren Buggs	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Total	11	2-3	11-11	0	0	0	0	0	83
Opponents	23	1-3	21-22	0	1	1	0	0	164

Total Offense

Player	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Cole LaCrue	4	121	120	584	704	176.0
Charles Kellom	4	46	299	0	299	74.8
Jacarre Fleming-Page	4	22	108	0	108	27.0
Tyren Buggs	4	20	31	0	31	7.8
Devin Whitlock	4	7	14	0	14	3.5
Jeremiah Salem	1	3	0	8	8	8.0
Zeke Lewis	2	5	2	0	2	1.0
Team	4	0	-6	0	-6	-1.5
Total	4	226	568	592	1160	290.0
Opponents	4	286	644	1219	1863	465.8

Field Goals

Player	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
Drew Schiller	2-3	66.7	0-0	1-1	0-1	1-1	0-0	41	0
Opponents	1-3	33.3	0-0	0-2	1-1	0-0	0-0	31	1

Punting

Player	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
Cade Cox	27	1203	44.6	56	4	4	6	8	0
Total	27	1203	44.6	56	4	4	6	8	0
Opponents	11	460	41.8	51	0	3	3	3	0

FG Sequence

Team Name	Eastern Ill.	Opponents
Murray St.		27
Minnesota		(31)
Indiana St.	31	25
Illinois St.	(41),(21)	

Kickoffs

Player	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	retn	net	ydl
Drew Schiller	17	1055	62.1	11	0			
Total	17	1055	62.1	11	0	6	38	27
Opponents	27	1714	63.5	21	1	5	39	26

Numbers in (parentheses) indicate field goal was made

All Purpose

Player	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
Charles Kellom	4	299	74	0	0	0	373	93.3
Jacarre Fleming-Page	4	108	7	0	31	0	146	36.5
Devin Whitlock	4	14	60	70	0	0	144	36.0
Samuel Gonzalez	4	0	133	0	0	0	133	33.3
Cole LaCrue	4	120	0	0	0	0	120	30.0
Landers Green	4	0	116	0	0	0	116	29.0
Carlyun Neal	4	0	6	0	91	0	97	24.3
Jeremy Reeves	4	0	81	0	0	0	81	20.3
Tyren Buggs	4	31	39	0	0	0	70	17.5
Alex Ginnever	4	0	38	0	0	0	38	9.5
Ja'Wuan Nickson	4	0	0	0	0	37	37	9.3
Eli Evans	4	0	20	0	0	0	20	5.0
Kaleb Lyons	4	0	0	0	0	15	15	3.8
Zeke Lewis	2	2	10	0	0	0	12	6.0
Whitten Weems	4	0	8	0	0	0	8	2.0
Kenny AJose	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	0.5
Team	4	-6	0	0	0	0	-6	-1.5
Total	4	568	592	72	122	52	1406	351.5
Opponents	4	644	1219	300	134	0	2297	574.3



2026-27 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		int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf
5	Ja'Wuan Nickson	4	13	14	27	4.5-13	0.5-3	2-37	.	2	.	.	.	.
43	Lonnie Burt	4	8	10	18	2.5-4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
0	Nasir Maryland	4	10	6	16	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
15	Brandon Worsley	4	10	6	16	1-3	0.5-3	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
1	Saipeti Maiava Jr	3	11	5	16	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
19	Mafileo Tupou	4	5	11	16	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
21	Kaleb Lyons	4	8	7	15	0.5-1	.	1-15	2	.	.	.	.	.
4	Dillon Conway	4	11	4	15	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
8	Nick Vecchiarelli	4	5	8	13	.	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
27	Josh Brown	4	9	4	13	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
45	Erik Hehl	4	4	8	12	3-8	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
42	Isaac Engle	4	8	3	11	3-16	1-8	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
34	Jordyn Stewart	4	6	5	11	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
25	Christopher Sharp	2	6	4	10	1-3	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
6	Jerry Addo-Boateng	4	5	5	10	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
16	Micah Valenzuela	2	6	4	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
41	Aidan Archibald	4	3	6	9	1.5-13	1.5-13	.	1	1	.	.	.	.
13	Premiere Whitley	4	4	5	9	0.5-6	0.5-6	.	.	.	.	1	1	.
11	Noah Williams	4	6	3	9	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
55	James Collins	4	5	4	9	1-2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
9	Trevon Piggee	2	3	3	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
96	Micah Williams	3	1	3	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
7	Collin Henry	3	2	2	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
53	Daniel Viramontes	3	2	2	4	1-14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
39	Davian Humphrey	4	2	2	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
24	Alex Koulovatos	3	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
32	Cale Kimbro	4	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
47	Drew Schiller	4	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
52	Barron Sholl	4	1	.	1	1-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
48	Maximo Vaughn	3	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
59	Tyler Fortis	3	.	1	1	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
29	Kham Boecker	2	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2	Bruce Mitchell	3	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
6	Eli Evans	4	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
38	Matthew Toledo	4	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
30	Dajon Doss	4	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
98	Adam Kaminski	4	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Totals		4	160	142	302	22-87	4-33	3-52	8	6	2-0	2	1	0
Opponents		4	110	148	258	32-93	9-43	0-0	11	13	1-1	2	0	0



2026-27 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	
08/27/2026	at Murray St.	47	267	3	88	11	101	1	24	11-18-0	101	1	24	0	0	0	0	3	46	0	43	368
09/03/2026	at Minnesota	28	51	0	17	9	59	1	30	9-15-0	59	1	30	2	31	0	17	0	0	0	0	110
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	32	184	2	76	20	282	3	54	20-34-0	282	3	54	2	79	0	61	3	26	0	16	466
09/19/2026	at Illinois St.	26	66	1	10	15	150	0	34	15-26-0	150	0	34	1	12	0	12	0	0	0	0	216
Eastern Ill.		133	568	6	88	55	592	5	54	55-93-0	592	5	54	5	122	0	61	6	72	0	43	1160
Opponents		146	644	11	57	98	1219	9	55	98-140-3	1219	9	55	6	134	0	49	11	300	3	87	1863

Eastern Ill. Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effc	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
4	4.3	10.8	130.4	24.4	12.0	351.5	290.0

Date	Opponent	Tackles				Sacks	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd kick	PAT attempts			off		
		ua	a	total	tfl-yds		ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup		kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
08/27/2026	at Murray St.	43	24	67	8.0-40	1-8	0	0-0	2-40	1	3	1	4-4	0	0	0	0	28
09/03/2026	at Minnesota	48	22	70	7.0-11	0-0	1	1-0	0-0	1	1	0	1-1	0	0	0	0	7
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	41	24	65	6.0-25	2-14	0	0-0	1-12	2	3	0	5-5	0	0	0	7	35
09/19/2026	at Illinois St.	28	72	100	1.0-11	1-11	1	1-0	0-0	2	1	0	1-1	0	0	0	3	13
Eastern Ill.		160	142	302	22.0-87	4-33	2	2-0	3-52	6	8	1	11-11	0	0	0	10	83
Opponents		110	148	258	32.0-93	9-43	2	1-1	0-0	13	11	0	21-22	0	1	0	7	164

Date	Opponent	Punting										Field Goals			Kickoffs			
		no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob
08/27/2026	at Murray St.	7	275	39.3	45	0	2	1	0	2	0-0	0	0	5	311	62.2	2	0
09/03/2026	at Minnesota	10	445	44.5	55	0	0	2	3	0	0-0	0	0	2	114	57.0	1	0
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	4	177	44.3	55	0	0	1	1	3	0-1	0	0	6	370	61.7	4	0
09/19/2026	at Illinois St.	6	306	51.0	56	0	2	0	4	1	2-2	41	0	4	260	65.0	4	0
Eastern Ill.		27	1203	44.6	56	0	4	4	8	6	2-3	41	0	17	1055	62.1	11	0
Opponents		11	460	41.8	51	0	0	3	3	3	1-3	31	1	27	1714	63.5	21	1



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
Opponents Game-by-Game
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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	
08/27/2026	at Murray St.	26	63	0	21	26	257	2	27	26-40-2	257	2	27	3	97	0	49	3	17	0	15	320
09/03/2026	at Minnesota	38	147	5	27	26	348	1	55	26-33-0	348	1	55	1	11	0	11	5	193	2	87	495
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	37	208	3	57	21	284	3	42	21-34-1	284	3	42	2	26	0	17	1	-2	0	0	492
09/19/2026	at Illinois St.	45	226	3	37	25	330	3	40	25-33-0	330	3	40	0	0	0	0	2	92	1	79	556
Opponents		146	644	11	57	98	1219	9	55	98-140-3	1219	9	55	6	134	0	49	11	300	3	87	1863
Eastern Ill.		133	568	6	88	55	592	5	54	55-93-0	592	5	54	5	122	0	61	6	72	0	43	1160

Opponents Averages

Games	Avg/ rush	Avg/ catch	Pass effic	KR avg	PR avg	All purpose avg/game	Total offense avg/game
4	4.4	12.4	160.1	22.3	27.3	574.3	465.8

Date	Opponent	Tackles				Sacks	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd	PAT attempts			off		
		ua	a	total	tfl-yds	no-yds	ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup	kick	kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
08/27/2026	at Murray St.	37	40	77	12.0-35	5-24	0	0-0	0-0	1	1	0	0-1	0	1	0	0	14
09/03/2026	at Minnesota	23	26	49	9.0-20	1-3	1	0-0	0-0	5	2	0	8-8	0	0	0	0	59
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	37	26	63	6.0-22	3-16	1	1-1	0-0	1	3	0	6-6	0	0	0	7	42
09/19/2026	at Illinois St.	13	56	69	5.0-16	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	6	5	0	7-7	0	0	0	0	49
Opponents		110	148	258	32.0-93	9-43	2	1-1	0-0	13	11	0	21-22	0	1	0	7	164
Eastern Ill.		160	142	302	22.0-87	4-33	2	2-0	3-52	6	8	1	11-11	0	0	0	10	83

Date	Opponent	Punting										Field Goals			Kickoffs				
		no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	
08/27/2026	at Murray St.	6	239	39.8	47	0	0	2	0	2	0-1	0	1	2	109	54.5	1	1	
09/03/2026	at Minnesota	2	70	35.0	37	0	0	1	0	1	1-1	31	0	10	644	64.4	8	0	
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	3	151	50.3	51	0	0	0	3	0	0-1	0	0	7	445	63.6	5	0	
09/19/2026	at Illinois St.	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	8	516	64.5	7	0	
Opponents		11	460	41.8	51	0	0	3	3	3	1-3	31	1	27	1714	63.5	21	1	
Eastern Ill.		27	1203	44.6	56	0	4	4	8	6	2-3	41	0	17	1055	62.1	11	0	



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
Team Game Highs
All games

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Eastern Ill. - Game Highs

RUSHES	47	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
YARDS RUSHING	267	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
YARDS PER RUSH	5.8	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TD RUSHES	3	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PASS ATTEMPTS	34	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
PASS COMPLETIONS	20	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
YARDS PASSING	282	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
YARDS PER PASS	8.3	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TD PASSES	3	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TOTAL PLAYS	66	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TOTAL OFFENSE	466	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
YARDS PER PLAY	7.1	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
POINTS	35	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
SACKS BY	2	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
FIRST DOWNS	20 20	Indiana St. (09/12/2026) at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PENALTIES	15	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
PENALTY YARDS	145	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TURNOVERS	1	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
PUNTS	10	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
PUNTING AVG	51.0	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
LONG PUNT	56	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	3	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
LONG PUNT RETURN	43	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
Opponent Match Highs
All games

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Opponent - Game Highs

RUSHES	45	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
YARDS RUSHING	226	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
YARDS PER RUSH	5.6	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TD RUSHES	5	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
PASS ATTEMPTS	40	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PASS COMPLETIONS	26	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
	26	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
YARDS PASSING	348	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
YARDS PER PASS	10.5	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
TD PASSES	3	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
	3	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TOTAL PLAYS	78	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
TOTAL OFFENSE	556	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
YARDS PER PLAY	7.1	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
POINTS	59	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
SACKS BY	5	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
FIRST DOWNS	34	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
PENALTIES	8	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
PENALTY YARDS	61	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
TURNOVERS	2	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PUNTS	6	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PUNTING AVG	50.3	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
LONG PUNT	51	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	2	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
LONG PUNT RETURN	87	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
Team Match Lows
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Eastern Ill. - Game Lows

RUSHES	26	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
YARDS RUSHING	51	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
YARDS PER RUSH	1.8	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
TD RUSHES	0	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
PASS ATTEMPTS	15	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
PASS COMPLETIONS	9	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
YARDS PASSING	59	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
YARDS PER PASS	3.9	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
TD PASSES	0	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
TOTAL PLAYS	43	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
TOTAL OFFENSE	110	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
YARDS PER PLAY	2.6	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
POINTS	7	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
SACKS BY	0	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
FIRST DOWNS	4	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
PENALTIES	3	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PENALTY YARDS	35	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
INTERCEPTIONS BY	0	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
	0	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
PUNTS	4	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
PUNTING AVG	39.3	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
LONG PUNT	45	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	0	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
LONG PUNT RETURN	0	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
	0	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
Opponent Match Lows
All games

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Opponent - Game Lows

RUSHES	26	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
YARDS RUSHING	63	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
YARDS PER RUSH	2.4	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
TD RUSHES	0	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PASS ATTEMPTS	33	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
	33	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
PASS COMPLETIONS	21	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
YARDS PASSING	257	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
YARDS PER PASS	6.4	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
TD PASSES	1	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
TOTAL PLAYS	66	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
TOTAL OFFENSE	320	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
YARDS PER PLAY	4.8	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
POINTS	14	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
SACKS BY	0	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
FIRST DOWNS	18	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PENALTIES	2	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
PENALTY YARDS	10	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
INTERCEPTIONS BY	0	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
	0	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
	0	at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
	0	at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PUNTS	0	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
PUNTING AVG	0.0	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
LONG PUNT	0	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	0	at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
	0	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
LONG PUNT RETURN	0	Indiana St. (09/12/2026)



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
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Eastern Ill. - Individual Game Highs

RUSHES	19	Charles Kellom at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
YARDS RUSHING	171	Charles Kellom at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
TD RUSHES	3	Charles Kellom at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
LONG RUSH	88	Charles Kellom at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PASS ATTEMPTS	34	Cole LaCrue vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
PASS COMPLETIONS	20	Cole LaCrue vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
YARDS PASSING	282	Cole LaCrue vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TD PASSES	3	Cole LaCrue vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
LONG PASS	54	Cole LaCrue vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
RECEPTIONS	4 4 4 4	Charles Kellom vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026) Devin Whitlock vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026) Samuel Gonzalez vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026) Charles Kellom at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
YARDS RECEIVING	78	Samuel Gonzalez vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TD RECEPTIONS	1 1 1 1 1	Charles Kellom vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026) Jacarre Fleming-Page vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026) Jeremy Reeves vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026) Tyren Buggs at Minnesota (09/03/2026) Landers Green at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
LONG RECEPTION	54	Landers Green vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
PUNTS	10	Cade Cox at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
PUNTING AVG	51.0	Cade Cox at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
LONG PUNT	56	Cade Cox at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	3	Cade Cox vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
LONG PUNT RETURN	43	Devin Whitlock at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
LONG KICKOFF RETURN	61	Carlyun Neal vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TACKLES	10 10	Ja'Wuan Nickson vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026) Ja'Wuan Nickson at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
SACKS	1 1	Isaac Engle vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026) Aidan Archibald at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
TACKLES FOR LOSS	2.5	Lonnie Burt at Minnesota (09/03/2026)



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Opponent - Individual Game Highs

RUSHES	17	Elijah Owens vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
YARDS RUSHING	98	Elijah Owens vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TD RUSHES	3	Darius Taylor at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
LONG RUSH	57	Aaron Ball vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
PASS ATTEMPTS	40	Collin Shannon at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PASS COMPLETIONS	26	Collin Shannon at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
YARDS PASSING	284	Elijah Owens vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TD PASSES	3	Elijah Owens vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
LONG PASS	55	Drake Lindsey at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
RECEPTIONS	6	Dylan Lord at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
	6	BJ Wuest vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
YARDS RECEIVING	142	BJ Wuest vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
TD RECEPTIONS	1	Alex Herrera at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
	1	Dylan Lord at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
	1	Mar'Quan Gary at Illinois St. (09/19/2026)
	1	Dane Pardridge vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
	1	BJ Wuest vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
	1	Aaron Ball vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
	1	Pierce Walsh at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
	1	Trey Firestone at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
	1	Jaxon Potter at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
LONG RECEPTION	55	Javon Tracy at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
FIELD GOALS	1	Daniel Jackson at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
LONG FIELD GOALS	31	Daniel Jackson at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
PUNTS	4	Spencer Ashby at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
PUNTING AVG	50.3	Spencer Conrad vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
LONG PUNT	51	Spencer Conrad vs Indiana St. (09/12/2026)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	1	Zachary Robbins at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
	1	Spencer Ashby at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
	1	Victor Kyatt at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
LONG PUNT RETURN	87	Javon Tracy at Minnesota (09/03/2026)
LONG KICKOFF RETURN	49	Dimitri Howard at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
TACKLES	10	Klayton Ingram at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
SACKS	1.5	James Morrow Jr. at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
TACKLES FOR LOSS	2	Jayden Walker at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
	2	Ryan McCall at Murray St. (08/27/2026)
INTERCEPTIONS	none	



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
Red-Zone Results
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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
08/27/2026	at Murray St.	W	28-14	4	3	21	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/03/2026	at Minnesota	L	7-59	1	1	7	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	L	35-42	5	4	28	4	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
09/19/2026	at Illinois St.	L	13-49	2	2	10	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Totals 10 of 12 (83.3%)			12	10	66	9	4	5	1	2	0	0	0	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
08/27/2026	Murray St.	W	28-14	3	2	14	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
09/03/2026	Minnesota	L	7-59	6	6	38	5	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	L	35-42	5	4	28	4	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
09/19/2026	Illinois St.	L	13-49	6	5	35	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Totals 17 of 20 (85.0%)			20	17	115	16	10	6	1	3	0	0	0	0	1



2026-27 Eastern Ill. Football
By Quarter Statistics
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3rd-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
08/27/2026	at Murray St.	W	28-14	4-13	30.8	1-4	25.0	0-2	0.0	3-5	60.0	0-2	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/03/2026	at Minnesota	L	7-59	3-13	23.1	0-3	0.0	3-4	75.0	0-4	0.0	0-2	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	L	35-42	9-15	60.0	0-1	0.0	3-7	42.9	3-3	100.0	3-4	75.0	0-0	0.0
09/19/2026	at Illinois St.	L	13-49	4-12	33.3	2-4	50.0	0-3	0.0	0-3	0.0	2-2	100.0	0-0	0.0
Eastern Ill.				20-53	37.7	3-12	25.0	6-16	37.5	6-15	40.0	5-10	50.0	0-0	0.0
Opponents				33-57	57.9	10-16	62.5	10-15	66.7	4-9	44.4	9-17	52.9	0-0	0.0

4th-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
08/27/2026	at Murray St.	W	28-14	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0
09/03/2026	at Minnesota	L	7-59	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	L	35-42	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/19/2026	at Illinois St.	L	13-49	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
Eastern Ill.				2-2	100.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0
Opponents				4-5	80.0	1-1	100.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	2-3	66.7	0-0	0.0

Time of Possession

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
08/27/2026	at Murray St.	W	28-14	33:11	06:03	07:43	09:52	09:33	00:00
09/03/2026	at Minnesota	L	7-59	23:39	05:34	06:58	07:01	04:06	00:00
09/12/2026	Indiana St.	L	35-42	30:04	03:03	09:48	11:04	06:09	00:00
09/19/2026	at Illinois St.	L	13-49	25:45	06:59	07:37	05:00	06:09	00:00
Eastern Ill.				Total	21:39	32:06	32:57	25:57	00:00
				Avg.	05:25	08:02	08:14	06:29	00:00
Opponents				Total	34:06	32:09	19:37	41:29	00:00
				Avg.	08:32	08:02	04:54	10:22	00:00

NCAA Statistics

Eastern Ill. - 2026-27 Football Ranking Summary thru games 09/19/2026

Statistic	National Rank	Conference Rank	Value	National Leader	Value	Conference Leader	Value
3rd Down Conversion Pct (124 ranked)	55	6	0.377	Illinois St.	0.646	UT Martin	0.449
3rd Down Conversion Pct Defense (124 ranked)	120	8	0.579	Penn	0.071	Gardner-Webb	0.314
4th Down Conversion Pct (114 ranked)	1	1	1.000	8 teams tied	1.000	Eastern Ill.	1.000
4th Down Conversion Pct Defense (117 ranked)	112	8	0.800	4 teams tied	0.000	Southeast Mo. St.	0.200
Blocked Kicks (23 ranked)	23	2	1	Valparaiso Weber St.	5 5	UT Martin	2
Blocked Kicks Allowed (123 ranked)	1	1	0	63 teams tied	0	5 teams tied	0
Blocked Punts (3 ranked)				Valparaiso	3	Charleston So.	1
Blocked Punts Allowed (123 ranked)	1	1	0	91 teams tied	0	6 teams tied	0
Completion Percentage (124 ranked)	64	5	0.591	Montana St.	0.741	Western Ill.	0.698
Defensive TDs (9 ranked)				8 teams tied	2	UT Martin	2
Fewest Penalties (124 ranked)	90	6	29	Brown Princeton	4 4	Lindenwood	17
Fewest Penalties Per Game (124 ranked)	84	6	7.25	Cal Poly North Dakota	3.00 3.00	Charleston So.	4.50
Fewest Penalty Yards (124 ranked)	101	8	269	Princeton	30	Tennessee St.	164
Fewest Penalty Yards Per Game (124 ranked)	99	8	67.25	Samford	26.33	Tennessee St.	41.00
First Downs Defense (123 ranked)	120	8	102	Penn	6	Western Ill.	55
First Downs Offense (124 ranked)	86	7	58	Illinois St. South Dakota St.	102 102	Gardner-Webb	92
Fumbles Lost (121 ranked)	22	1	1	21 teams tied	0	4 teams tied	1
Fumbles Recovered (72 ranked)	43	3	2	Butler South Carolina St.	7 7	Gardner-Webb	4
Kickoff Return Defense (124 ranked)	89	5	22.33	Northern Ariz.	0.00	Charleston So.	9.25
Kickoff Returns (120 ranked)	25	3	24.40	Penn	42.00	Southeast Mo. St.	29.86
Net Punting (123 ranked)	114	8	30.48	North Dakota	45.27	Southeast Mo. St.	42.06
Passes Had Intercepted (124 ranked)	1	1	0	7 teams tied	0	Eastern Ill.	0
Passes Intercepted (83 ranked)	37	2	3	Colgate	8	Southeast Mo. St.	4
Passing Offense (124 ranked)	104	8	148.0	Yale	454.0	Gardner-Webb	296.3
Passing Yards Allowed (124 ranked)	115	7	304.8	Dartmouth	73.0	Western Ill.	117.0
Passing Yards per Completion (124 ranked)	92	8	10.76	Jackson St.	17.93	Charleston So.	13.23
Punt Return Defense (124 ranked)	121	8	27.27	Wofford	-3.67	Charleston So.	5.83
Punt Returns (124 ranked)	38	3	12.00	South Dakota St.	30.50	Lindenwood	27.33
Red Zone Defense (114 ranked)	72	4	0.850	Penn	0.000	Charleston So. Gardner-Webb	0.800 0.800
Red Zone Offense (124 ranked)	54	3	0.833	12 teams tied	1.000	Lindenwood	1.000
Rushing Defense (124 ranked)	58	6	161.0	Penn	40.0	Southeast Mo. St.	127.0
Rushing Offense (124 ranked)	59	4	142.0	Lehigh	291.8	Western Ill.	191.0
Sacks Allowed (122 ranked)	83	4	2.25	Cornell Lehigh South Carolina St.	0.00 0.00 0.00	Western Ill.	0.25
Scoring Defense (124 ranked)	110	8	41.0	Harvard Penn	7.0 7.0	Charleston So.	17.8
Scoring Offense (124 ranked)	79	6	20.8	South Carolina St.	51.0	Western Ill.	35.8
Tackles for Loss Allowed (124 ranked)	110	5	8.00	Lehigh South Dakota St.	1.75 1.75	Western Ill.	2.50
Team Passing Efficiency (124 ranked)	53	2	130.35	Jackson St.	199.43	Western Ill.	151.27
Team Passing Efficiency Defense (124 ranked)	98	5	160.07	Penn	53.52	Charleston So.	101.21
Team Sacks (120 ranked)	92	7	1.00	Harvard	7.00	Gardner-Webb	3.00
Team Tackles for Loss (124 ranked)	50	5	5.5	Harvard	11.0	Gardner-Webb	8.3
Time of Possession (124 ranked)	94	8	28:10	Penn	39:40	Western Ill.	32:37

Statistic	National Rank	Conference Rank	Value	National Leader	Value	Conference Leader	Value
Total Defense (124 ranked)	108	7	465.8	Penn	124.0	Western III.	244.8
Total Offense (124 ranked)	99	7	290.0	Jackson St.	532.7	Western III.	437.3
Turnover Margin (123 ranked)	13	1	1.00	Butler	2.75	Eastern III.	1.00
Turnovers Gained (115 ranked)	42	3	5	Northern Ariz.	12	Gardner-Webb Southeast Mo. St.	7 7
Turnovers Lost (124 ranked)	2	1	1	Butler	0	Eastern III.	1
Winning Percentage (107 ranked)	81	5	0.250	15 teams tied	1.000	Charleston So. Southeast Mo. St. Western III.	0.500 0.500 0.500

Statistic	Player	National Rank	Conference Rank	Value	National Leader	Value	Conference Leader	Value
All Purpose (200 ranked)	Charles Kellom	65	2	93.25	Lucius Anderson, Yale	276.00	Kory Jones, Gardner-Webb	104.75
Blocked Kicks (1 ranked)					5 players tied	2	Chris Wilson, UT Martin	2
Combined Kick Returns (198 ranked)	Carlyun Neal Devin Whitlock	99 117	6 9	91 70	Charles Langama, North Dakota	363	Khylen Harris-Norman, Southeast Mo. St.	192
Completion Percentage (123 ranked)	Cole LaCrue	65	4	0.596	Gage Roy, Illinois St.	0.785	Kennedy McGill, Western Ill.	0.728
Completions Per Game (147 ranked)	Cole LaCrue	82	7	13.25	Riley Warzynski, Drake	32.00	Cole Pennington, Gardner-Webb	24.50
Field Goal Percentage (84 ranked)					13 players tied	1.000	Ronan Culkin, Western Ill.	1.000
Field Goals Per Game (106 ranked)	Drew Schiller	80	7	0.50	Andrew Ivaniciuc, Jackson St. Mason Lindberg, Idaho St.	2.33 2.33	Justin Keller, Southeast Mo. St. Tyler Simpson, Gardner-Webb	2.00 2.00
Forced Fumbles (76 ranked)	Mafileo Tupou Premiere Whitley	76 76	4 4	0.25 0.25	6 players tied	1.00	AJ Mebane, Gardner-Webb	0.50
Fumbles Recovered (10 ranked)	Isaac Engle Nick Vecchiarelli	10 10	1 1	1 1	9 players tied	2	14 players tied	1
Interceptions Per Game (106 ranked)	Ja'Wuan Nickson Kaleb Lyons	18 106	1 9	0.50 0.25	11 players tied	1.00	4 players tied	0.50
Kickoff Return TDs (1 ranked)					12 players tied	1	Quay Kindell, Charleston So. Khylen Harris-Norman, Southeast Mo. St.	1 1
Kickoff Returns (77 ranked)					Jabez Woods, Montana St.	46.2	Khylen Harris-Norman, Southeast Mo. St.	38.4
Passes Defended (50 ranked)					Devin Malloy, Penn MD Awe, Columbia	3.00 3.00	Adrian Patterson, Southeast Mo. St.	1.50
Passing Efficiency (123 ranked)	Cole LaCrue	51	2	133.2	Jared Lockhart, Jackson St.	206.8	Kennedy McGill, Western Ill.	157.9
Passing TDs (60 ranked)	Cole LaCrue	46	2	5	Austyn Modrzewski, South Dakota	14	Kennedy McGill, Western Ill.	6
Passing Yards (150 ranked)	Cole LaCrue	68	5	584	Kaden Anderson, Tarleton St.	1,200	Cole Pennington, Gardner-Webb	1,185
Passing Yards Per Game (150 ranked)	Cole LaCrue	88	7	146.0	Dante Reno, Yale	454.0	Cole Pennington, Gardner-Webb	296.3
Passing Yards per Completion (123 ranked)	Cole LaCrue	76	4	11.02	Chris Parson, Austin Peay	18.51	Lek Powell, Charleston So.	13.18
Points Responsible For (197 ranked)	Cole LaCrue Charles Kellom	42 104	2 7	42 30	Beau Brungard, Youngstown St.	98	Kennedy McGill, Western Ill.	60
Points Responsible For Per Game (138 ranked)	Cole LaCrue Charles Kellom	64 138	2 8	10.5 7.5	Dante Reno, Yale	30.0	Kennedy McGill, Western Ill.	15.0
Punt Return TDs (5 ranked)					4 players tied	2		
Punt Returns (53 ranked)	Devin Whitlock	15	1	14.0	Zach Jones, UC Davis	32.7	Devin Whitlock, Eastern Ill.	14.0
Punting (87 ranked)	Cade Cox	15	1	44.6	Ben Lavelle, Dayton	50.5	Cade Cox, Eastern Ill.	44.6
Receiving TDs (54 ranked)					Noah Kjar, Weber St.	6	John Anthony, Southeast Mo. St. Mekhi Campfield, Charleston So. Brenton Paul, Tennessee St.	2 2 2
Receiving Yards (147 ranked)					Xavier Johnson, North Ala.	472	Kory Jones, Gardner-Webb	419
Receiving Yards Per Game (199 ranked)					Jaxton Santiago, Yale	234.0	Kory Jones, Gardner-Webb	104.8
Receptions Per Game (177 ranked)					Jaxton Santiago, Yale	12.00	Kory Jones, Gardner-Webb	6.00
Rush Yards Per Carry (126 ranked)	Charles Kellom	15	1	6.50	Mason Pickett-Hicks, South Carolina St.	9.17	Charles Kellom, Eastern Ill.	6.50
Rushing TDs (38 ranked)	Charles Kellom	14	2	4	Luke Yoder, Lehigh	11	Tommy Ansley, UT Martin	6
Rushing Yards (198 ranked)	Charles Kellom Cole LaCrue	23 198	1 14	299 120	Tylan Hines, Tarleton St.	575	Charles Kellom, Eastern Ill.	299
Rushing Yards Per Game (200 ranked)	Charles Kellom	32	1	74.8	Tylan Hines, Tarleton St.	191.7	Charles Kellom, Eastern Ill.	74.8
Sacks (171 ranked)	Aidan Archibald	133	10	0.38	Josh Fedd, Harvard Sean Line, Harvard	2.00 2.00	King Smith, Lindenwood	0.83
Scoring (182 ranked)	Charles Kellom	52	5	7.5	Luke Yoder, Lehigh	18.0	Tommy Ansley, UT Martin	9.0
Solo Tackles (28 ranked)					Max Malo, Brown	10.00	Tre Yanez, Gardner-Webb	5.25
Tackles For Loss (65 ranked)	Ja'Wuan Nickson	55	5	1.13	Sean Line, Harvard	3.50	Tre Yanez, Gardner-Webb	1.75
Total Offense (200 ranked)	Cole LaCrue Charles Kellom	83 163	7 10	176.0 74.8	Dante Reno, Yale	446.0	Cole Pennington, Gardner-Webb	286.8
Total Points Scored (121 ranked)	Charles Kellom	36	5	30	Luke Yoder, Lehigh	72	Tommy Ansley, UT Martin	36
Total Tackles (181 ranked)	Ja'Wuan Nickson	133	7	6.8	Mikey D'Amato, Cal Poly	12.0	Tre Yanez, Gardner-Webb	10.8
Total Touchdowns (64 ranked)	Charles Kellom	14	2	5	Luke Yoder, Lehigh	12	Tommy Ansley, UT Martin	6
Yards per Pass Attempt (123 ranked)	Cole LaCrue	73	7	6.56	Jared Lockhart, Jackson St.	12.17	Kennedy McGill, Western Ill.	7.83

Statistic	Player	National Rank	Conference Rank	Value	National Leader	Value	Conference Leader	Value
Yards per Reception (200 ranked)	Samuel Gonzalez	68	4	16.63	Tennel Bryant, South Dakota	36.38	John Anthony, Southeast Mo. St.	19.92