

ILLINOIS STATE

F O O T B A L L • 2 0 0 7

GAME
5

#3 Northern Iowa Panthers (4-0) at #16 Illinois State Redbirds (2-2) *The Redbirds open Gateway Football Conference play at home for the first time since 2003.*

Date: Saturday, Sept. 29, 2007

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: Normal, Ill.

Stadium (Capacity): Hancock Stadium (15,000)

Surface: FieldTurf

Forecast: High: 76°; Low: 55°; Chance of rain: 10%

Radio: Redbird Radio Network

- Dick Luedke, play-by-play
- Ted Schmitz, color analyst
- Bruce Evans, sideline
- L.A. Decker, studio host

Television: None

Webcast: GoRedbirds.com

Series: UNI leads, 15-8

Denver Johnson vs. UNI: 3-4

Last Meeting: UNI 38, Illinois State 27 – Nov. 18, 2006, in Cedar Falls, Iowa

Northern Iowa (4-0)

A30	Minnesota State	W, 41-14
S8	at Iowa State	W, 24-13
S15	at South Dakota State	W, 31-17
S22	at Drake	W, 45-7
S29	at #16 Illinois State*	1:30 p.m.
O13	Southern Illinois*	4:05 p.m.
O20	at Western Illinois*	6:30 p.m.
O27	Youngstown State*	3 p.m.
N3	at Missouri State*	1 p.m.
N10	Indiana State*	5:05 p.m.
N17	Southern Utah	5:05 p.m.

Storylines

- For Illinois State and Northern Iowa, the 2006 Gateway Football Conference season ended facing each other. In 2007, the Redbirds and Panthers meet again, but this time to open the league slate.
- Under head coach **Denver Johnson**, the Redbirds are 2-5 in Gateway openers, while the Panthers are 4-2 under Mark Farley in league openers.
- Today's game is the final game of a four-game road swing for Northern Iowa.
- The Redbirds enter tonight's game ranked in the top-20 nationally. Illinois State is rated No. 16 in both *The Sports Network's* and FCS Coaches' Top-25 polls. The Redbirds have been ranked in the national polls for 22-straight weeks, including pre and postseason polls.
- In the Johnson era, ISU is 14-12 in the month of September.
- Both Illinois State and Northern Iowa rank in the top-four nationally among FCS teams in third-down efficiency. The Panthers are No. 2 nationally with a 53.6 success rate on third down, while Illinois State is No. 4 at 53.2 percent. However, the Redbird defense ranks No. 114, among 116 teams, in defensive third-down efficiency. Redbird opponents have converted 56.9 percent of their third downs.
- There are a number of promotions at today's game. It is Faculty and Staff Day, Kid's Day, Kid's Club Day and Pontiac Day at Hancock Stadium. As part of the Kid's Day festivities, Dora the Explorer will be at the game. In addition, the Family Pack special is also available, which includes two adult general admission tickets and two youth tickets for \$20.

The Coaches

➤ Illinois State

Denver Johnson is in his eighth season at Illinois State and owns a 43-41 (.512) overall record with the Redbirds. Prior to guiding the 'Birds, Johnson was the head coach at Murray State, where he compiled a 21-12 mark. Johnson, 48, is a 1981 graduate of Tulsa and his 11-year head coaching record stands at 64-53 (.547).

➤ Northern Iowa

Mark Farley (Northern Iowa '87) is in his seventh season at the helm of the Panther football program. He owns a 55-24 (.696) record at Northern Iowa, his only head coaching position. Farley was a three-year starter for the Panthers at linebacker and was the Gateway's Co-Defensive Player of the Year in 1985.

Illinois State Season Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Location	Result/Time	Notes
A30	DRAKE	Normal, Ill.	L, 24-27	Drake TD off a tipped pass with 23 seconds left in the game sinks Redbirds.
S8	MURRAY STATE	Normal, Ill.	W, 43-17	ISU posts 205 kickoff return yards and 238 rushing yards in rout.
S15	at #14 Eastern Illinois	Charleston, Ill.	W, 24-21	EIU loses fumble with 26 seconds left in the game on the Redbirds' 20-yard line.
S22	at #25 Missouri	Columbia, Mo.	L, 17-38	Missouri racks up 581 yards of total offense, including 341 through the air.
S29	#3 NORTHERN IOWA*	Normal, Ill.	1:30 p.m.	UNI's win over ISU in 2006 prevented the 'Birds from sharing the league title.
O6	at Missouri State*	Springfield, Mo.	2 p.m.	ISU has five-straight victories over the Bears and seven of the last eight.
O13	INDIANA STATE*	Normal, Ill.	1:30 p.m.	Redbirds have won two straight in the series and eight of the last nine.
O20	at #10 Youngstown State*	Youngstown, Ohio	3 p.m.	YSU beat the Redbirds twice in 2006, including in the FCS Quarterfinals.
O27	#17 WESTERN ILLINOIS*	Normal, Ill.	1:30 p.m.	'Birds haven't won back-to-back games against WIU since 1999 and 2000.
N3	at #4 North Dakota State	Fargo, N.D.	6 p.m.	First meeting; NDSU will officially become a GFC member in 2008.
N10	at #7 Southern Illinois*	Carbondale, Ill.	1:30 p.m.	ISU has won the last two meetings by a combined score of 98-45.

* Gateway Football Conference game; All times Central.

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INTERVIEW PROCEDURES

Postgame interviews following home contests are conducted in the team room (second floor) of the Kaufman Football Building. A golf cart is available to transport representatives from the visiting team to the interview area. TV lighting is also provided and there is wireless Internet access in the room.

After road games, representatives will be brought to a designated area. The locker room is closed at all times.

Weekly Gateway Conference Call

Teleconferences featuring the league's head coaches will be conducted each Wednesday during the season (Sept. 5 through Nov. 14). Those participating in the call should dial in five minutes prior to the scheduled start time (10 a.m. CST each Wednesday). Each call can also be accessed at www.gatewayfootball.org. The call-in number is 913/312-6696.

Gateway News/Notes	10:00 a.m.
Denver Johnson, Illinois State	10:05 a.m.
Lou West, Indiana State	10:10 a.m.
Terry Allen, Missouri State	10:15 a.m.
Mark Farley, Northern Iowa	10:20 a.m.
Jerry Kill, Southern Illinois	10:25 a.m.
Don Patterson, Western Illinois	10:30 a.m.
Jon Heacock, Youngstown State	10:35 a.m.

All times are Central

Weekly Media Luncheon

✓ Tuesday, Aug. 28 at noon
✓ Tuesday, Sept. 4 at noon
✓ Tuesday, Sept. 11 at noon
✓ Tuesday, Sept. 18 at noon
Tuesday, Sept. 25 at noon
Tuesday, Oct. 2 at noon
Tuesday, Oct. 9 at noon
Tuesday, Oct. 16 at noon
Tuesday, Oct. 23 at noon
Tuesday, Oct. 30 at noon
Tuesday, Nov. 6 at noon

The Game Week Schedule

A quick look at Illinois State's media availability on game week. All appointments can be made through the athletics media relations office 309/438-3805.

Northern Iowa Week													
Sunday	23	Monday	24	Tuesday	25	Wednesday	26	Thursday	27	Friday	28	Saturday	29
Coach/Player Phone Interviews Available by appointment		Player/Coach Interviews Available after practice (approx. 6 p.m.)		Media Luncheon Kaufman - noon Player/Coach Interviews Available after practice (approx. 6 p.m.)		GFC Teleconference Johnson - 10:05 a.m. Player/Coach Interviews Available after practice (approx. 6 p.m.)		Coach Interviews Available after practice (approx. 6 p.m.) Denver Johnson Show Schooners 6-7 p.m.		Practice Closed No interviews		Northern Iowa at Illinois State 1:30 p.m.	

Weekly Media Luncheons

Each Tuesday during the season, Illinois State hosts a media luncheon in the team room of the Kaufman Football Building. The luncheon begins promptly at noon, with comments from two selected players representing both the offense and defense. Following the student-athletes, head coach Denver Johnson will address the media. Video from the press conference will be available on the Web at GoRedbirds.com before 5 p.m. Tuesday, while the audio file will be available immediately following the event on the ISU Athletics Media Relations ftp site (contact Todd Kober or John Sandberg for access information). If you would like to receive the quotes via e-mail, please contact the Illinois State Athletics Media Relations Office at gtkober@ilstu.edu prior to the press conference.

Requesting Credentials

Credentials (game and parking) can be obtained by contacting the Athletics Media Relations Office, Campus Box 7130, Normal, IL, 61790-7130. Requests must be received on official letterhead at least two days prior to the game. Passes that are not mailed will be available at the Will Call window (Gate 4) 90 minutes prior to kickoff.

Practice Procedures

Most practices are open to the media (approximately 3:30-6 p.m.), but only the first 15 minutes of Tuesday through Thursday practices are available to photographers. For all other media, it is recommended that an advance call be made to the media relations office to check on the status of practice for a particular day.

Interview Policies

- **Head Coach:** ISU's **Denver Johnson** will do general interviews following practice Tuesday-Thursday. All other requests for interviews must be submitted to the media relations office at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled interview.
- **Assistant Coaches:** Arrangements should be made through the media relations office. Most interviews will be conducted after practice Tuesday-Thursday.
- **Players:** All interviews with players will take place at the media luncheon or after practice Tuesday and Wednesday. Media should request players at least 24 hours in advance. Players who attend the Tuesday luncheon will not be available following practice that day.
- **Postgame:** The Illinois State locker room is closed at all times. Head coach **Denver Johnson** and requested players will be brought to the designated interview area. At home, the postgame media conference will take place in the team room of the Kaufman Football Building, located in the northeast corner of Hancock Stadium. The media should enter through the west doors and travel up the two flights of stairs to the conference area.

Scouting the Northern Iowa Panthers

- Northern Iowa is located in Cedar Falls, Iowa, and has an enrollment of 12,260. The Panthers are members of the Gateway Football Conference.
- The Panthers return 17 starters from a team that finished with a 7-4 record last season, including 5-2 in the league.
- UNI is off to its first 4-0 start since the 1999 season. Ironically, the Panthers lost their fifth game that season – a road contest at Illinois State, 47-28. A victory today would give Northern Iowa its first 5-0 start since 1992.
- The Panthers lead the Gateway in both scoring defense and rushing defense. UNI is only allowing 72 yards per game on the ground, which ranks No. 6 nationally at the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) level. Northern Iowa's defense has surrendered 12.75 points per game, which ranks No. 7 in the FCS.
- UNI is also a front runner in passing offense. The Panthers lead the Gateway, and rank No. 9 in the FCS, with 248.25 passing yards per game. Senior quarterback Eric Sanders ranks No. 6 at the FCS level in passing efficiency with a 164.01 rating.

Panther Parallels

- Former members of the prep Gateway Athletic Conference will be in action today. Illinois State's **Brandon Joyce** (Duchesne HS) and **Bill Speiser** (Warrenton HS) will face Northern Iowa's Brannon Carter (Francis Howell North).
- There will be a Moline High School reunion today with Illinois State's **Mark Whitaker** and Northern Iowa's Billy Hallgren. Additionally, UNI's Darian Williams (East Moline) and Austin Howard (Davenport, Iowa) are also from the Quad Cities area.
- Both Illinois State and Northern Iowa currently have alumni playing in the NFL for the Kansas City Chiefs, former Redbird **Boomer Grigsby** and former Panther **Benny Sapp** are currently on the Chiefs' roster.
- Former Pittsburgh teammates will also be reunited today, as Illinois State's **Nick Williams** and **Kelvin Chandler** and UNI's **Terrell Allen** all began their college careers at Pittsburgh before transferring to their respective schools.
- ISU's Chandler (Dillard HS) and UNI linebacker **De'Veon Harris** (Ely HS) are both from Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
- Iowa Central Community College will also be well-represented today as former Triton teammates **Bill Speiser** (ISU), **Jeremy Joynt** (ISU), **Curtis Meier** (UNI), **Darrell Lloyd** (UNI), **Darian Williams** (UNI) and **Brandon Burden** (UNI) will all be at the game.

Salem's Lot

Sophomore wide receiver **Eyad Salem** had a career day at Missouri by setting up shop in the Tigers' secondary as he collected career-highs in receptions and yards. Salem grabbed seven balls for 106 yards, leading all receivers in the game, while adding his first-career touchdown in the fourth quarter.

Blow-ing Through the Defense

Sophomore tailback **Geno Blow** also had a career day last weekend at Missouri, as the Seabrook, Texas, native pounded out 116 yards on 21 carries. Blow, who led all rushers in yards and carries in the game, also became the third different Redbird to gain 100-plus yards in a game this season.

Back in the Fold

In his first start of the 2007 season at Missouri, wide receiver **Kevett Mickle** got back into the fold offensively as he grabbed a game-high seven catches for 75 yards. Mickle's seven receptions were a career-high, breaking his previous mark of six, which he set as a freshman at ISU in 2004. He also made his first-career start for the Redbirds.

Redbirds in Gateway Openers

The Illinois State football team has had mixed results in its history playing in Gateway Football Conference opening games, as the program has a 9-13 record since joining the league in 1985. Additionally, the Redbirds are 2-5 in conference openers in the **Denver Johnson** era.

A Nickel Can Still Buy Something

Facing a potent passing offense, **Casey Kociuba** recorded his first-career start last Saturday as a nickel back against Missouri. Kociuba made the most of the opportunity with a career-high eight tackles (six solo), including a tackle for loss.

Redbird Secondary Picking it Up

Heading into the matchup at Missouri last weekend, the Illinois State football team had yet to grab an interception in 2007. But the 'Birds were able to feast on three different occasions during the game, as **Tom Nelson** had a career-high tying two interceptions, while **Garry Roberts** grabbed his second-career pick.

Moving the Chain Gang

It can be a nerve-racking situation – facing third down with the possibility of stalling a drive, but the Illinois State football team has been able to move the chains with regularity when faced with the circumstances. The Redbirds are No. 3 in the country in third-down efficiency, converting 55.6 percent of the time.

The Tale of the Tape

	ILS	UNI
Record	2-2	4-0
Points	27.0	35.2
Points Allowed	25.8	12.8
First Downs	87	99
Rushing Yards	202.2	218.8
Rushing Defense	183.5	72.0
Passing Yards	206.2	248.2
Passing Defense	259.2	229.2
Total Offense	408.5	467.0
Total Defense	442.8	301.2
Interceptions	3-33	5-60
Punt Return Avg.	5.7	10.1
Kickoff Return Avg.	25.5	23.7
Fumbles Lost	1	2
Penalties	18-157	23-200
Time of Possession	30:47	32:51
3rd-Down Conversions	33-62 (53%)	30/56 (54%)
4th-Down Conversions	2/3 (67%)	4/4 (100%)
TDs Scored	14	18
Field Goals	4-5	5-9
PAT Attempts	12-14	16-16

Illinois State Statistical Leaders

Rushing	Att	Net	Avg/G	TD	Long
R. Rice	70	405	101.2	5	43
Fisher	37	189	47.2	1	49
Blow	37	168	42.0	1	15

Passing	Cmp-Att-Int	Yds	TD
Drone	67-112-6	825	6

Receiving	No	Yds	Avg	TD
Horton	17	263	15.5	2
Mickle	11	136	12.4	0
Meredith	8	111	13.9	1
Salem	8	110	13.8	1

Tackles	Solo	Asst	Total
Stewart	25	25	50
Nelson	16	15	31
Caesar	12	19	31
Hronec	10	16	26

Northern Iowa Statistical Leaders

Rushing	Att	Net	Avg/G	TD	Long
C. Lewis	72	442	110.5	5	44
Law	28	138	34.5	1	14
D. Williams	17	132	66.0	2	21

Passing	Cmp-Att-Int	Yds	TD
Sanders	85-106-3	972	4

Receiving	No	Yds	Avg	TD
C. Lewis	20	299	14.9	0
Gray	18	230	12.8	2
V. Williams	16	185	11.6	1
W. Lewis	14	82	5.9	0

Tackles	Solo	Asst	Total
Waters	13	12	25
Harris	16	7	23
Evans	13	8	21
Carter	7	14	21

The Redbird Record Book

ISU Career Rushing TDs

1. Toby Davis (1989-92)	37
4. Bruce Cullen (1968-69)	24
Ron Bell (1970-72)	24
6. Rafael Rice (2005-)	17

ISU Career Pass Completions

1. Kevin Glenn (1997-2000)	663
2. John Coppens (1981-84)	554
3. Luke Drone (2004-)	485

ISU Career Passing Yards

1. Kevin Glenn (1997-2000)	8,251
2. Luke Drone (2004-)	6,726

ISU Career Passing TDs

1. Kevin Glenn (1997-2000)	62
2. Luke Drone (2004-)	49

ISU Career Completion Percentage

1. Luke Drone (2004-)	.610
2. Danny Barnett (1992-94)	.590

ISU Career Passing Efficiency

1. Luke Drone (2004-)	144.6
2. Dusty Burk (1999-2001)	127.8

ISU Career Receiving Yards

1. Laurént Robinson (2003-06)	3,007
3. Clarence Collins (1980-83)	2,498
4. Vito Golson (1999-2002)	2,014
5. Jeff Gowan (1975-77)	1,472
6. Jason Horton (2003-)	1,404

ISU Career Receptions

1. Laurént Robinson (2003-06)	192
6. Bill Miller (1986-89)	112
7. Dwayne Smith (2002-03)	102
8. Jeff Gowan (1975-77)	101
9. Jason Horton (2003-)	98

ISU Career TD Receptions

1. Laurént Robinson (2003-06)	29
4. Vito Golson (1999-2002)	17
5. Pierre Jackson (2004-06)	12
6. Jason Horton (2003-)	11

ISU Career Total Offense

1. Kevin Glenn (1997-2000)	8,892
2. Luke Drone (2004-)	6,952

ISU Career TDs Responsible For

1. Kevin Glenn (1997-2000)	70
2. Luke Drone (2004-)	56

ISU Career PAT Kicks Made

1. Jake Strader (1997-2000)	141
2. Stephen Carroll (2001-04)	127
3. Paul Politi (1983-86)	101
4. Kevin Mazur (2005-)	96

ISU Career Tackles

1. Boomer Grigsby (2001-04)	580
9. Duane Butler (1994-96)	332
10. Adam Waugh (1998-2001)	327
11. Brian Gant (1983-86)	317
12. Kye Stewart (2003-)	299

Four Score, and...

In four games in 2007, the Redbird football team has seen four different players reach the end zone on the ground. **Rafael Rice** scored two touchdowns in the first game against Drake, while Rice, **Geno Blow** and **Luke Drone** scored a combined four touchdowns against Murray State. Rice scored again in the game at Eastern Illinois, while **Parrish Fisher** put six on the board at Missouri.

Sharing the Wealth

Through four games in the 2007 season, the Illinois State football team has enjoyed a variety of excellence in the running game, as three different tailbacks have secured 100-plus yard games for the first time since 2005. **Rafael Rice** has ran for 218 yards in the opener versus Drake, while Rice and **Parrish Fisher** ran for 106 and 122 yards, respectively, in the game against Murray State. **Geno Blow** became the third Redbird to run for 100 yards last Saturday at Missouri, as he put up a game- and career-high 116 yards on the ground.

If You Play the Redbirds, They Will Come

When a NCAA Division I Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) school schedules a game against the Illinois State football team, it should expect to see activity at the turnstiles. At last weekend's game at Missouri, 56,137 fans showed up to watch the game, which was the second-largest crowd to witness a game in Redbird history. Over 56,300 fans showed up to watch the Redbirds play in-state rival Illinois at Memorial Stadium in Champaign-Urbana, Ill., in 2003.

Wolfpack... For Life!

While WWE wrestling fans might know that particular slogan, it is Illinois State's version of the group that has been knocking out opponents on the gridiron. Collectively, the Redbird H-backs and tight ends call themselves "The Wolfpack." The group has been on the hunt as of late, with 13 total receptions over the last two games, including touchdowns by fullback **Garin Harcar** and tight end **Kedric Meredith**.

Rushing into the Record Books

Rafael Rice was slowed against Missouri with a sore right knee, but the senior running back is still in a tie for sixth place in the school annals for career rushing touchdowns. Rice now has 17 career touchdowns and needs seven more scores to tie Ron Bell and Bruce Cullen (24) for fourth place all-time.

Kicking Game Gets Out of a Funk

After having problems putting the ball through the up-rights during its first two games this season, the ISU football team has been showing improvements in its kicking game thanks to **Tyler Funk**. The redshirt freshman has hit all five of his PAT attempts over the last two games and he's perfect on all three of his field goal attempts this season.

Keeping the Head Hunters at Bay

The ISU offensive line has been able to protect quarterback **Luke Drone** from the pursuit of the opposing defenses, as the unit ranks tied for 19th in the country in sacks allowed per game. The group has given up only four sacks, for an average of one sack per game, which has given Drone the ability to stay in the pocket and deliver the pass.

Another One Bites the Dust

With the 24-21 win at No. 14 Eastern Illinois, the Redbirds have now secured a victory over a nationally-ranked team in 10 of the last 11 seasons. ISU will have plenty of opportunities this season to notch additional wins over ranked teams, as five of the next seven opponents are rated in a top-25 poll, including this week's opponent, No. 3 Northern Iowa.

The Dirty Dozen

Senior linebacker **Kye Stewart** needs just one tackle to become the 12th player in Illinois State history to accumulate 300 or more tackles in a career. He currently ranks No. 12 in Redbird history and needs 19 stops to move into sole possession of 11th place.

The Buck Stops Here

Illinois State linebacker **Kye Stewart** is one of 16 players chosen by *The Sports Network* to be on the watch list for the 2007 Buck Buchanan Award, which is presented annually to the nation's top defensive player in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision. With Stewart's candidacy for this year's award, it marks the sixth-straight season that Illinois State has had at least one player on the list. Other Redbirds to receive recognition include former all-American linebacker and current Kansas City Chiefs fullback **Boomer Grigsby**, former all-American defensive end and current Jacksonville Jaguar **Brent Hawkins** and former all-American linebacker **Cameron Siskowic**.

All-America U

ISU has produced at least one all-American player in 21 of its last 24 seasons. Over the last seven seasons, 29 players from 12 different positions have been honored. Linebacker **Kye Stewart** was a consensus preseason all-America selection prior to the 2007 season.

Redbirds at Payton's Place

With the announcement of quarterback **Luke Drone** being named as one of 16 players to be considered on the watch list for the Walter Payton Award, it marks the third-consecutive season that an Illinois State player has been considered for that award. Drone, who was a First-Team All-Gateway Football Conference selection in 2006, joins former ISU standout and current Atlanta Falcons' wide receiver **Laurént Robinson**, who received recognition in both 2005 and 2006. Former running back **Pierre Rembert** was named a finalist for the award last season, which recognizes the top football player in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision.

A Sixth Sense?

Since 2001, Illinois State has been the home of the Gateway Football Conference's Defensive Player of the Year award. **Boomer Grigsby**, the league's only three-time winner, won the award in 2002, 2003 and 2004; while **Brent Hawkins** followed suit in 2005; and **Cameron Siskowic** claimed the honor in 2006. Redbird senior linebacker **Kye Stewart**, the top returning tackler in the GFC, is off to a great start in 2007, leading the league with 50 tackles, which also ranks No. 2 nationally in the FCS. So, it's only sensible that Stewart would be considered the favorite for the award this season, which would give the Redbirds six straight.

In Rare Company

Illinois State has proven that it can help student-athletes leap into the professional ranks, as the Redbirds have had a player selected in each of the last three NFL Drafts. Only one other school in the FCS Division, Cal Poly, has sent as many players to the NFL during that same time span. **Boomer Grigsby** (5th Round, Kansas City), **Brent Hawkins** (5th Round, Jacksonville) and **Laurént Robinson** (3rd Round, Atlanta) are the recent Redbird NFL Draft choices.

The I-Pass

The Redbird offense won't speed up the lines at toll booths, but it has been blowing through Gateway football stadiums with regularity the last three seasons. The Redbirds led the Gateway in 2006 with 227.8 passing yards per game, marking the third-straight season that ISU has led the conference in passing offense. If ISU owns the league's top passing offense again this season, it would become only the second team to lead the league in passing four-straight seasons, joining Northern Iowa, which did so from 1995-2000. Currently, the Redbird offense ranks fourth in the conference with 206.25 passing yards per game.

The Three Degrees of St-Pierre

While junior **Jonathan St-Pierre** is in his second season with the Redbirds, he has already walked across the stage to receive one degree, a bachelor's in economics from Illinois State. St-Pierre is on pace to finish with three degrees by the time the Longueuil, Quebec, native leaves ISU in 2009. He will complete two courses at Miami (Fla.), where he began his college career, next summer to complete a bachelor's in business administration. This year, he has started the curriculum for his master's in economics and should have that completed in May 2009.

Denver Johnson – a Man of Honor

As ISU opened its 2007 training camp, head coach **Denver Johnson** earned recognition for his hard work as the Redbirds' mentor. Johnson was honored by the All-American Football Foundation, along with three other coaches, as a recipient of the prestigious Johnny Vaught Head Coach Award. Johnson led the Redbirds to their third trip to the NCAA Division I FCS playoffs in 2006, while also being a finalist for the Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award last season.

Horton's Hands

Wide receiver **Jason Horton** has assumed the role as the primary target of quarterback **Luke Drone**. Horton leads the Redbirds with 17 catches for 263 yards and two touchdowns, even after missing the Missouri game due to a sore calf. For his career, Horton has accrued 1,404 yards receiving, which ranks eighth all-time in ISU history. He needs 69 yards for sole possession of the No. 5 spot.

It's in His Sights

Quarterback **Luke Drone** has thrown for over 2,900 yards in each of the last two seasons. If he equals or surpasses that feat this year, Drone will become the most prolific passer in Illinois State history. Drone needs 1,526 yards through the air to knock former Redbird **Kevin Glenn** (8,251) from the top spot.

Good Chance for a Grand

Head coach **Denver Johnson** has had a 1,000-yard rusher in nine of the 10 seasons in that he has been a head coach, both at Illinois State and Murray State. Last year was no exception, as **Pierre Rembert** rushed for a school-record 1,743 yards. Senior **Rafael Rice** is nearly halfway there, with 405 yards on the ground this season.

'Bird Bests vs. Northern Iowa

INDIVIDUAL*	
Rushing Yards	210, Pierre Rembert, 11-18-06
Rushing TDs	3, Walter James, 10-2-99
Passing Yards	457, Kevin Glenn, 10-10-98
Completions	35, Kevin Glenn, 10-10-98
TD Passes	4, twice; last by Luke Drone, 10-22-05
Receptions	12, Marquis Mosely, 10-4-97
Receiving Yards	243, Laurent Robinson, 10-22-05
Receiving TDs	3, Laurent Robinson, 10-22-05
Tackles	21, Boomer Grigsby, 10-4-03
Tackles for Loss	6.5, Brent Hawkins, 10-22-05
Sacks	5, Brent Hawkins, 10-22-05
Interceptions	1, 20 times; last by James Temple, 10-22-05
Longest FG	49, four times all by Todd Kurz; last 10-12-96

TEAM*

Most Points	47, 10-2-99
Fewest Points	0, 10-6-90
Most Points Allowed	50, 10-4-97
Fewest Points Allowed	3, 10-22-05

*modern era (1936 and later)

Points Off Turnovers

	ISU	Opp
Drake	0	10
Murray State	7	3
at E. Illinois	7	7
at Missouri	7	0
Northern Iowa		
at Missouri St.		
Indiana State		
at Youngstown St.		
Western Illinois		
at North Dakota St.		
at Southern Illinois		
Total	21	20

2007 Gateway Standings

	GATEWAY			OVERALL		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Northern Iowa	0	0	.000	4	0	1.000
Southern Illinois	0	0	.000	4	0	1.000
Missouri State	0	0	.000	3	1	.750
Western Illinois	0	0	.000	3	1	.750
Youngstown State	0	0	.000	3	1	.750
Illinois State	0	0	.000	2	2	.500
Indiana State	0	0	.000	0	4	.000

This Week in the Gateway:

Sept. 29

- > Southern Illinois at Indiana State, 11 a.m.
- > North Dakota State at Western Illinois, 1:05 p.m.
- > Missouri State at Youngstown State, 5 p.m.

2007 Gateway Preseason Poll

1. Northern Iowa (11)	166
2. Illinois State (7)	160
3. Youngstown State (7)	159
4. Southern Illinois (1)	127
5. Western Illinois	82
6. Missouri State	55
7. Indiana State	35

Scholar-Baller™

For the second-straight season, Illinois State players who achieved a 2.75 GPA or higher for either semester last year will wear the patch (shown below) on their uniform to signify their Scholar-Baller™ status.

Kevin Brockway \$	Graham Corcoran #
Luke Drone	Preston Earl #
Steven Fetzler	Brent Holtz #
Kurt James #	Casey Kociuba
Ansu Kpandeyenge #	Warren McCarty
Kedric Meredith	Dave Mordis \$
Cortes Rice #	Rafael Rice #
Dave Rivas \$	Garry Roberts
Eyad Salem \$	Dan Simnick
Mike Slack \$	Tom Speer \$
Jonathan St-Pierre #	Dan Weiner
Isaiah Wiggins #	Dane Zumbahlen

indicates Spring 2007 only member
\$ indicates Fall 2006 only member



The Host with the Most

Over the years when Illinois State hosts a top-five nationally-ranked team, the Redbirds finish the game with the most points. Today's game marks the 10th time the Redbirds will face a top-five team in Hancock Stadium. ISU owns a 5-4 record in the previous meetings, but that includes three-straight losses against the country's elite. The last Redbird victory over a top-five team at Hancock Stadium occurred Oct. 2, 1999, when ISU recorded a 47-28 victory over then-No. 5 Northern Iowa.

He Really is a Drone

In the bee world, drones are dubbed "worker bees" because of their consistent work ethic. In Redbird football, quarterback **Luke Drone** is of the same mold. The avid student of game film, Drone is by far the most efficient signal caller in school history. For his career, Drone has posted a passing efficiency rating of 144.6, which is nearly 20 points higher than the next highest ISU quarterback.

The Full Nelson

That's exactly what the Redbirds are getting out of free safety **Tom Nelson**. Not only did he lead the Redbirds in interceptions in 2006, and currently leads the team this season, but Nelson is also Illinois State's primary kickoff and punt returner. The 2005 Gateway Freshman of the Year and 2007 All-Gateway Preseason Team selection has already posted six kickoff returns and a punt return over 20 yards in length, while averaging 24.73 yards per kickoff return. At Missouri, Nelson intercepted a pair of Tiger passes. It marked the second time in his career Nelson picked off two passes in the same game. The last time was against another Big 12 opponent, Kansas State.

A Leader On-and-Off the Field

Linebacker **Kye Stewart** has shown his prowess on the football field, but it is also his ability to lead his peers off the gridiron that Illinois State football fans should stand up for and applaud. Stewart was selected from a pool of 1,300 top student-athletes from across the country to represent ISU at the 2007 NCAA Leadership Conference, LeaderSHAPE. A 2006 All-Gateway First-Team selection, Stewart was one of 356 student-athletes from around the country that attended the event held in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., from May 27-31. Stewart was the second-straight Redbird football student-athlete to attend the conference, as senior quarterback **Luke Drone** was selected in 2006.

Transferable

Since 1993, when the NCAA rules changed to allow players immediate eligibility at the FCS level, Illinois State has had 49 players transfer from FBS schools. ISU's FBS transfers on this year's roster include: **Adam Blankenship** (DL, Nebraska); **Kelvin Chandler** (WR, Pittsburgh); **Parrish Fisher** (RB, Kansas State); **Brandon Joyce** (OL, Indiana); **Mitchell Moore** (RB, Iowa State); **Jonathan St-Pierre** (OL, Miami (Fla.)); and **Nick Williams** (DL, Pittsburgh).

Stewart's Doubling Over

Kye Stewart totaled a game-high 15 tackles at Missouri, giving the Redbird senior 18 double-digit tackle games in his career. Stewart currently leads the team with 50 stops, which also ranks No. 2 nationally and No. 1 in the Gateway Football Conference, and has notched a double-digit tackle effort in each game this season.

Being Taken for a Long Drive

The Illinois State defense has surrendered 11 touchdowns this year and seven of those scores have come from drives of 80 yards or more. Opposing offenses are averaging 10.4 plays per scoring drive against the Redbirds, which is attributed to the 56.9-percent success rate ISU foes are having on third downs. When facing at least third-and-8, Redbird opponents have converted first downs 47.8 percent of the time against the defense.

Getting to the League

Not only have the Redbirds had a player drafted into the NFL in each of the last three years, but currently, there are four former Illinois State players in the NFL and two more in the Canadian Football League. Former Redbirds in the NFL include: **Aveion Cason** (RB, Detroit Lions); **Boomer Grigsby** (FB, Kansas City Chiefs); **Brent Hawkins** (DE, Jacksonville Jaguars); and **Laurént Robinson** (WR, Atlanta Falcons). In the CFL, former Redbird teammates **Kevin Glenn** (QB) and **Sam Young** (DB) are teammates again with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

The NFL is in Their Blood

Redshirt-freshman quarterback **Preston Earl** and senior offensive lineman **Brandon Joyce** are both the offspring of former NFL players. Earl's father, Robin, was a fullback with the Chicago Bears from 1977-82. Joyce's dad, Terry, punted for the St. Louis Cardinals during the 1976 and 1977 seasons. In addition, true-freshman quarterback **Drew Kiel**'s uncle, Blair, played in the NFL from 1984-91 with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (1984), Indianapolis Colts (1986-87) and Green Bay Packers (1988, 1990-91).

2007 Illinois State Starters Game-By-Game

Offense	WR	LT	LG	C	RG	RT	TE	WR	QB	FB	TB
Drake	Horton	Wiggins	Speiser	St-Pierre	Niklasch	Joyce	Meredith	Rourke	Drone	Harcar	R. Rice
Murray State	Horton	Wiggins	Speiser	St-Pierre	Niklasch	Joyce	Meredith	Rourke	Drone	Harcar	R. Rice
at Eastern Illinois	Horton	Wiggins	Speiser	St-Pierre	Niklasch	Joyce	Meredith	Rourke	Drone	Harcar	R. Rice
at Missouri	Mickle	Wiggins	Speiser	St-Pierre	Niklasch	Joyce	Meredith	Rourke	Drone	Harcar	R. Rice
Northern Iowa											
at Missouri State											
Indiana State											
at Youngstown St.											
Western Illinois											
at North Dakota St.											
at Southern Illinois											

Defense	DE	DT	DT	DE	SLB	MLB	WLB	CB	SS	FS	CB
Drake	Blankenship	N. Williams	Piton	Thomas	Cucci	Hronec	Stewart	Garrett	Caesar	Nelson	Tate
Murray State	Blankenship	N. Williams	Piton	Thomas	Cucci	Hronec	Stewart	Garrett	Caesar	Nelson	Hemphill
at Eastern Illinois	Blankenship	N. Williams	Piton	Thomas	Cucci	Hronec	Stewart	Garrett	Caesar	Nelson	Tate
at Missouri*	Blankenship	Simnick	Piton	Wilson	Whitaker	Kociuba	Stewart	Garrett	Caesar	Nelson	Tate
Northern Iowa											
at Missouri State											
Indiana State											
at Youngstown St.											
Western Illinois											
at North Dakota St.											
at Southern Illinois											

* Redbirds started the game defensively in the nickel package.

2007 Illinois State Start Chart

	2007	Current	Steak	Career		2007	Current	Steak	Career
Wiggins (OL)	4	32	32		Garrett (DB)	4	4	4	
Caesar (DB)	4	26	32		Harcar (FB)	4	4	4	
Mordis (FB)	0	0	31		Piton (DL)	4	4	4	
Stewart (LB)	4	14	29		Rourke (WR)	4	4	4	
Drone (QB)	4	28	28		Speiser (OL)	4	4	4	
Nelson (FS)	4	28	28		Madsen (OL)	0	0	4	
Thomas (DL)	3	0	25		Cucci (LB)	3	0	4	
Niklasch (OL)	4	17	18		Hronec (LB)	3	0	4	
Joyce (OL)	4	15	15		Tate (DB)	3	2	3	
Meredith (TE)	4	8	14		Hunter (DL)	0	0	2	
Horton (WR)	3	0	13		Joynt (TE)	0	0	2	
St-Pierre (OL)	4	13	13		Hemphill (DB)	1	0	1	
Blankenship (DL)	4	10	10		Mickle (WR)	1	1	1	
R. Rice (TB)	4	4	7		Kociuba (DB)	1	1	1	
Simnick (DL)	1	1	6		Whitaker (LB)	1	1	1	

2007 Illinois State Football – Two-Deep (as of Sept. 23 at 9:47 a.m.)

Offense (Multiple)

WR	88	Kevett Mickle*	6-3 • 195 • Jr. • Orlando, Fla.
	86	Jason Horton***	6-0 • 185 • Sr. • Bolingbrook, Ill.
LT	66	Isaiah Wiggins***	6-4 • 290 • Sr. • Chicago, Ill.
	76	Chris Riley	6-5 • 270 • Fr. • Wadsworth, Ill.
LG	65	Bill Speiser*	6-5 • 300 • Sr. • Warrenton, Mo.
	68	Erik Madsen*	6-3 • 285 • Jr. • Bolingbrook, Ill.
C	61	Jonathan St-Pierre*	6-3 • 325 • Jr. • Longueuil, Quebec
	64	Brad Paul	6-4 • 275 • Fr. • Seabrook, Texas
RG	69	Joe Niklasch**	6-4 • 280 • Jr. • Hartland, Wis.
	68	Erik Madsen*	6-3 • 285 • Jr. • Bolingbrook, Ill.
RT	78	Brandon Joyce*	6-5 • 310 • Sr. • St. Charles, Mo.
	70	Michael Cross	6-5 • 305 • Fr. • Bloomington, Ill.
TE	47	Kedric Meredith**	6-3 • 270 • Jr. • Peoria, Ill.
	82	Dane Zumbahlen	6-5 • 255 • Fr. • Morris, Ill.
WR	10	Jake Rourke**	6-3 • 195 • Jr. • Chatham, Ill.
	80	Kelvin Chandler	6-2 • 185 • Jr. • Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
QB	7	Luke Drone***	6-2 • 210 • Sr. • Mt. Carmel, Ill.
	12	Kevin Brockway**	6-4 • 225 • Jr. • Crystal Lake, Ill.
FB	35	Garin Harcar	5-11 • 260 • So. • Grand Ridge, Ill.
	40	Bert Whigham	6-4 • 235 • So. • Lake Mary, Fla.
TB	2	Rafael Rice*	5-11 • 220 • Sr. • Los Alamitos, Calif.
	22	Geno Blow*	5-11 • 200 • So.-1L • Seabrook, Texas
PK	14	Tyler Funk	6-0 • 170 • Fr.-RS • Racine, Wis.
	36	Kevin Mazur**	5-11 • 190 • Jr. • Mt. Prospect, Ill.

Specialists

KO	19	Bobby Kelsey**	6-1 • 230 • Jr. • Channahon, Ill.
	36	Kevin Mazur**	5-11 • 190 • Jr. • Mt. Prospect, Ill.
LS	71	Joe Doyle	6-2 • 230 • So. • Wellington, Fla.
	45	Kyle Siskowic*	6-1 • 225 • So. • San Diego, Calif.
HD	7	Luke Drone***	6-2 • 210 • Sr. • Mt. Carmel, Ill.
	16	Preston Earl	6-2 • 220 • Fr.-RS • Lincolnshire, Ill.
KR	9	Tom Nelson**	6-0 • 200 • Jr. • Arlington Heights, Ill.
	80	Kelvin Chandler	6-2 • 185 • Jr. • Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
	86	Jason Horton***	6-0 • 185 • Sr. • Bolingbrook, Ill.
	34	Parrish Fisher	5-10 • 205 • Jr. • Richardson, Texas
PR	9	Tom Nelson**	6-0 • 200 • Jr. • Arlington Heights, Ill.
	86	Jason Horton***	6-0 • 185 • Sr. • Bolingbrook, Ill.

* Indicates number of letters earned

Defense (4-3)

DE	93	Adam Blankenship*	6-2 • 235 • Jr. • Tulsa, Okla.
	44	Wesley Williams	6-1 • 240 • Jr. • Ann Arbor, Mich.
DT	90	Dan Simnick**	6-2 • 270 • Sr. • Naperville, Ill.
	99	Nick Williams	6-2 • 275 • Jr. • Plantation, Fla.
DT	62	Mike Piton	6-2 • 275 • Fr. • Palos Hills, Ill.
	91	Dave Rivas	6-3 • 255 • Fr. • Chicago, Ill.
DE	57	Brandon Wilson*	6-2 • 220 • So. • San Antonio, Texas
	60	Tom Speer*	6-4 • 220 • So. • Macomb, Ill.
SLB	48	Pat Cucci**	6-1 • 240 • Jr. • Winter Springs, Fla.
	45	Kyle Siskowic*	6-1 • 225 • So. • San Diego, Calif.
MLB	50	Tommie Westbrook	6-0 • 235 • Fr. • Chicago, Ill.
	59	Bill Hronec***	6-2 • 225 • Sr. • Evergreen Park, Ill.
WLB	6	Kye Stewart***	6-0 • 210 • Sr. • Nashville, Tenn.
	58	Mark Whitaker**	6-1 • 220 • Sr. • Moline, Ill.
CB	25	Chris Garrett	6-0 • 175 • So. • Concord, Calif.
	24	Kelvyn Hemphill	6-2 • 180 • Fr. • San Antonio, Texas
SS	1	Jesse Caesar	5-10 • 190 • Sr. • Rockledge, Fla.
	20	Casey Kociuba	6-1 • 200 • Fr.-HS • Liberty Hill, Texas
FS	9	Tom Nelson**	6-0 • 200 • Jr. • Arlington Heights, Ill.
	30	Garry Roberts**	6-2 • 210 • Sr. • Edna, Texas
CB	21	Jason Tate*	5-11 • 175 • So. • Lake Mary, Fla.
	24	Kelvyn Hemphill	6-2 • 180 • Fr. • San Antonio, Texas
P	19	Bobby Kelsey**	6-1 • 230 • Jr. • Channahon, Ill.
	36	Kevin Mazur**	5-11 • 190 • Jr. • Mt. Prospect, Ill.

Pronunciation Guide

Jesse Caesar	SEE-zer
Pat Cucci	COO-chee
Tyler Doering	DOOR-ing
Luke Drone	rhymes with bone
Garin Harcar	GARE-in HAR-car
Bill Hronec	RON-ick
Kaschiev Hunter	ka-SHEEV
Muhammad Kahlun	ka-LOON
Drew Kempe	KEM-pee
Casey Kociuba	coe-SEE-bah
Ansu Kpandeyenge	an-SUE pan-DEE-in-GEE
Kevett Mickle	kuh-VET MICK-ul
Joe Niklasch	NICK-lash
Mike Piton	last name rhymes with "kitten"
Eyad Salem	EE-odd SAY-lem
Kyle Siskowic	SIS-co-wick
Babatunde Soyobo	BOB-toon-day SOY-ay-bow
Bill Speiser	SPY-zehr
Jarek Thomas	JAR-ick
Tony Trujillo	TRUE-hee-yoh
Dan Weiner	WINE-er
Dane Zumbahlen	zum-BAH-len

COACH LOCATIONS: On the Sideline – Denver Johnson (Head Coach), Galen Scott (Def. Coord./LB Coach), Rod Carey (OL Coach), Mike Menefee (S Coach), Chris Patton (DL Coach), Holmon Wiggins (RB Coach), Jafar Williams (WR Coach), Jered Hooker (ST Coach), Rohr Cutchlow (Strength Coach), Stafford Davis (Graduate Assistant). In the Booth – Jim Williams (Off. Coord./H-Backs Coach), Brad Cornelson (QB Coach), David Ross (CB Coach), Michael Brewer (Student Coach), Mike Passarella (Student Coach).

2007 Illinois State Player Participation

	DU	Murray	EIU	Mizzou	UNI	MSU	INS	YSU	WIU	NDSU	SIU
Blankenship, Adam	S-DE	S-DE	S-DE	S-DE							
Chandler, Kelvin	x	x	x	x							
Cross, Michael	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp							
Cucci, Pat	S-SLB	S-SLB	S-SLB	x							
Doyle, Joe	x	x	x	x							
Drone, Luke	S-OB	S-OB	S-OB	S-OB							
Earl, Preston	dnp	x	x	x							
Fisher, Parrish	x	x	x	x							
Garrett, Chris	S-CB	S-CB	S-CB	S-CB							
Gordon, Micha	dnp	x	x	x							
Harcar, Garin	S-FB	S-FB	S-FB	S-FB							
Hemphill, Kelyvn	x	S-CB	x	x							
Horton, Jason	S-WR	S-WR	S-WR	inj.							
Hronec, Bill	S-MLB	S-MLB	S-MLB	inj.							
Hunter, Kaschlev	x	x	x	x							
James, Kurt	x	x	dnp	x							
Joyce, Brandon	S-RT	S-RT	S-RT	S-RT							
Joynt, Jeremy	x	x	inj.	inj.							
Kelsey, Bobby	x	x	x	x							
Kociuba, Casey	dnp	x	dnp	S-NB							
Kpandeyenge, Ansu	dnp	x	x	x							
Madsen, Erik	x	x	x	x							
Mazur, Kevin	x	dnp	dnp	dnp							
Meredith, Kedric	S-TE	S-TE	S-TE	S-TE							
Mickle, Kevett	x	x	x	S-WR							
Nelson, Tom	S-FS	S-FS	S-FS	S-FS							
Niklasch, Joe	S-RG	S-RG	S-RG	S-RG							
Paschal, Andrew	x	x	inj.	inj.							
Paul, Brad	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp							
Piton, Mike	S-DT	S-DT	S-DT	S-DT							
Rice, Cortes	dnp	x	dnp	x							
Rice, Rafael	S-TB	S-TB	S-TB	S-TB							
Riley, Chris	dnp	dnp	dnp	dnp							
Rivas, Dave	x	x	x	x							
Roberts, Garry	x	dnp	dnp	x							
Rourke, Jake	S-WR	S-WR	S-WR	S-WR							
Salem, Eyad	x	x	x	x							
Simmnick, Dan	dnp	x	x	S-DT							
Siskowic, Kyle	x	x	x	dnp							
Soyebo, Babatunde	dnp	x	dnp	x							
Speiser, Bill	S-LG	S-LG	S-LG	S-LG							
Stewart, Kye	S-WLB	S-WLB	S-WLB	S-WLB							
St-Pierre, Jonathan	S-C	S-C	S-C	S-C							
Tate, Jason	S-CB	x	S-CB	S-CB							
Thomas, Jarek	S-DE	S-DE	S-DE	inj.							
Trujillo, Tony	x	x	x	x							
Weiner, Dan	dnp	x	dnp	x							
Westbrook, Tommie	x	x	x	x							
Whigham, Bert	x	x	x	x							
Whitaker, Mark	x	x	x	S-SLB							
Wiggins, Isaiah	S-LT	S-LT	S-LT	S-LT							
Williams, Nick	S-DT	S-DT	S-DT	x							
Williams, Wesley	dnp	x	x	x							
Wilson, Brandon	x	x	x	S-DE							
Zumbahlen, Dane	dnp	x	x	x							

Redbird Captains

Game	Redbird Captains
Drake	Drone, Stewart, Thomas, Wiggins
Murray State	Drone, Mordis, Simnick, Stewart
at E. Illinois	Caesar, Drone, Horton, Stewart
at Missouri	Joyce, Speiser, Stewart, Whitaker
N. Iowa	
at Missouri St.	
Indiana St.	
at Youngstown St.	
W. Illinois	
at North Dakota St.	
at S. Illinois	

GFC Players of the Week

OFFENSE	
None	
DEFENSE	
None	
SPECIAL TEAMS	
None	
OFFENSIVE LINE	
Sept. 10 – Joe Niklasch (83%, 0 sacks, 0 MA, 4 KDs)	

Illinois State's Starting Lineup

Offense

WR	88	Kevelt Mickle	<i>Tries to sleep as much as he can: was nicknamed "sleepy" by the Redbird coaches as a freshman.</i>
LT	66	Isaiah Wiggins	<i>Began playing the trumpet in elementary school and has been playing it for 10 years.</i>
LG	65	Bill Speiser	<i>Became a father on May 3, with the birth of his daughter Jordan: enjoys four-wheeling and fishing.</i>
C	61	Jonathan St-Pierre	<i>A former roommate of the Chicago Bears' Devin Hester, when the two attended Miami (Fla.)</i>
RG	69	Joe Niklasch	<i>A Brewers and Packers fan with the best "glam-rock" hairdo on the team.</i>
RT	78	Brandon Joyce	<i>While in high school, appeared in a Sharpie commercial with Terrell Owens.</i>
WR	10	Jake Rourke	<i>Likes to go fishing and loves to curl up with a big bowl of popcorn.</i>
TE	47	Kedric Meredith	<i>Started investing in the stock market and can't stop watching CNBC.</i>
QB	7	Luke Drone	<i>Plays the guitar and went camping at Yosemite National Park this past summer.</i>
FB	35	Garin Harcar	<i>Traveled to Australia as a freshman in high school as part of the McDonald's All-Star baseball team.</i>
TB	2	Rafael Rice	<i>One of his favorite jobs was working as a valet in high school.</i>
PK	14	Tyler Funk	<i>In seventh grade, ran into the outfield wall and broke both of his arms playing baseball – but he made the catch.</i>

Defense

DE	93	Adam Blankenship	<i>At the age of 18, rode a bull for 4.5 seconds.</i>
DT	90	Dan Simnick	<i>A big fan of Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC): after football he hopes to be trained in martial arts.</i>
DT	62	Mike Piton	<i>A self-proclaimed "computer geek" who has built a computer: also nicknamed "the body."</i>
DE	57	Brandon Wilson	<i>Enjoys hunting wild boar and also likes to fish for large-mouth bass.</i>
SLB	48	Pat Cucci	<i>Likes to fish during his free time.</i>
MLB	50	Tommie Westbrook	<i>In addition to football and wrestling, competed as a boxer in high school fighting in the light-heavyweight division.</i>
WLB	6	Kye Stewart	<i>A blackbelt in Nisei Goju-Ryu karate and is also a certified scuba diver.</i>
CB	25	Chris Garrett	<i>Reportedly has had five "girlfriends" at the same time.</i>
SS	1	Jesse Caesar	<i>Dubbed the team mechanic because of his car-fixing skills, which he learned from his father.</i>
FS	9	Tom Nelson	<i>Became an uncle in July 2006 when his niece Laura was born.</i>
CB	21	Jason Tate	<i>Never worked a job in his life: changed his uniform number to 21 to share the same number with Atlanta's DeAngelo Hall.</i>
P	19	Bobby Kelsey	<i>When he was 12-years-old, worked a bull-riding event as a rodeo clown in Louisiana.</i>

Non-Starters to Watch

WR	80	Kelvin Chandler	<i>Owens a 1984 cherry red Buick Regal with a T-top: enjoys street cars and muscle cars.</i>
RB	34	Parrish Fisher	<i>Growing up, he idolized Barry Sanders, and now he is a big LaDainian Tomlinson fan.</i>
CB	24	Kelvyn Hemphill	<i>Hasn't had a haircut in the last 19 months.</i>
WR	86	Jason Horton	<i>Played ice hockey in middle school (seventh and eighth grade).</i>
DT	99	Nick Williams	<i>Born in Jamaica and moved to the United States at the age of six.</i>

2007 Illinois State Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (HS/Previous College)	No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (HS/Previous College)
1	Jesse Caesar	DB	5-10	190	Sr.-3L	Rockledge, Fla. (Rockledge)	56	Jarrett Karn	OL	6-4	260	Fr.-HS	Spring, Texas (Klein)
2	Rafael Rice	RB	5-11	220	Sr.-2L	Los Alamitos, Calif. (Mater Dei/Fullerton JC)	57	Brandon Wilson	DL	6-2	220	So.-1L	San Antonio, Texas (John Jay)
4	Drew Kiel	QB	6-3	212	Fr.-HS	Columbus, Ind. (East)	58	Mark Whitaker	LB	6-1	220	Sr.-2L	Moline, Ill. (Moline/Drake)
5	Cody White	TE	6-5	240	Fr.-HS	Bloomington, Ill. (Normal West)	59	Bill Hronec	LB	6-2	225	Sr.-3L	Evergreen Park, Ill. (Chicago Mt. Carmel)
6	Kye Stewart	LB	6-0	210	Sr.-3L	Nashville, Tenn. (Pearl-Cohn)	60	Tom Speer	DL	6-4	220	So.-1L	Macomb, Ill. (Macomb)
7	Luke Drone	QB	6-2	210	Sr.-3L	Mt. Carmel, Ill. (Mt. Carmel)	61	Jonathan St-Pierre	OL	6-3	325	Jr.-1L	Longueuil, Quebec (Edouard-Montpetit/Miami [Fla.])
9	Tom Nelson	DB	6-0	200	Jr.-2L	Arlington Heights, Ill. (John Hersey)	62	Mike Piton	DL	6-2	275	Fr.-RS	Palos Hills, Ill. (Stagg)
10	Jake Rourke	WR	6-3	195	Jr.-2L	Chatham, Ill. (Glenwood)	63	Charles Dennis	OL	6-3	290	Fr.-HS	San Antonio, Texas (East Central)
11	Sam Donatucci	QB	6-5	220	Fr.-HS	Arlington Heights, Ill. (Buffalo Grove)	64	Brad Paul	OL	6-4	275	Fr.-RS	Seabrook, Texas (Clear Lake)
12	Kevin Brockway	QB	6-4	225	Jr.-2L	Crystal Lake, Ill. (South)	65	Bill Speiser	OL	6-5	300	Sr.-1L	Warrenton, Mo. (Warrenton/Iowa Central CC)
13	Andrew Paschal	DB	6-3	205	Jr.-Sq.	Largo, Fla. (Largo/Ft. Scott)	66	Isaiah Wiggins	OL	6-4	290	Sr.-3L	Chicago, Ill. (Prosser)
14	Tyler Funk	P/K	6-0	170	Fr.-RS	Racine, Wis. (William Horlick)	67	Landon Humbles	OL	6-4	275	Jr.-Sq.	Peoria, Ill. (Richwoods)
16	Preston Earl	QB	6-2	220	Fr.-RS	Lincolnshire, Ill. (Stevenson)	68	Erik Madsen	OL	6-3	285	Jr.-1L	Bolingbrook, Ill. (Joliet Catholic)
17	Jared Dall	WR	5-11	195	Sr.-Sq.	Arlington Heights, Ill. (Prospect/Harper JC)	69	Joe Niklasch	OL	6-4	280	Jr.-2L	Hartland, Wis. (Arrowhead)
18	Drew Kempe	WR	6-3	205	So.-Sq.	Wheaton, Ill. (Wheaton North)	70	Michael Cross	OL	6-5	305	Fr.-RS	Bloomington, Ill. (Normal Community)
19	Bobby Kelsey	K/P	6-1	230	Jr.-2L	Channahon, Ill. (Providence Catholic)	71	Joe Doyle	LS	6-2	230	So.-TR	Wellington, Fla. (Wellington/Antelope Valley CC)
20	Casey Kociuba	DB	6-1	200	Fr.-RS	Liberty Hill, Texas (Liberty Hill)	73	Josh Howe	LB	6-0	220	Fr.-HS	Chicago Heights, Ill. (Marian Catholic)
21	Jason Tate	DB	5-11	175	So.-1L	Lake Mary, Fla. (Seminole)	74	Trevor Huddleston	OL	6-6	300	Fr.-HS	Normal, Ill. (Normal West)
22	Geno Blow	RB	5-11	200	So.-1L	Seabrook, Texas (Clear Lake)	75	Raymond Sankey	DL	6-2	222	Fr.-HS	Maywood, Ill. (Proviso East)
23	Mitchell Moore	RB	6-0	210	So.-TR	Gurnee, Ill. (Warren Township/Iowa State)	76	Chris Riley	OL	6-5	270	Fr.-RS	Wadsworth, Ill. (Warren Township)
24	Kelvyn Hemphill	DB	6-2	180	Fr.-RS	San Antonio, Texas (O'Connor)	77	Muhammad Kahlun	OL	6-4	290	So.-Sq.	Garland, Texas (Lakeview Centennial)
25	Chris Garrett	DB	6-0	175	So.-TR	Concord, Calif. (De La Salle/Diablo Valley College)	78	Brandon Joyce	OL	6-5	310	Sr.-1L	St. Charles, Mo. (Duchesne/Indiana)
26	Cortes Rice	RB	6-2	215	So.-1L	Los Alamitos, Calif. (Los Alamitos)	79	Tyler Doering	OL	6-5	290	Fr.-HS	Barrington, Ill. (Barrington)
27	Jermaine Malcolm	DB	6-4	200	Fr.-RS	San Antonio, Texas (Holmes)	80	Kelvin Chandler	WR	6-2	185	Jr.-TR	Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Dillard/Pittsburgh)
28	Brent Holtz	DB	6-0	200	Fr.-RS	Bloomington, Ill. (Bloomington)	81	Marcus King	WR	6-4	195	Fr.-HS	Bloomington, Ill. (Normal Community)
29	Cameron Thompkins	DB	6-0	175	Fr.-HS	Sanford, Fla. (Winter Springs)	82	Dane Zumbahlen	TE	6-5	255	Fr.-RS	Morris, Ill. (Morris)
30	Garry Roberts	DB	6-2	210	Sr.-2L	Edna, Texas (Edna)	83	Dave Mordis	FB	6-3	265	Sr.-3L	Palos Park, Ill. (Stagg)
31	Kurt James	DB	6-1	205	Sr.-Sq.	Elmhurst, Ill. (Immaculate Conception)	84	Eyad Salem	WR	6-2	185	So.-TR	Elgin, Ill. (Larkin/Minnesota State-Moorhead)
33	Ansu Kpandeyenge	RB	5-10	205	Jr.-1L	Elgin, Ill. (Larkin)	85	Warren McCarty	WR	6-4	205	So.-1L	Roscoe, Ill. (Hononegah)
34	Parrish Fisher	RB	5-10	205	Jr.-TR	Richardson, Texas (J.J. Pearce/Kansas State)	86	Jason Horton	WR	6-0	185	Sr.-3L	Bolingbrook, Ill. (Neuqua Valley)
35	Garin Harcar	FB	5-11	260	So.-1L	Grand Ridge, Ill. (Ottawa)	88	Kevelt Mickle	WR	6-3	195	Jr.-TR	Orlando, Fla. (Boone/Hillsborough CC)
36	Kevin Mazur	K	5-11	190	Jr.-2L	Mt. Prospect, Ill. (John Hersey)	89	Micha Gordon	WR	6-3	190	So.	Peoria, Ill. (Woodruff)
37	Josh Mitchell	DB	6-0	175	Fr.-HS	Bloomington, Ill. (Bloomington)	90	Dan Simnick	DL	6-2	270	Sr.-2L	Naperville, Ill. (North)
38	Tony Trujillo	LB	6-2	230	Fr.-RS	Salt Lake City, Utah (Cottonwood)	91	Dave Rivas	DL	6-3	255	Fr.-RS	Chicago, Ill. (Gordon Tech)
39	D.J. Grayson	LB	6-0	245	Fr.-RS	Chicago, Ill. (South Shore)	92	Eric Brunner	DL	6-2	260	Fr.-HS	Greendale, Wis. (Greendale)
40	Bert Whigham	TE	6-4	235	So.-Sq.	Lake Mary, Fla. (Seminole)	93	Adam Blankenship	DL	6-2	235	Jr.-1L	Tulsa, Okla. (Union/Nebraska)
41	Dan Weiner	WR	6-1	195	Sr.-Sq.	Chicago, Ill. (New Trier/Palomar)	94	Jarek Thomas	DL	6-3	275	Sr.-3L	Orlando, Fla. (Edgewater)
42	Jeremy Joynt	TE	6-3	255	Sr.-1L	Emmetsburg, Iowa (Emmetsburg/Iowa Central CC)	95	Keenan Wimbley	DL	6-2	255	Fr.-HS	Ococee, Fla. (Edgewater)
43	Casey Cline	FB	6-3	230	Fr.-HS	Gibson City, Ill. (GCMS)	96	Babatunde Soyebola	DL	6-5	240	So.-Sq.	Lagos, Nigeria (South Shore [Ill.])
44	Wesley Williams	DL	6-1	240	Jr.-TR	Ann Arbor, Mich. (Pioneer/Fullerton College)	97	Kaschiev Hunter	DL	6-2	300	Jr.-2L	Marietta, Ga. (Harrison)
45	Kyle Siskowic	LB	6-1	225	So.-1L	San Diego, Calif. (Clairemont)	99	Nick Williams	DL	6-2	275	Jr.-TR	Plantation, Fla. (Plantation/Pittsburgh)
46	Graham Corcoran	DB	5-10	180	So.-Sq.	Warrenville, Ill. (Wheaton-Warrenville South)							
47	Kedric Meredith	TE	6-3	270	Jr.-2L	Peoria, Ill. (Richwoods)							
48	Pat Cucci	LB	6-1	240	Jr.-2L	Winter Springs, Fla. (Winter Springs)							
49	Antwan Ryles	LB	6-0	215	Fr.-HS	Orlando, Fla. (Edgewater)							
50	Tommie Westbrook	LB	6-0	235	Fr.-RS	Chicago, Ill. (Gordon Tech)							
51	Cal McCarthy	OL/LS	6-2	260	Fr.-HS	Shorewood, Ill. (Minooka)							
52	Mark Martin	LB	6-0	235	Fr.-HS	Milwaukee, Wis. (Riverside University)							
54	Brent Gritton	LB	6-2	230	So.-Sq.	Lincoln, Neb. (Lincoln East)							

Illinois State Individual Career Highs

#93 • Adam Blankenship • DE
Tackles: 5 at Youngstown State, 12-2-06
Solos: 3 at Youngstown State, 12-2-06
Assists: 3, twice
Sacks: 1, twice
TFLs: 1, three times

#22 • Geno Blow • TB
Rushing Yards: 116 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Rushing Attempts: 21 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Rushing TDs: 1 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Longest Rush: 39 vs. Missouri State, 11-4-06
Receptions: 1, twice
Receiving Yards: 7 at Missouri, 9-22-07

#12 • Kevin Brockway • QB
Attempts: 3 vs. Murray State, 9-24-05
Completions: 2 vs. Murray State, 9-24-05
Yards: 24 vs. Murray State, 9-24-05
Touchdowns: 0
Long Pass: 13 vs. Murray State, 9-24-05
Interceptions: 0
Rushing Yards: 41 vs. Murray State, 9-24-05

#1 • Jesse Caesar • DB
Tackles: 12 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
Solos: 6, three times
Assists: 9 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
Sacks: 0
TFLs: 2 vs. Murray State, 9-24-05
Interceptions: 1, three times

#80 • Kelvin Chandler • WR
Receptions: 4 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
Receiving Yards: 39 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
Touchdowns: 1 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
Long Reception: 21 vs. Drake, 8-30-07

#48 • Pat Cucci • LB
Tackles: 6 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
Solos: 2, twice
Assists: 5 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
Sacks: 0
TFLs: 1 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
Interceptions: 1, three times

#7 • Luke Drone • QB
Attempts: 41 at Western Illinois, 10-29-05
Completions: 26 vs. Western Kentucky, 10-8-05
Yards: 440 vs. Indiana State, 11-12-05
Touchdowns: 5 vs. Drake, 9-10-05
Long Pass: 90 at Indiana State, 11-9-06
Interceptions: 4, three times
Rushing Yards: 43 at Youngstown State, 12-2-06

#34 • Parrish Fisher • TB
Rushing Yards: 112 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Rushing Attempts: 18 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Rushing TDs: 1 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Longest Rush: 49 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Receptions: 1 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
Receiving Yards: 7 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07

#14 • Tyler Funk • K
Field Goals Made: 1, three times
Field Goals Attempted: 1, three times
Longest Field Goal: 34 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Most PATs: 4 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07

#25 • Chris Garrett • DB
Tackles: 6 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Solos: 4 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Assists: 2, twice
Sacks: 0
TFLs: 0
Interceptions: 0

#35 • Garin Harcar • FB
Rushing Yards: 0
Rushing Attempts: 0
Rushing TDs: 0
Receptions: 4, twice
Receiving Yards: 49 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
Receiving TDs: 1, three times

#24 • Kelvyn Hemphill • DB
Tackles: 5, twice
Solos: 5 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Assists: 5 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
Sacks: 0
TFLs: 0
Interceptions: 0

#86 • Jason Horton • WR
Receptions: 8 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
Receiving Yards: 120 vs. Southern Illinois, 10-14-06
Touchdowns: 2, twice
Long Reception: 68 vs. Southern Illinois, 10-14-06
Kickoff Returns: 3 at Kansas State, 9-2-06
Kickoff Return Yards: 82 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Long Kickoff Return: 82 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Punt Returns: 3, six times
Punt Return Yards: 67 vs. Murray State, 9-24-05
Long Punt Return: 51 vs. Murray State, 9-24-05

#59 • Bill Hronec • LB
Tackles: 11 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Solos: 5 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Assists: 6, twice
Sacks: 0
TFLs: 1, three times
Interceptions: 0

#97 • Kaschiev Hunter • DL
Tackles: 5 vs. Youngstown State, 10-28-06
Solos: 3 at Youngstown State, 12-2-06
Assists: 5 vs. Youngstown State, 10-28-06
Sacks: 1 vs. Northern Iowa, 10-22-05
TFLs: 1.5 vs. Northern Iowa, 10-22-05
Interceptions: 0

#19 • Bobby Kelsey • P
Punts: 7 vs. Youngstown State, 10-28-06
Punt Yardage: 305 vs. Youngstown State, 10-28-06
Average per Punt: 48.0 (two punts) vs. S. Illinois, 10-14-06
Long Punt: 60 vs. Southern Illinois, 10-14-06
Punts Inside 20: 3 vs. Youngstown State, 10-28-06

#20 • Casey Kociuba • DB
Tackles: 8 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Solos: 6 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Assists: 2 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Sacks: 0
TFLs: 1 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Interceptions: 0

#33 • Ansu Kpandeyenge • TB
Rushing Yards: 68 vs. Drake, 9-10-05
Rushing Attempts: 5 vs. Murray State, 9-24-05
Rushing TDs: 1 vs. Drake, 9-10-05
Longest Rush: 68 vs. Drake, 9-10-05
Receptions: 0
Receiving Yards: 0

#36 • Kevin Mazur • K
Field Goals Made: 4 vs. Central Arkansas, 9-9-06
Field Goals Attempted: 5 vs. Central Arkansas, 9-9-06
Longest Field Goal: 38 vs. Western Kentucky, 10-8-05
Most PATs: 7 at Southern Illinois, 10-15-05

#47 • Kedric Meredith • TE
Receptions: 4, twice
Receiving Yards: 59 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
Touchdowns: 1, twice
Long Reception: 24 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07

#88 • Kevett Mickle • WR
Receptions: 7 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Receiving Yards: 104 at Indiana State, 10-2-04
Touchdowns: 2 vs. Southern Illinois, 11-6-04
Long Reception: 50 vs. Youngstown State, 10-23-04

#23 • Mitchell Moore • TB
Rushing Yards: 1 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Rushing Attempts: 1 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Rushing TDs: 0
Longest Rush: 1 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Receptions: 0
Receiving Yards: 0

#9 • Tom Nelson • DB
Tackles: 10, twice
Solos: 7 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Assists: 8 at Western Kentucky, 10-7-06
Sacks: 0
TFLs: 1, three times
Interceptions: 2, twice
Kickoff Returns: 4 at Missouri, 9-22-07
Kickoff Return Yards: 123 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Long Kickoff Return: 59 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Punt Returns: 2, twice
Punt Return Yards: 27 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Long Punt Return: 22 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07

#13 • Andrew Paschal • DB
Tackles: 1 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
Solos: 0
Assists: 1 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
Sacks: 0
TFLs: 0
Interceptions: 0

#62 • Mike Piton • DL
Tackles: 3, three times
Solos: 2, twice
Assists: 2, twice
Sacks: 0
TFLs: 1, twice
Interceptions: 0

#26 • Cortes Rice • TB
Rushing Yards: 121 vs. Indiana State, 11-12-05
Rushing Attempts: 18 vs. Indiana State, 11-12-05
Rushing TDs: 3 vs. Indiana State, 11-12-05
Longest Rush: 15 at Missouri State, 11-5-05
Receptions: 1, twice
Receiving Yards: 25 at Missouri State, 11-5-05

Illinois State Individual Career Highs

#2 • Rafael Rice • TB

Rushing Yards: 218 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
 Rushing Attempts: 27 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
 Rushing TDs: 2, four times
 Longest Rush: 43 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
 Receptions: 2, twice
 Receiving Yards: 24 at Eastern Illinois, 11-25-06

#91 • Dave Rivas • DL

Tackles: 3 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Solos: 2 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Assists: 1, twice
 Sacks: 1 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 TFLs: 1.5 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Interceptions: 0

#30 • Garry Roberts • DB

Tackles: 2, four times
 Solos: 2 vs. Missouri State, 11-4-06
 Assists: 2 at Western Kentucky, 10-7-06
 Sacks: 0
 TFLs: 0.5 vs. Drake, 9-10-05
 Interceptions: 1, twice

#10 • Jake Rourke • WR

Receptions: 3 at Northern Iowa, 11-18-06
 Receiving Yards: 66 vs. Central Arkansas, 9-9-06
 Touchdowns: 1 vs. Central Arkansas, 9-9-06
 Long Reception: 61 vs. Central Arkansas, 9-9-06

#84 • Eyad Salem • WR

Receptions: 7 at Missouri, 9-22-07
 Receiving Yards: 106 at Missouri, 9-22-07
 Touchdowns: 1 at Missouri, 9-22-07
 Long Reception: 40 at Missouri, 9-22-07

#90 • Dan Simnick • DL

Tackles: 3, twice
 Solos: 1, four times
 Assists: 3 at Missouri, 9-22-07
 Sacks: 0
 TFLs: 1, twice
 Interceptions: 0

#45 • Kyle Siskowic • LB

Tackles: 4 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Solos: 2 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Assists: 2 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Sacks: 0
 TFLs: 0.5 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Interceptions: 0

#96 • Babatunde Soyibo • DL

Tackles: 1, twice
 Solos: 0
 Assists: 1, twice
 Sacks: 0.5 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 TFLs: 0.5, twice
 Interceptions: 0

#60 • Tom Speer • DL

Tackles: 2, twice
 Solos: 1, twice
 Assists: 1, twice
 Sacks: 0
 TFLs: 0.5 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Interceptions: 0

#6 • Kye Stewart • LB

Tackles: 17 vs. Southern Illinois, 10-14-06
 Solos: 10 at Iowa State, 9-3-05
 Assists: 10, twice
 Sacks: 1, five times
 TFLs: 2.5 at Kansas State, 9-2-06
 Interceptions: 1 vs. Western Kentucky, 10-8-05

#21 • Jason Tate • DB

Tackles: 9 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
 Solos: 6 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
 Assists: 3 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
 Sacks: 1 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
 TFLs: 1, twice
 Interceptions: 1, twice

#94 • Jarek Thomas • DL

Tackles: 6 vs. Eastern Illinois, 9-18-04
 Solos: 3, four times
 Assists: 4, five times
 Sacks: 1, six times
 TFLs: 3 vs. Central Arkansas, 9-9-06
 Interceptions: 1, twice

#38 • Tony Trujillo • LB

Tackles: 7 at Missouri, 9-22-07
 Solos: 5 at Missouri, 9-22-07
 Assists: 2 at Missouri, 9-22-07
 Sacks: 0
 TFLs: 0
 Interceptions: 0

#50 • Tommie Westbrook • LB

Tackles: 6 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
 Solos: 3 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
 Assists: 3 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
 Sacks: 0
 TFLs: 0
 Interceptions: 0

#58 • Mark Whitaker • LB

Tackles: 4 vs. Missouri State, 11-4-06
 Solos: 3 at Missouri, 9-22-07
 Assists: 2, twice
 Sacks: 0
 TFLs: 0
 Interceptions: 0

#40 • Wesley Williams • DL

Tackles: 3 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
 Solos: 2 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
 Assists: 1 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
 Sacks: 0
 TFLs: 0
 Interceptions: 0

#99 • Nick Williams • DL

Tackles: 1 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Solos: 1 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Assists: 0
 Sacks: 0
 TFLs: 0
 Interceptions: 0

#57 • Brandon Wilson • DE

Tackles: 4 at Missouri, 9-22-07
 Solos: 2 vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
 Assists: 3 at Missouri, 9-22-07
 Sacks: 0
 TFLs: 1 at Eastern Illinois, 9-15-07
 Interceptions: 0

#20 UNI 38, #6 Illinois State 27

Nov. 18, 2006 • Cedar Falls, Iowa • UNI-Dome

Attendance: 10,827

> GAME SUMMARY

Redbirds Miss Out on Conference Title, Fall to UNI 38-27

CEDAR FALLS, Iowa – Despite 210 yards rushing and three touchdowns from Pierre Rembert, Illinois State turned the ball over four times and Northern Iowa took advantage, spoiling ISU's shot at a Gateway Football Conference crown, en route to securing a 38-27 victory in front of 10,827 fans at the UNI-Dome.



LAST TIME

With the score knotted at 7-7, ISU's Jason Horton fumbled a punt and UNI scored on its first play of the drive. Quarterback Eric Sanders found wide receiver Victor Williams in the corner of the end zone for a 34-yard touchdown pass to regain the lead at 14-7.

The Panthers extended the lead to two touchdowns 33 seconds into the second quarter, after an interception against Drone. Sanders tossed a pass to Williams, who then aired out a 57-yard touchdown pass to Johnny Gray to make the score 21-7 in favor of UNI. A 45-yard touchdown pass from Sanders to Darian Williams then widened the Panthers' advantage to 28-7 with 5:09 left in the first half.

With 49 seconds left in the half, the Redbirds drove 81 yards in 10 plays to cut into the Panthers' lead. Rafael Rice capped the drive with a two-yard touchdown run; however Kevin Mazur's extra point attempt was blocked and UNI took a 28-13 lead into the locker room.

ISU cut the UNI lead to eight points on its first possession of the second half, by way of a 57-yard scoring drive that took 5:19 off the clock. Carrying the bulk of the load throughout the drive, Rembert punched the ball in from one yard out for his second rushing touchdown of the day, making the score 28-20.

> SCORING SUMMARY

SCOREBOARD	1	2	3	4	FINAL
ILLINOIS STATE (8-3)	7	6	7	7	27
Northern Iowa (7-4)	14	14	0	10	38

FIRST QUARTER

- UNI – Lewis 1-yard run (Wingert kick), 7:31
- ISU – Rembert 4-yard run (Mazur kick), 4:15
- UNI – Williams, V. 34-yard pass from Sanders (Wingert kick), 1:05

SECOND QUARTER

- UNI – Gray 57-yard pass from Williams, V. (Wingert kick), 14:27
- UNI – Williams, D. 45-yard pass from Sanders (Wingert kick), 5:09
- ISU -- Rice 2-yard run (kick blocked), :49

THIRD QUARTER

- ISU – Rembert 1-yard run (Mazur kick), 9:34

FOURTH QUARTER

- UNI – Sanders 1-yard run (Wingert kick), 14:02
- ISU – Rembert 31-yard pass from Drone (Mazur kick), 10:23
- UNI – Wingert 21-yard field goal, 6:37

> TEAM STATISTICS

	ISU	UNI
First Downs	23	17
Rushing Attempts-Yards	43-228	41-258
Passing	19-31-3	7-10-0
Passing Yards	258	155
Total Offense	486	413
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	3-35	8-47
Time of Possession	33:21	26:39

> INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING: (ISU) – Rembert 38-210, R. Rice 4-24, Drone 1-(-6). (UNI) – Lewis 16-113, D. Williams 12-91, Sanders 8-32, Lindgren 4-18, Gray 1-4.

PASSING: (ISU) – Drone 29-19-2-258, D. Passarelli 1-0-1-0, TEAM 1-0-0-0. (UNI) – Sanders 9-6-0-98, V. Williams 1-1-0-57.

RECEIVING: (ISU) – Mordis 5-53, Horton 4-49, Rourke 3-23, Robinson 2-90, Rembert 2-36, Jackson 2-4, Drone 1-3. (UNI) – Gray 2-59, D. Williams 1-45, V. Williams 1-34, Allen 1-12, Lewis 1-4, Hannam 1-1.

TACKLE LEADERS: (ISU) – Campbell 9-0-9, Tate 5-0-5, C. Siskowic 4-1-5, Caesar 4-1-5, Temple 4-0-4. (UNI) – Schratz 7-2-9, Lewis 6-2-8, Carter 5-2-7, Parsons 5-0-5, Alvarez 5-0-5, Tharp 4-1-5, Lacy 4-1-5.

Illinois State's All-Time Series vs. Northern Iowa

Northern Iowa leads, 15-8

1972	16-Sep	24	14	H	W
1985	2-Nov	3	15	H	L
1986	22-Nov	13	22	A	L
1987	21-Nov	17	48	A	L
1988	15-Oct	7	34	H	L
1989	4-Nov	32	13	H	W
1990	6-Oct	0	31	A	L
1991	12-Oct	14	17	H	L
1992	3-Oct	14	41	A	L
1993	30-Oct	19	20	H	L
1994	22-Oct	17	24	A	L
1995	4-Nov	31	29	H	W
1996	12-Oct	10	47	A	L
1997	4-Oct	34	50	H	L
1998	10-Oct	38	23	A	W
1999	2-Oct	47	28	H	W
2000	30-Sep	28	34	A	L
2001	27-Oct	42	14	H	W
2002	26-Oct	31	20	A	W
2003	4-Oct	7	16	H	L
2004	13-Nov	14	41	A	L
2005	22-Oct	38	3	H	W
2006	18-Nov	27	38	A	L

2007 Illinois State Statistics

Game Results

Date	Opponent	W/L	Score	Attendance
08-30-07	DRAKE	L	24-27	12167
09-08-07	MURRAY STATE	W	43-17	13214
09-15-07	at #14 Eastern Illinois	W	24-21	9028
09-22-07	at #25 Missouri	L	17-38	56137

Team Statistics

	ILS	OPP
FIRST DOWNS	87	93
Rushing	42	42
Passing	42	49
Penalty	3	2
RUSHING YARDAGE	809	734
Yards gained rushing	852	809
Yards lost rushing	43	75
Rushing Attempts	170	161
Average Per Rush	4.8	4.6
Average Per Game	202.2	183.5
TDs Rushing	8	4
PASSING YARDAGE	825	1037
Att-Comp-Int	112-67-6	135-82-3
Average Per Pass	7.4	7.7
Average Per Catch	12.3	12.6
Average Per Game	206.2	259.2
TDs Passing	6	7
TOTAL OFFENSE	1634	1771
Total Plays	282	296
Average Per Play	5.8	6.0
Average Per Game	408.5	442.8
KICK RETURNS: #-YARDS	17-433	22-407
PUNT RETURNS: #-YARDS	6-34	6-89
INT RETURNS: #-YARDS	3-33	6-28
FUMBLES-LOST	4-1	5-4
PENALTIES-YARDS	18-157	23-178
PUNTS-AVG	16-38.2	16-39.1
TIME OF POSSESSION/GAME	30:47	29:13
3RD-DOWN CONVERSIONS	33/62	33/58
4TH-DOWN CONVERSIONS	2/3	1/3

Score by Quarters

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Illinois State	20	37	17	34	108
Opponents	28	20	20	35	103

Rushing

	G	Att	Gain	Loss	Net	Avg	TD	Long	Avg/G
Rice,Rafael	4	70	408	3	405	5.8	5	43	101.2
Fisher,Parrish	4	37	195	6	189	5.1	1	49	47.2
Blow,Geno	4	37	173	5	168	4.5	1	15	42.0
Drone,Luke	4	22	75	26	49	2.2	1	10	12.2
Moore,Mitchell	1	1	1	0	1	1.0	0	1	1.0
TEAM	3	3	0	3	-3	-1.0	0	0	-1.0
Total.....	4	170	852	43	809	4.8	8	49	202.2
Opponents.....	4	161	809	75	734	4.6	4	32	183.5

Passing

	G	Effic	Att-Cmp-Int	Pct	Yds	TD	Lng	Avg/G
Drone,Luke	4	128.66	67-112-6	59.8	825	6	40	206.2
Total.....	4	128.66	67-112-6	59.8	825	6	40	206.2
Opponents.....	4	137.93	82-135-3	60.7	1037	7	57	259.2

Receiving

	G	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long	Avg/G
Horton,Jason	3	17	263	15.5	2	33	87.7
Mickle,Kevett	4	11	136	12.4	0	26	34.0
Harcar,Garin	4	10	89	8.9	1	22	22.2
Meredith,Kedric	4	8	111	13.9	1	24	27.8
Salem,Eyad	4	8	110	13.8	1	40	27.5
Chandler,Kelvin	4	6	68	11.3	1	21	17.0
Rice,Rafael	4	3	15	5.0	0	10	3.8
Blow,Geno	4	2	16	8.0	0	9	4.0
Rourke,Jake	4	1	10	10.0	0	10	2.5
Fisher,Parrish	4	1	7	7.0	0	7	1.8
Total.....	4	67	825	12.3	6	40	206.2
Opponents.....	4	82	1037	12.6	7	57	259.2

2007 Illinois State Statistics

Punt Returns

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Nelson, Tom	5	32	6.4	0	22
Horton, Jason	1	2	2.0	0	2
Total.....	6	34	5.7	0	22
Opponents.....	6	89	14.8	1	64

Interceptions

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Nelson, Tom	2	33	16.5	0	33
Roberts, Garry	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total.....	3	33	11.0	0	33
Opponents.....	6	28	4.7	1	24

Kick Returns

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Nelson, Tom	11	272	24.7	0	59
Horton, Jason	4	133	33.2	0	82
Harcar, Garin	1	15	15.0	0	15
Chandler, Kelvin	1	13	13.0	0	13
Total.....	17	433	25.5	0	82
Opponents.....	22	407	18.5	0	38

Scoring

	TD	FGs	/----- PATs -----/					Saf	Points
			Kick	Rush	Rcv	Pass	DXP		
Rice, Rafael	5	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	30
Funk, Tyler	0	3-3	9-11	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	18
Horton, Jason	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	12
Salem, Eyad	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Mazur, Kevin	0	1-2	3-3	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Drone, Luke	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Blow, Geno	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Chandler, Kelvin	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Meredith, Kedric	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Harcar, Garin	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Fisher, Parrish	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6
Total.....	14	4-5	12-14	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	108
Opponents.....	13	4-5	13-13	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	103

Total Offense

	G	Plays	Rush	Pass	Total	Avg/G
Drone, Luke	4	134	49	825	874	218.5
Rice, Rafael	4	70	405	0	405	101.2
Fisher, Parrish	4	37	189	0	189	47.2
Blow, Geno	4	37	168	0	168	42.0
Moore, Mitchell	1	1	1	0	1	1.0
TEAM	3	3	-3	0	-3	-1.0
Total.....	4	282	809	825	1634	408.5
Opponents.....	4	296	734	1037	1771	442.8

Field Goals

	FGM-FGA	Pct	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	Lg	Blk
Mazur, Kevin	1-2	50.0	0-0	0-1	1-1	0-0	0-0	30	0
Funk, Tyler	3-3	100.0	0-0	2-2	1-1	0-0	0-0	34	0

Punting

	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TB	FC	I20	Blkd
Kelsey, Bobby	16	611	38.2	51	0	5	7	0
Total.....	16	611	38.2	51	0	5	7	0
Opponents.....	16	626	39.1	54	1	2	6	0

All-Purpose

	G	Rush	Rec	PR	KOR	IR	Tot	Avg/G
Rice, Rafael	4	405	15	0	0	0	420	105.0
Horton, Jason	3	0	263	2	133	0	398	132.7
Nelson, Tom	4	0	0	32	272	33	337	84.2
Fisher, Parrish	4	189	7	0	0	0	196	49.0
Blow, Geno	4	168	16	0	0	0	184	46.0
Mickle, Kevett	4	0	136	0	0	0	136	34.0
Meredith, Kedric	4	0	111	0	0	0	111	27.8
Salem, Eyad	4	0	110	0	0	0	110	27.5
Harcar, Garin	4	0	89	0	15	0	104	26.0
Chandler, Kelvin	4	0	68	0	13	0	81	20.2
Drone, Luke	4	49	0	0	0	0	49	12.2
Rourke, Jake	4	0	10	0	0	0	10	2.5
Moore, Mitchell	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1.0
TEAM	3	-3	0	0	0	0	-3	-1.0
Total.....	4	809	825	34	433	33	2134	533.5
Opponents.....	4	734	1037	89	407	28	2295	573.8

2007 Illinois State Statistics

Defensive Statistics

	GP	TACKLES				SACKS		PASS DEF			FUMBLES		BLKD	
		SOLO	AST	TOTAL	TFL/YDS	NO-YARDS	INT-YDS	BRUP	QBH	RCV-YDS	FF	KICK	SAF	
6 Stewart, Kye	4-4	25	25	50	1.5-5	1.0-4		2						
1 Caesar, Jesse	4-4	12	19	31	2.5-6									
9 Nelson, Tom	4-4	16	15	31	1.5-2		2-33	3						
59 Hronec, Bill	3-3	10	16	26	2.0-3			1	2	1-0	1			
21 Tate, Jason	4-2	15	8	23	1.0-7	1.0-7			1					
48 Cucci, Pat	4-3	6	13	19	1.0-4			1		1-0				
24 Hemphill, Kelyn	4-2	9	7	16										
25 Garrett, Chris	4-4	10	5	15				2						
62 Pilton, Mike	4-4	6	5	11	2.0-12					1-0				
50 Westbrook, Tommie	4-0	5	6	11										
20 Kociuba, Casey	2-1	9	2	11	1.0-4									
57 Wilson, Brandon	4-1	3	8	11	2.0-3				2					
94 Thomas, Jarek	3-3	4	5	9	4.0-14	1.0-8			3		1			
38 Trujillo, Tony	4-0	5	2	7										
93 Blankenship, Adam	4-4	2	5	7	1.0-2	1.0-2			2					
45 Siskowic, Kyle	3-0	3	3	6										
58 Whitaker, Mark	4-1	4	2	6										
91 Rivas, Dave	4-0	3	3	6	2.0-8	1.0-8			1					
90 Simnick, Dan	3-1		5	5	0.5-1				1					
44 Williams, Wesley	3-0	3	2	5										
97 Hunter, Kaschiev	4-0	2	2	4	0.5-5	0.5-5			1	1-0				
60 Speer, Tom	4-0	2	2	4	0.5-1									
19 Kelsey, Bobby	4-0	2	2	4										
40 Whigham, Bert	4-0	2	1	3										
96 Soyebob, Babtunde	2-0		2	2	1.0-6	0.5-4			2					
89 Gordon, Micha	3-0	1	1	2										
99 Williams, Nick	4-3	1	1	2					1					
30 Roberts, Garry	2-0		1	1			1-0							
13 Paschal, Andrew	2-0		1	1										
66 Wiggins, Isaiah	4-4	1		1										
86 Horton, Jason	3-2	1		1										
68 Madsen, Erik	4-0	1		1										
31 James, Kurt	3-0	1		1										
33 Kpandeyenge, Ansu	3-0		1	1										
Total.....	4-0	164	170	334	24-83	6-38	3-33	9	16	4-0	2			
Opponents.....	4-0	158	152	310	14.0-33	4-18	6-28	11	5	1-0	2	2		

2007 Illinois State Game-By-Game Stats

Game	Score	First Downs	Rushing No.-Yds.-TD	Passing C-A-I-Yds.-TD	Total Off Pl.-Yds.	Fumbles Lost	Penalty Yards	Third Downs	Poss.-Time
Drake	27	19	40-97-0	17-31-0-264-2	71-361	1-1	4-25	8/16	30:47
at Illinois State	24	26	41-273-2	20-35-3-235-1	76-508	2-0	2-20	7/16	29:13
Murray State	17	22	42-185-1	21-36-0-237-1	78-422	1-1	9-81	6/15	33:05
at Illinois State	43	18	52-238-4	5-9-0-81-2	61-319	1-1	6-60	8/13	26:55
Illinois State	24	21	37-143-1	20-31-2-267-2	68-410	1-0	5-52	10/16	30:04
at Eastern Illinois	21	21	44-212-2	20-28-0-195-1	72-407	3-2	7-37	11/16	29:56
Illinois State	17	22	41-155-1	22-37-1-242-1	78-397	0-0	5-25	8/17	36:57
at Missouri	38	31	35-240-1	24-40-3-341-3	75-581	0-0	3-35	8/11	21:11
Northern Iowa									
at Illinois State									
Illinois State									
at Missouri State									
Indiana State									
at Illinois State									
Illinois State									
at Youngstown State									
Western Illinois									
at Illinois State									
Illinois State									
at North Dakota State									
Illinois State									
at Southern Illinois									

Rushing	Blow	Fisher	Moore	C. Rice	R. Rice
Drake	3-18	7-26	-	-	27-218
Murray State	5-19	18-122	-	-	24-106
at Eastern Illinois	8-15	5-20	-	-	15-74
at Missouri	21-116	7-31	1-1	-	4-7
Northern Iowa					
at Missouri State					
Indiana State					
at Youngstown St.					
Western Illinois					
at North Dakota St.					
at Southern Illinois					

Passing	Drone	Brockway
Drake	20-35-3-235-1	-
Murray State	5-9-0-81-2	-
at Eastern Illinois	20-31-2-267-2	-
at Missouri	22-37-1-242-1	-
Northern Iowa		
at Missouri State		
Indiana State		
at Youngstown St.		
Western Illinois		
at North Dakota St.		
at Southern Illinois		

Receiving	Chandler	Gordon	Horton	McCarty	Meredith	Mickle	Rourke	Salem
Drake	4-39	-	8-119	-	1-24	1-9	-	-
Murray State	1-11	-	4-70	-	-	-	-	-
at Eastern Illinois	-	-	5-74	-	3-59	3-52	1-10	1-4
at Missouri	1-18	-	-	-	4-28	7-75	-	7-106
Northern Iowa								
at Missouri State								
Indiana State								
at Youngstown St.								
Western Illinois								
at North Dakota St.								
at Southern Illinois								

2007 Illinois State Statistical Breakdown

Scoring Drive Analysis											
	Minus	0-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90-99
Illinois State TD	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	1	3	4	-
Illinois State FG	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
Opponent TD	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	5	2
Opponent FG	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-

Red-Zone Analysis		Illinois State				Opponent			
Game	Inside	Scores	TD/FG	Pct.	Inside	Scores	TD/FG	Pct.	
Drake	5	4	3/1	.800	2	2	0/2	1.000	
Murray State	6	6	5/1	1.000	3	2	1/1	.667	
at Eastern Illinois	4	3	2/1	.750	4	3	3/0	.750	
at Missouri	5	3	2/1	.800	6	4	3/1	.667	
Northern Iowa									
at Missouri State									
Indiana State									
at Youngstown St.									
Western Illinois									
at North Dakota St.									
at Southern Illinois									
Totals	20	16	12/4	.800	15	11	7/4	.733	

Time of Possession							
Opponent	Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	
Drake	L, 24-27	29:13	7:07	9:06	5:23	7:37	
Murray State	W, 43-17	26:55	3:48	9:29	8:49	4:49	
at Eastern Illinois	W, 24-21	30:04	6:40	6:25	7:33	9:26	
at Missouri	L, 17-38	36:57	9:35	8:39	9:48	8:55	
Northern Iowa							
at Missouri State							
Indiana State							
at Youngstown St.							
Western Illinois							
at North Dakota St.							
at Southern Illinois							
Illinois State	Total	123:09	27:10	33:39	31:33	30:47	
	Avg.	30:47	6:47	8:24	7:53	7:41	
Opponents	Total	116:51	32:50	26:21	28:27	29:13	
	Avg.	29:12	8:12	6:35	7:06	7:18	

When Illinois State has the ball ...

3rd Down and ...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	10+	Total	Pct.
Drake	1/2	2/2	1/1	1/3	1/1	1/1	0/1	-	0/1	0/2	0/2	7/16	43.8
Murray State	1/1	1/2	0/1	-	0/1	2/3	1/1	0/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	8/13	61.5
at Eastern Illinois	0/1	0/1	-	1/2	4/4	2/3	1/1	-	1/1	-	1/3	10/16	62.5
at Missouri	1/1	2/3	0/2	1/2	1/1	1/1	1/1	-	1/2	0/2	0/2	8/17	47.1
Northern Iowa													
at Missouri State													
Indiana State													
at Youngstown St.													
Western Illinois													
at North Dakota St.													
at Southern Illinois													
Totals	3/5	5/8	1/4	3/7	6/7	6/8	3/4	0/1	3/5	1/5	2/8	33/62	53.2
PCT	60.0	62.5	25.0	42.9	85.7	75.0	75.0	0.0	60.0	20.0	25.0	53.2	

When Opponent has the ball ...

3rd Down and ...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	10+	Total	Pct.
Drake	2/3	0/1	-	1/1	0/1	1/2	1/3	1/1	-	1/3	1/1	8/16	50.0
Murray State	-	1/1	-	1/2	-	-	1/3	1/3	0/1	0/2	2/3	6/15	40.0
at Eastern Illinois	2/2	2/2	2/3	2/2	-	2/2	0/1	1/1	-	-	0/3	11/16	68.8
at Missouri	2/2	-	-	-	1/1	-	1/3	2/3	-	-	2/2	8/11	72.7
Northern Iowa													
at Missouri State													
Indiana State													
at Youngstown St.													
Western Illinois													
at North Dakota St.													
at Southern Illinois													
Totals	6/7	3/4	2/3	4/5	1/2	3/4	3/10	5/8	0/1	1/5	5/9	33/58	56.9
PCT	85.7	75.0	66.7	80.0	50.0	75.0	30.0	62.5	0.0	20.0	55.6	56.9	

2007 Illinois State's 20-Yard Plays

Yards	Type	Player(s)	Opp.
82	KR	Jason Horton	Murray State
59	KR	Tom Nelson	Murray State
49	Rush	Parrish Fisher	Murray State
47	KR	Tom Nelson	Murray State
43	Rush	Rafael Rice	Drake
40	Pass	Luke Drone to Eyad Salem	at Missouri
33	Pass	Luke Drone to Jason Horton	Drake
33	INT	Tom Nelson	at Missouri
31	Pass	Luke Drone to Jason Horton	Murray State
31	Pass	Luke Drone to Jason Horton	at Eastern Illinois
28	Rush	Rafael Rice	Drake
26	Pass	Luke Drone to Kevett Mickle	at Eastern Illinois
26	KR	Tom Nelson	at Eastern Illinois
24	Pass	Luke Drone to Kedric Meredith	Drake
24	Pass	Luke Drone to Kedric Meredith	at Eastern Illinois
24	Pass	Luke Drone to Kevett Mickle	at Missouri
23	KR	Tom Nelson	Drake
22	PR	Tom Nelson	Murray State
22	Pass	Luke Drone to Kedric Meredith	at Eastern Illinois
22	Pass	Luke Drone to Garin Harcar	at Eastern Illinois
22	KR	Tom Nelson	at Missouri
21	Pass	Luke Drone to Jason Horton	Drake
21	Pass	Luke Drone to Kelvin Chandler	Drake
21	KR	Jason Horton	at Eastern Illinois
20	Pass	Luke Drone to Jason Horton	Murray State
20	Pass	Luke Drone to Jason Horton	at Eastern Illinois
20	KR	Tom Nelson	at Missouri

Bold denotes touchdown play

Long Plays by the Numbers

Plays by Yards	No.	TD
20-29	17	2
30-39	4	1
40-49	4	0
50-59	1	0
60+	1	0
Total	27	3

Plays by Type	No.	TD
Rushing	3	0
Passing	14	3
Punt Returns	1	0
Kick Returns	8	0
Interceptions	1	0
Fumble Returns	0	0
Total	27	3

20-Yards-Plus by a Player

Player	No.	TD	Type
Jason Horton	8	2	6P, 2KR
Tom Nelson	8	0	6KR, 1PR, 1INT
Rafael Rice	2	0	2R
Kelvin Chandler	1	0	1P
Kedric Meredith	3	1	3P
Parrish Fisher	1	0	1R
Kevett Mickle	2	0	2P
Garin Harcar	1	0	1P
Eyad Salem	1	0	1P

Longest Plays of the Year

Rushing Play	49, Parrish Fisher vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Rushing Touchdown	17, Rafael Rice vs. Drake, 8-30-07
Passing Play	40, Luke Drone to Eyad Salem at Missouri, 9-22-07
Passing Touchdown	31, Luke Drone to Jason Horton vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Punt Return	22, Tom Nelson vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Kickoff Return	82, Jason Horton vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Punt	51, Bobby Kelsey vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Field Goal	34, Tyler Funk vs. Murray State, 9-8-07
Interception Return	33, Tom Nelson at Missouri, 9-22-07

Opponent Long Plays by the Numbers

Plays by Yards	No.	TD	Long Plays by Opponent	No.	TD
20-29	23	3	Drake	6	3
30-39	6	-	Murray State	9	1
40-49	-	-	Eastern Illinois	5	0
50-59	2	2	Missouri	12	2
60+	1	1	Northern Iowa		
Total	32	6	Missouri State		
			Indiana State		
			Youngstown St.		
			Western Illinois		
			North Dakota St.		
			Southern Illinois		
Plays by Type	No.	TD			
Rushing	5	-			
Passing	16	4			
Punt Returns	1	1			
Kick Returns	9	-			
Interceptions	1	1			
Fumble Returns	-	-			
Total	32	6			

The Sports Network Poll

Team (first-place votes)	Pts	Prv Rank
1. Montana (46)	2396	2
2. Massachusetts (18)	2345	3
3. Northern Iowa* (12)	2272	4
4. North Dakota State (14)	2269	5
5. Appalachian State (8)	2108	1
6. McNeese State (2)	1951	6
7. Southern Illinois* (1)	1833	7
8. Wofford (2)	1821	13
9. James Madison	1651	8
10. Youngstown State*	1616	9
11. New Hampshire	1522	10
12. Delaware	1486	11
13. Hampton	1170	12
14. Hofstra	1086	15
15. Sam Houston State	872	17
16. Illinois State	815	14
17. Western Illinois*	782	19
18. Montana State	772	18
19. Eastern Illinois	567	20
20. Furman	538	16
21. Eastern Washington	415	25
22. Yale	369	21
23. Nicholls State	336	NR
24. Elon	263	NR
25. Richmond	171	NR

*Gateway Football Conference member
 Illinois State opponent

The FCS Coaches Poll

Team (first-place votes)	Pts	Prv Rank
1. Montana (20)	661	2
2. Massachusetts (4)	657	3
3. North Dakota State (3)	640	4
4. Northern Iowa*	614	5
5. Appalachian State	546	1
6. Southern Illinois*	536	6
7. McNeese State (1)	521	8
8. Wofford	509	12
9. James Madison	492	9
10. Youngstown State*	488	7
11. New Hampshire	424	10
12. Delaware	388	11
13. Hampton	334	13
14. Hofstra	295	16
15. Sam Houston State	240	15
16. Illinois State	218	14
17. Montana State	212	18
Western Illinois*	212	19
19. Furman	184	17
20. Yale	152	21
21. Eastern Illinois	140	22
22. Nicholls State	103	20
23. Eastern Washington	101	NR
24. Cal Poly	72	24
25. Richmond	44	NR

*Gateway Football Conference member
 Illinois State opponent

Redbirds in the Polls

	TSN	FCS
Preseason	7	8
Week 1	17	18
Week 2	17	15
Week 3	14	14
Week 4	16	16

Illinois State's Scoring Drives/Plays

Qtr.	Opponent	Time	Scoring Play	Conversion	Plays-Yds.	TOP	Score
1	Drake	5:09	Mazur 30-yard field goal		6-55	2:58	3-0
2	Drake	5:59	R. Rice 17-yard run	Mazur kick	9-80	3:12	10-0
3	Drake	6:10	Chandler 8-yard pass from Drone	Mazur kick	7-80	2:34	17-10
4	Drake	1:28	R. Rice 11-yard run	Mazur kick	10-69	3:20	24-20
1	Murray State	10:28	R. Rice 2-yard run	Funk kick	7-42	2:55	7-0
2	Murray State	12:43	Horton 31-yard pass from Drone	Funk kick	3-34	1:21	14-10
2	Murray State	1:11	Drone 1-yard run	kick blocked	15-80	7:45	20-10
3	Murray State	12:54	Funk 34-yard field goal		5-(-5)	1:51	23-10
3	Murray State	7:25	R. Rice 10-yard run	Funk kick	4-73	:59	30-10
4	Murray State	14:57	Blow 1-yard run	kick blocked	13-56	5:47	36-10
4	Murray State	10:17	Horton 20-yard pass from Drone	Funk kick	3-26	:37	43-10
1	at Eastern Illinois	10:23	Harcar 6-yard pass from Drone	Funk kick	7-47	3:17	7-0
2	at Eastern Illinois	13:22	Funk 23-yard field goal		11-63	4:05	10-7
2	at Eastern Illinois	:16	Meredith 22-yard pass from Drone	Funk kick	10-76	3:05	17-14
4	at Eastern Illinois	6:52	R. Rice 2-yard run	Funk kick	13-74	6:05	24-21
1	at Missouri	:12	Funk 21-yard field goal		12-66	5:45	3-14
2	at Missouri	3:41	Fisher 4-yard run	Funk kick	9-84	4:44	10-21
4	at Missouri	1:52	Salem 13-yard pass from Drone	Funk kick	5-50	1:22	17-38

Average Scoring Drive/Play Stats

Plays: 8.3 per drive; Yards: 58.3 per drive; Average Drive Time: 3:11
 18 scoring drives; 149 plays; 1,049 yards; 3,432 seconds

Highs/Lows

Longest Drive (time)

7:45 vs. Murray State (15 plays, 80 yards, Drone 1-yard run)

Shortest Drive (time)

:37 vs. Murray State (3 plays, 26 yards, Horton 20-yard pass from Drone)

Longest Drive (yards)

84 yards at Missouri (9 plays, 84 yards, Fisher 4-yard run)

Shortest Drive (yards)

-5 yards vs. Murray State (5 plays, -6 yards, Funk 34-yard field goal)

Opponent Scoring Drives/Plays

Qtr.	Opponent	Time	Scoring Play	Conversion	Plays-Yds.	TOP	Score
3	Drake	8:51	Rees 36-yard field goal		10-29	4:42	10-3
3	Drake	8:44	Hunt 24-yard interception return	Rees kick			10-10
3	Drake	1:15	Rees 35-yard field goal		13-55	4:49	17-13
4	Drake	4:54	Marx 28-yard pass from Ingle	Rees kick	10-83	4:36	17-20
4	Drake	:23	Agyei 56-yard pass from Ingle	Rees kick	7-90	1:00	24-27
1	Murray State	5:42	Harper 23-yard pass from Ehrhardt	O'Brien kick	10-86	4:38	7-7
2	Murray State	14:15	O'Brien 20-yard field goal		14-61	5:34	10-7
4	Murray State	5:19	Jordan 4-yard run	O'Brien kick	12-86	4:48	43-17
1	at Eastern Illinois	5:40	Adeniji 8-yard run	Wilke kick	12-87	4:35	7-7
2	at Eastern Illinois	8:54	Rucker 7-yard pass from Stinson	Wilke kick	12-66	4:22	10-14
4	at Eastern Illinois	13:05	Keys 1-yard run	Wilke kick	15-84	5:55	17-21
1	at Missouri	14:43	Franklin 57-yard pass from Daniel	Wolfert kick	1-57	:17	0-7
1	at Missouri	6:03	Temple 11-yard pass from Daniel	Wolfert kick	10-53	3:11	0-14
2	at Missouri	8:32	Maclin 8-yard pass from Daniel	Wolfert kick	11-97	2:40	3-21
2	at Missouri	0:00	Wolfert 26-yard field goal		11-52	3:33	10-24
3	at Missouri	:49	Temple 1-yard run	Wolfert kick	8-72	2:04	10-31
4	at Missouri	14:35	Maclin 64-yard punt return	Wolfert kick			10-38

National Rankings

Team Statistics	Rank	Avg.
Rushing Offense	27	202.25
Passing Offense	53	206.25
Total Offense	32	408.50
Scoring Offense	45	27.00
Rushing Defense	79	183.50
Pass Efficiency Defense	81	137.89
Total Defense	104	442.75
Scoring Defense	67	25.75
Net Punting	63	32.63
Punt Returns	82	5.67
Kickoff Returns	14	25.47
Turnover Margin	t54	.00
Pass Defense	101	259.25
Passing Efficiency	42	128.64
Sacks	74	1.50
Tackles for Loss	60	6.00
Sacks Allowed	t19	1.00

Individual Statistics in the Top-20

Jason Horton - Receiving Yards	20	87.67
Jason Horton - Kickoff Returns	8	33.25
Kye Stewart - Tackles	2	12.50

Top-Five Under Johnson

Here is a top-five list of ISU players that have passed for 300 yards or rushed or caught 100 yards in Denver Johnson's tenure:

100-Yard Rushing Games (56)

272, Pierre Rembert at Missouri State (11-5-05)
239, Sha-Ron Edwards at Missouri State (11-8-03)
233, Sha-Ron Edwards vs. Western Ky. (10-18-03)
230, Pierre Rembert at Western Illinois (10-21-06)
222, Brian Thompson vs. Y'stown State (10-23-04)

300-Yard Passing Games (12)

440, Luke Drone vs. Indiana State (11-12-05)
385, Mike Souza at Illinois (9-6-03)
372, Yance Vaughan at Minnesota (9-11-04)
350, Kevin Glenn vs. Missouri State (11-18-00)
348, Yance Vaughan at Indiana State (10-2-04)

100-Yard Receiving Games (27)

292, Laurent Robinson vs. Indiana State (11-12-05)
243, Laurent Robinson vs. Northern Iowa (10-22-05)
243, Dwayne Smith at Illinois (9-6-03)
183, Vito Golson vs. Northern Iowa (10-27-01)
180, Laurent Robinson at Southern Illinois (10-15-05)

The Redbirds' Record When ...

	2007	DJ Era*
Playing at home	1-1	27-15
Playing on the road	1-1	16-26
Playing on a neutral field	0-0	0-0
Playing at night	2-1	17-12
Playing during the day	0-1	26-29
ISU scores on first possession	2-0	20-6
Opponent scores on first possession	0-1	12-20
ISU scores first	2-1	25-10
Opponent scores first	0-1	17-30
ISU leads after the 1st quarter	0-1	21-9
Opponent leads after 1st quarter	0-1	10-26
ISU leads at halftime	2-1	30-9
Opponent leads at halftime	0-1	8-31
ISU leads after 3rd quarter	2-1	31-7
Opponent leads after 3rd quarter	0-1	9-33
Game goes into overtime	0-0	1-2
ISU has more total yards	1-1	34-18
Opponent has more total yards	1-1	8-24
ISU has more rushing yards	1-1	33-14
Opponent has more rushing yards	1-1	9-28
ISU has more passing yards	1-0	29-23
Opponent has more passing yards	1-2	13-18
ISU has more turnovers	0-1	13-26
Opponent has more turnovers	0-1	21-10
Teams have equal turnovers	2-0	8-5
ISU has more penalties	0-1	20-19
Opponent has more penalties	2-1	18-21
ISU has more time of possession	1-1	24-17
Opponent has more time of possession	1-1	17-25
ISU has 100-yard rusher	1-2	35-19
Opponent has 100-yard rusher	0-2	15-26
ISU scores at least 20 points	2-1	38-20
Opponent scores at least 20 points	1-2	16-38
ISU throws for 300 yards	0-0	9-5
Opponent throws for 300 yards	0-1	1-11
Playing on natural grass	0-0	3-7
Playing on artificial surface	2-2	40-34
ISU defense scores	0-0	8-6
Opponent defense scores	0-1	3-12
ISU returns KO/Punt for TD	0-0	1-0
Opponent returns KO/Punt for TD	0-1	2-4

*Denotes the Denver Johnson era (2000-present)

The Last Time it Happened

ILLINOIS STATE INDIVIDUAL

Rushed for 100 yards	116, Geno Blow at Missouri, 9-22-07
Rushed for 200 yards	218, Rafael Rice vs. Drake, 8-30-07
Passed for 200 yards	242, Luke Drone at Missouri, 9-22-07
Passed for 300 yards	305, Luke Drone vs. Missouri State, 11-4-06
Passed for 400 yards	440, Luke Drone vs. Indiana State, 11-12-05
Had 10 receptions	14, Laurént Robinson vs. Indiana State, 11-12-05
Had 100 yards receiving	106, Eyad Salem at Missouri, 9-22-07
Returned a punt for a TD	Joe Walkins (52 yards) vs. Y'stown St., 10-23-04
Returned a kickoff for a TD	LaShawn Bullock (97 yards) vs. Y'stown St., 10-23-04
Returned an interception for a TD	Jesse Caesar (45 yards) at Eastern Illinois, 11-25-06
Returned a fumble for a TD	James Temple (56 yards) vs. Western Kentucky, 10-8-05
Returned a blocked FG for a TD	Armando Andrade (85 yards) vs. W. Va. Tech, 8-31-00
Returned a blocked punt for a TD	Justin Frierson (28 yards) vs. Prairie View A&M, 10-21-00
Rushed for three touchdowns	3, Pierre Rembert vs. Missouri State, 11-4-06
Threw three touchdown passes	4, Luke Drone at Indiana State, 11-9-06
Caught three touchdown passes	3, Laurént Robinson vs. Indiana State, 11-12-05
Kicked three field goals	4, Kevin Mazur vs. Central Arkansas, 9-9-06
Had a 70-yard run from scrimmage	70, Demetrus Johnson vs. Saint Xavier, 9-2-04
Had a 70-yard pass completion	90, Luke Drone to Laurént Robinson at Indiana St., 11-9-06
Had 20 tackles	22, Cameron Siskowic vs. Eastern Illinois, 9-16-06
Had a 50-yard field goal	50, Stephen Carroll at S. Illinois, 10-14-03
Had a 70-yard punt	70, Ryan Hoffman vs. Y'stown St., 10-23-04

ILLINOIS STATE TEAM

400 yards rushing	405 vs. Youngstown State, 11-14-98
300 yards rushing	341 at Missouri State, 11-5-05
400 yards passing	440 vs. Indiana State, 11-12-05
300 yards passing	305 vs. Missouri State, 11-4-06
500 yards total offense	508 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
30 first downs	35 vs. Indiana State, 11-12-05
50 points	70 vs. Indiana State, 11-12-05
Scored a safety	at Youngstown State (sacked punter), 10-25-03
Posted a shutout	Illinois State 42, Murray State 0, 9-24-05
Held an opponent under 100 yards rushing	97 vs. Drake, 8-30-07
Held an opponent under 100 yards passing	79 at Eastern Illinois, 11-25-06
Held an opponent under 200 total yards	135 vs. Murray State, 9-24-05
Held an opponent under 100 total yards	87 vs. Lincoln, 9-1-84
Blocked a punt	at Northern Iowa, 11-13-04
Blocked a field goal	vs. Drake, 9-10-05
Blocked an extra point attempt	vs. Youngstown State, 10-28-06

OPPONENT INDIVIDUAL

Rushed for 100 yards	101, Tony Temple, Missouri, 9-22-07
Rushed for 200 yards	207, Julian Reese, Indiana State, 11-10-01
Passed for 200 yards	294, Chase Daniel, Missouri, 9-22-07
Passed for 300 yards	314, Bret Meyer, Iowa State, 9-3-05
Passed for 400 yards	460, A.J. Porter, Missouri State, 11-8-03
Had 10 receptions	10, Jeff Hewitt, Missouri State, 11-18-00
Had 100 yards receiving	105, Jeremy Nicholson, Missouri State, 11-04-06
Returned a punt for a TD	64, Jeremy Maclin, Missouri, 9-22-07
Returned a kickoff for a TD	Steven Rush (100 yards), Missouri State, 10-9-04
Returned an interception for a TD	Cale Hunt (24 yards), Drake, 8-30-07
Returned a fumble for a TD	Byron Garwin (9 yards), Kansas State, 9-26-06
Returned a blocked FG for a TD	Travis Williams (66 yards), Illinois, 9-6-03
Returned a blocked punt for a TD	Jason Newell (5 yards), Southern Illinois, 10-6-01
Rushed for three touchdowns	3, Andre Forte, Indiana State, 11-12-05
Threw three touchdown passes	3, Chase Daniel, Missouri, 9-22-07
Caught three touchdown passes	4, Steven Rush, Missouri State, 11-8-03
Kicked three field goals	3, Chris James, Western Kentucky, 10-8-05
Had a 70-yard run from scrimmage	80, Laurence Maroney, Minnesota, 9-11-04
Had a 70-yard pass completion	75, Zach Barnard to Dante Woods, Murray State 9-23-06
Had 20 tackles	21, Ian Dominelli, Youngstown State, 10-30-99
Had a 50-yard field goal	52, Jeff Snodgrass, Kansas State, 9-2-06
Had a 70-yard punt	74, Jim Hannula, Northern Illinois, 9-30-78

OPPONENT TEAM

400 yards rushing	474, Western Kentucky, 11-3-01
300 yards rushing	352, Youngstown State, 10-28-06
400 yards passing	460, Missouri State, 11-8-03
300 yards passing	341, Missouri, 9-22-07
500 yards total offense	581, Missouri, 9-22-07
30 first downs	31, Missouri, 9-22-07
50 points	58, Western Kentucky, 11-3-01
Scored a safety	Iowa State, 9-3-05
Posted a shutout	Florida Atlantic 28, Illinois State 0, 11-20-04
Held ISU under 100 yards rushing	18, Youngstown State, 10-28-06
Held ISU under 100 yards passing	81, Murray State, 9-8-07
Held ISU under 200 total yards	161, Youngstown State, 10-28-06
Held ISU under 100 total yards	94, Central State, 9-9-89
Blocked a punt	Drake, 9-10-05
Blocked a field goal	Southern Illinois, 10-14-06
Blocked an extra point attempt	Murray State, 9-8-07

2007 Game Recaps

Drake 27, #7 Illinois State 24

Aug. 30, 2007 • Normal, Ill. • Hancock Stadium
Attendance: 12,167

> Game Summary

Drake Upsets No. 7 Illinois State 27-24

NORMAL, Ill. – A remarkable second-half effort propelled Drake past No. 7 Illinois State, 27-24, in the 2007 season opener at Hancock Stadium on Aug. 30. Drake scored all of its points in the second half and scored the winning touchdown off a tipped pass with less than 30 seconds remaining in the game to claim its first win at Hancock Stadium since 1982. The loss snapped ISU's five-game winning streak against Drake.



GAME 1

Senior tailback Rafael Rice had a career night against the Bulldogs in just the fourth start of his career. Rice rushed 27 times for 218 yards and two touchdowns, all career-high marks, but it was Drake's defense that turned the game around early in the third quarter.

The Bulldogs had interceptions on ISU's first two possessions of the second half and turned both takeaways into scores. Cornerback Poul Collins picked off Luke Drone's third pass of the opening drive and that set up a 36-yard field goal by Logan Rees to put the Bulldogs on the board. Drone's first pass of the next possession was intercepted by linebacker Cale Hunt and he returned it down the sideline 24 yards for a touchdown to tie the game, 10-10.

Drake's final drive started on its own 10-yard line with 1:23 left in the game. A penalty pushed the Bulldogs back to the 5-yard line, but Ingle completed three-straight passes to bring Drake near midfield. After an incompleteness, Ingle threw a pass to the outside that was tipped by Tate and caught by Drake wide receiver Augustine Agyei, who streaked 56 yards down the sideline for the winning touchdown.

> Scoring Summary

SCOREBOARD	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Drake (1-0)	0	0	13	14	27
ILLINOIS STATE (0-1)	3	7	7	7	24

FIRST QUARTER

ISU – Mazur 30-yard field goal, 5:09

SECOND QUARTER

ISU – R. Rice 17-yard run (Mazur kick), 5:59

THIRD QUARTER

DU – Rees 36-yard field goal, 8:51

DU – Hunt 24-yard interception return (Rees kick), 8:44

ISU – Chandler 8-yard pass from Drone (Mazur kick), 6:10

DU – Rees 35-yard field goal, 1:15

FOURTH QUARTER

DU – Marx 28-yard pass from Ingle (Rees kick), 4:54

ISU – R. Rice 11-yard run (Mazur kick), 1:28

DU – Agyei 56-yard pass from Ingle (Rees kick), :23

> Team Statistics

	ISU	DU
First Downs	26	19
Rushing Attempts-Yards	40-97	41-273
Passing	17-31-0	20-35-3
Passing Yards	264	235
Total Offense	361	508
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	2-0
Penalties-Yards	4-25	2-20
Time of Possession	30:47	29:13

> Individual Statistics

RUSHING: (ISU) – R. Rice 27-218, Fisher 7-26, Blow 3-18, Drone 4-11. (DU) – Phaydavong 30-111, Cashmore 3-4, Team 1(-2), Biaslas 1(-3), Retherford 4(-5), Ingle 1(-8).

PASSING: (ISU) – Drone 20-35-3-235. (DU) – Ingle 10-18-0-197, Retherford 7-13-0-67.

RECEIVING: (ISU) – Horton 8-119, Chandler 4-39, Harcar 4-32, R. Rice 2-12, Meredith 1-24, Mickle 1-9. (DU) – Brower 6-61, Hardgraves 5-62, Marx 4-62, Agyei 1-56, Cashmore 1-23.

TACKLE LEADERS: (ISU) – Stewart 9-6-15, Tate 6-3-9, Caesar 4-3-7, Nelson 3-4-7, Hronec 1-6-7. (DU) – Hunt 6-4-10, Craig 6-4-10, Collins 6-1-7, Marley 4-3-7, Gehl 4-2-6.

#17 Illinois State 43, Murray St. 17

Sept. 8, 2007 • Normal, Ill. • Hancock Stadium
Attendance: 13,214

> Game Summary

Redbirds Bounce Back with Win Over Murray State

NORMAL, Ill. – Special teams and rushing led No. 17 Illinois State past Murray State, 43-17, at Hancock Stadium. The Redbirds set a team stadium record in kickoff return yards and utilized the good field position with short, efficient scoring drives to avoid losing back-to-back home games for the first time since 2003.



GAME 2

ISU picked up 237 yards and scored four touchdowns on the ground. Senior running back Rafael Rice and sophomore running back Parrish Fisher each eclipsed 100 yards with 106 and 103, respectively. They became the first Redbird duo to gain 100 yards in a game since Brian Thompson had 157 and Demetrius Johnson added 129 against Missouri State Oct. 9, 2004. Rice hit triple-digits in rushing for the second-consecutive game and scored two touchdowns.

Special teams played a big role in the Redbirds' success, as they racked up 205 kickoff return yards, surpassing the ISU Hancock Stadium record of 189 set against Tennessee-Chattanooga Nov. 17, 1979. Senior wide receiver Jason Horton and senior defensive back Tom Nelson each had career-long returns of 82 and 59 yards, respectively, snapping the career-bests they both had against Youngstown State in the 2006 FCS Playoffs. Redshirt freshman kicker Tyler Funk, who saw the first action of his career, kicked a field goal and was 4-for-6 on extra points.

> Scoring Summary

SCOREBOARD	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Murray State (0-2)	7	3	0	7	17
ILLINOIS STATE (1-1)	7	13	10	13	43

FIRST QUARTER

ISU – R. Rice 2-yard run (Funk kick), 10:28

MSU – Harper 23-yard pass from Ehrhardt (O'Brien kick), 5:42

SECOND QUARTER

MSU – O'Brien 20-yard field goal, 14:15

ISU – Horton 31-yard pass from Drone (Funk kick), 12:43

ISU – Drone 1-yard run (kick blocked), 1:11

THIRD QUARTER

ISU – Funk 34-yard field goal, 12:54

ISU – R. Rice 10-yard run (Funk kick), 7:25

FOURTH QUARTER

ISU – Blow 1-yard run (kick blocked), 14:57

ISU – Horton 20-yard pass from Drone (Funk kick), 10:17

MSU – Jordan 4-yard run (O'Brien kick), 5:19

> Team Statistics

	ISU	MSU
First Downs	18	22
Rushing Attempts-Yards	52-238	42-185
Passing	5-9-0	21-36-0
Passing Yards	81	237
Total Offense	319	422
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	6-60	9-81
Time of Possession	26:55	33:05

> Individual Statistics

RUSHING: (ISU) – Fisher 18-112, R. Rice 24-106, Blow 5-19, Drone 3-2, Team 1(-1). (MSU) – Ehrhardt 22-57, Jordan 6-54, McKinnis 12-52, Lightfoot 1-16, Townsel 1-6.

PASSING: (ISU) – Drone 5-9-0-81. (MSU) – Ehrhardt 21-36-0-237.

RECEIVING: (ISU) – Horton 4-70, Chandler 1-11. (MSU) – Jordan 5-15, Harper 4-57, Nelson 3-62, Lightfoot 3-29, McGinnis 2-17, Harris 1-34, Knight 1-9, Rogers 1-7, McKinnis 1-7.

TACKLE LEADERS: (ISU) – Hronec 5-6-11, Stewart 7-3-10, Nelson 7-3-10, Garrett 4-2-6, Caesar 2-4-6. (MSU) – Lanigan 7-6-13, Peters 3-5-8, Butler 2-6-8, Kutch 3-3-6, Farrington 3-3-6.

#15 Illinois St. 24, #14 E. Illinois 21

Sept. 15, 2007 • Charleston, Ill. • O'Brien Stadium
Attendance: 9,028

> Game Summary

Redbirds Win on the Road, Down #14 EIU 24-21

CHARLESTON, Ill. – Led by the arm and legs of quarterback Luke Drone, as well as the hands of Garin Harcar and Kedric Meredith, the No. 15 Illinois State football team defeated in-state rival No. 14 Eastern Illinois, 24-21, at O'Brien Stadium in Charleston, Ill. The win was the Redbirds' sixth-straight over EIU.



GAME 3

Drone finished with season-highs in both passing and rushing. The Mt. Carmel, Ill., native gained 267 yards on 20-for-31 passing in the air with two touchdowns and two interceptions and added 35 yards on the ground. Harcar tied his career-high with four receptions and set a new personal standard with 49 yards receiving. Meredith also had a career day, with three catches for 59 yards.

After Eastern Illinois scored in the early seconds of the fourth quarter on a one-yard run from Chip Keys, the Redbirds responded with a huge momentum swing as they marched down and regained the lead, 24-21, on a two-yard touchdown run from tailback Rafael Rice with 6:52 left in the contest. Rice's first touchdown of the game was the 17th of his career, which tied him for sixth-best in school history.

The Panthers looked to be in field goal range on the ensuing drive, however they fumbled the snap, as quarterback Bodie Reeder tried to spike the ball with under 30 seconds left to play. The ball was recovered by defensive end Kaschiv Hunter, and the Redbirds then took a knee to run out the clock and preserve the victory.

> Scoring Summary

SCOREBOARD	1	2	3	4	FINAL
ILLINOIS STATE (2-1)	7	10	0	7	24
Eastern Illinois (1-2)	7	7	0	7	21

FIRST QUARTER

ISU – Harcar 6-yard pass from Drone (Funk kick), 10:23

EIU – Adeniji 8-yard run (Wilke kick), 5:40

SECOND QUARTER

ISU – Funk 23-yard field goal, 13:22

EIU – Rucker 7-yard pass from Stinson (Wilke kick), 8:54

ISU – Meredith 22-yard pass from Drone (Funk kick), :16

FOURTH QUARTER

EIU – Keys 1-yard run (Wilke kick), 13:05

ISU – Rice 2-yard run (Funk kick), 6:52

> Team Statistics

	ISU	EIU
First Downs	21	21
Rushing Attempts-Yards	37-143	44-212
Passing	20-31-2	20-28-0
Passing Yards	267	195
Total Offense	410	407
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	3-2
Penalties-Yards	5-52	7-37
Time of Possession	30:04	29:56

> Individual Statistics

RUSHING: (ISU) – R. Rice 15-74, Drone 8-35, Fisher 5-20, Blow 8-15, Team 1(-1). (EIU) – Bess 21-99, Keys 7-58, Adeniji 11-48, Ponius 1-18, Reeder 1-0, Stinson 1-0, Team 1(-2), Fisher 1(-9).

PASSING: (ISU) – Drone 20-31-2-267. (EIU) – Stinson 11-17-0-110, Reeder 9-11-0-85.

RECEIVING: (ISU) – Horton 5-74, Harcar 4-49, Meredith 3-59, Mickle 3-52, Rourke 1-10, Blow 1-9, Fisher 1-7, Salem 1-4, R. Rice 1-3. (EIU) – Rucker 5-46, Fisher 3-53, Bess 3-10, Campanella 2-32, Adeniji 2-17, Keys 2-12, Nozinger 2-10, Ponius 1-15.

TACKLE LEADERS: (ISU) – Caesar 3-9-12, Stewart 3-7-10, Hronec 4-4-8, Nelson 4-4-8, Tate 4-2-6. (EIU) – Arrington 8-2-10, Haynes 6-4-10, Sams 5-3-8, Westrick 2-5-7, Walters 2-4-6.

2007 Game Recaps

#25 Missouri 38, #14 Illinois St. 17

Sept. 22, 2007 • Columbia, Mo. • Faurot Field
 Attendance: 56,137

> Game Summary

Illinois State Falls to Missouri, 38-17

COLUMBIA, Mo. — The Illinois State football team played hard for four quarters, but was unable to stop Missouri's offensive attack, as the Redbirds fell to the Tigers, 38-17, in front of 56,137 fans at Faurot Field in Columbia, Mo. The Tigers were able to dominate on the offensive side of the ball, as they racked up 581 yards of total offense, the most given up by ISU since 2005.



GAME 4

The Tigers were led by quarterback Chase Daniel's 294 yards of passing. Daniel was 21-for-34, and threw for three touchdowns and two interceptions. Mizzou also had it going on the ground, as senior tailback Tony Temple racked up 106 yards on 18 carries with a touchdown.

The Redbirds were led by sophomore receiver Eyad Salem, who had a career day with seven catches for 106 yards. Salem also scored his first-career touchdown on a 13-yard reception late in the fourth quarter. Senior Kye Stewart had a game-high 15 tackles, while Junior Tom Nelson grabbed two interceptions, giving him six for his career.

After Missouri returned the opening kickoff to the 43-yardline, Illinois State was unable to set up on defense and the Birds were forced to take their first timeout. The Tigers then struck on their first play from scrimmage, as Daniel hit wide receiver Will Franklin on a slant route and Franklin took it the distance for a 57-yard touchdown with 14:43 remaining in the first quarter.

Facing a third-down situation deep in Redbird territory, Mizzou struck again at the 6:03 mark in the first quarter. Daniel hit Temple on an 11-yard touchdown catch to capitalize a 10 play, 53-yard scoring drive. The Tigers were able to control the line of scrimmage throughout the drive, clearing holes for Temple to navigate through the Redbird defense.

> Scoring Summary

SCOREBOARD	1	2	3	4	FINAL
ILLINOIS STATE (2-2)	3	7	0	7	17
Missouri (4-0)	14	10	7	7	38

FIRST QUARTER

- MU – Franklin 57-yard pass from Daniel (Wolfert kick), 14:43
- MU – Temple 11-yard pass from Daniel (Wolfert kick), 6:03
- ISU – Funk 21-yard field goal, :12

SECOND QUARTER

- MU – Maclin 8-yard pass from Daniel (Wolfert kick), 8:32
- ISU – Fisher 4-yard run (Funk kick), 3:41

THIRD QUARTER

- MU – Temple 1-yard run (Wolfert kick), :49

FOURTH QUARTER

- MU – Maclin 64-yard punt return (Wolfert kick), 14:35
- ISU – Salem 13-yard pass from Drone (Funk kick), 1:52

> Team Statistics

	ISU	MU
First Downs	22	31
Rushing Attempts-Yards	41-155	35-240
Passing	22-37-1	24-40-3
Passing Yards	242	341
Total Offense	397	581
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	5-25	3-35
Time of Possession	36:57	23:03

> Individual Statistics

RUSHING: (ISU) – G. Blow 21-116, Fisher 7-31, R. Rice 4-7, Moore 1-1, Drone 7-1, Team 1-(-1). (MU) – Temple 18-101, Goldsmith 5-44, Woods 5-36, Maclin 1-22, Jackson 2-16, Washington 3-14, Daniel 1-7.

PASSING: (ISU) – Drone 22-37-1-242. (MU) – Daniel 21-34-2-294, Patton 2-5-1-33, Saunders 1-1-0-14.

RECEIVING: (ISU) – Salem 7-106, Mickle 7-75, Meredith 4-28, Harcar 2-8, Chandler 1-18, Blow 1-7. (MU) – Maclin 5-53, Rucker 4-71, Coffman 3-31, Franklin 2-71, Perry 2-33, Saunders 2-16, Temple 2-10, Washington 1-25, Bracey 1-12, Jackson 1-10, Ray 1-9.

TACKLE LEADERS: (ISU) – Stewart 6-9-15, Kociuba 6-2-8, Trujillo 5-2-7, Caesar 3-3-6, Nelson 2-4-6. (MU) – Weatherspoon 6-6-12, Brown 5-6-11, Christopher 6-1-7, Moore 4-3-7, Ricks 4-2-6.

2007 Illinois State Opponents' Schedule and Results
Drake (3-1)

A30	at #7 Illinois State	W, 27-24
S8	Waldorf	W, 45-14
S15	at UW-Platteville	W, 20-7
S22	#4 Northern Iowa	L, 7-45
S29	Valparaiso*	1 p.m.
O6	Butler*	1 p.m.
O13	at San Diego*	8 p.m.
O20	at Davidson*	6 p.m.
O27	Jacksonville*	1 p.m.
N3	at Morehead State*	noon
N10	Dayton*	1 p.m.

Missouri (4-0)

S1	vs. Illinois	W, 40-34
S8	at Mississippi	W, 38-25
S15	Western Michigan	W, 52-24
S22	Illinois State	W, 38-17
O6	Nebraska*	8:15 p.m.
O13	at Oklahoma*	tba
O20	Texas Tech*	tba
O27	Iowa State*	tba
N3	at Colorado*	tba
N10	Texas A&M*	tba
N17	at Kansas State*	tba
N24	vs. Kansas*	tba

Indiana State (0-4)

S1	at Indiana	L, 7-55
S8	Austin Peay	L, 17-32
S15	at SE Missouri State	L, 10-13
S22	#20 Eastern Illinois	L, 20-54
S29	#7 Southern Illinois*	11 a.m.
O6	Western Illinois*	11 a.m.
O13	at Illinois State*	1:30 p.m.
O20	Western Kentucky	1 p.m.
O27	at Missouri State*	1:30 p.m.
N3	Youngstown State*	11 a.m.
N10	at Northern Iowa*	4:05 p.m.

North Dakota State (3-0)

S8	Stephen F. Austin	W, 28-19
S15	#16 Sam Houston State	W, 41-38
S22	at Central Michigan	W, 44-14
S29	at #17 Western Illinois	1:05 p.m.
O6	UC Davis*	1 p.m.
O13	at Mississippi Valley State	2 p.m.
O20	at Minnesota	tba
O27	Southern Utah*	1 p.m.
N3	Illinois State	6 p.m.
N10	at Cal Poly*	6:05 p.m.
N17	at South Dakota State*	1 p.m.

Murray State (1-3, 0-1)

A30	at #10 Louisville	L, 10-73
S8	at #17 Illinois State	L, 17-43
S15	Lambuth	W, 48-13
S20	at Tennessee Tech*	L, 24-48
S29	Jacksonville State*	3 p.m.
O13	#14 Eastern Illinois*	3 p.m.
O20	at SE Missouri State*	1 p.m.
O27	Eastern Kentucky*	noon
N3	at Tennessee State*	5 p.m.
N10	at UT-Martin*	noon
N17	Austin Peay*	noon

Northern Iowa (4-0)

A30	Minnesota State	W, 41-14
S8	at Iowa State	W, 24-13
S15	at South Dakota State	W, 31-17
S22	at Drake	W, 45-7
S29	at #16 Illinois State*	1:30 p.m.
O13	Southern Illinois*	4:05 p.m.
O20	at Western Illinois*	6:30 p.m.
O27	Youngstown State*	3 p.m.
N3	at Missouri State*	1 p.m.
N10	Indiana State*	5:05 p.m.
N17	Southern Utah	5:05 p.m.

Youngstown State (3-1)

S1	at #11 Ohio State	L, 6-38
S8	South Dakota State	W, 23-17
S15	Stony Brook	W, 42-6
S22	Lock Haven	W, 35-3
S29	Missouri State*	5 p.m.
O6	at Southern Illinois*	3:30 p.m.
O13	Southern Utah	3 p.m.
O20	Illinois State*	3 p.m.
O27	at Northern Iowa*	4:05 p.m.
N3	at Indiana State*	11 a.m.
N10	Western Illinois*	noon

Southern Illinois (4-0)

A30	Quincy	W, 59-14
S8	at Northern Illinois	W, 34-31
S15	at Southern Utah	W, 44-10
S22	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	W, 58-3
S29	at Indiana State*	noon
O6	Youngstown State*	2:30 p.m.
O13	at Northern Iowa*	4:05 p.m.
O20	Missouri State*	1:30 p.m.
N3	at Western Illinois*	1:05 p.m.
N10	Illinois State*	1:30 p.m.
N17	at Hampton	1 p.m.

Eastern Illinois (2-2, 1-0)

A30	Tennessee Tech*	W, 45-24
S8	at Purdue	L, 6-52
S15	#15 Illinois State	L, 21-24
S22	at Indiana State	W, 54-20
S29	at SE Missouri State*	6 p.m.
O6	Eastern Kentucky*	1:30 p.m.
O13	at Murray State*	3 p.m.
O20	UT-Martin*	1:30 p.m.
O27	at Tennessee State*	6 p.m.
N10	at Jacksonville State*	noon
N17	Samford*	1:30 p.m.

Missouri State (3-1)

A30	Missouri-Rolla	W, 62-17
S6	at #20 UT-Martin	W, 51-44
S15	at Kansas State	L, 10-61
S22	Central Arkansas	W, 42-38
S29	at #10 Youngstown State*	5 p.m.
O6	Illinois State*	2 p.m.
O13	at Western Illinois*	1:05 p.m.
O20	at Southern Illinois*	1:30 p.m.
O27	Indiana State*	1:30 p.m.
N3	#4 Northern Iowa*	1 p.m.
N10	SE Missouri State	1 p.m.

Western Illinois (3-1)

A30	South Dakota State	W, 29-26 (4ot)
S8	at Illinois	L, 0-21
S15	Saint Francis	W, 69-0
S22	at Stephen F. Austin	W, 34-13
S29	#4 North Dakota State	1:05 p.m.
O6	at Indiana State*	11 a.m.
O13	Missouri State*	1:05 p.m.
O20	Northern Iowa*	6:30 p.m.
O27	at Illinois State*	1:30 p.m.
N3	Southern Illinois*	1:05 p.m.
N10	at Youngstown State*	noon