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Eastern Washington College of Education football press guide, 1956

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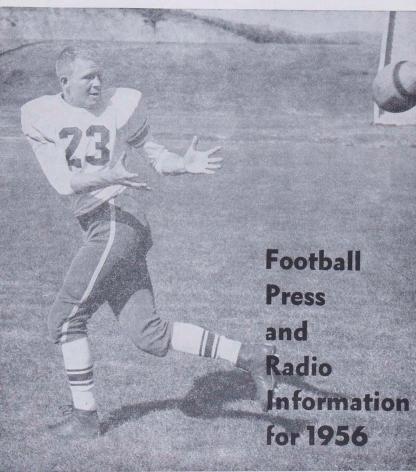
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Eastern Washington College of Education



Special Campus Telephone Connections

Director of Athletics	W. B. Reese
Home Phone	
Office Phone	
President of College	Dr. Don Patterson
Home Phone	Main 731
Director of Athletic Publicity	Phil Roth
Home Phone	Black 2281
Office Phone	Main 3000, Ext. 219
Director of Public Relations	Dick Dell
Home Phone	Red 1411
Office Phone	

Team Name: Savages Colors: Red and White

Home Field: Woodward Stadium

Conference: Evergreen

Special Publicity Outlets

Daily Newspapers:

Bill Boni, sports editor, The Spokesman-Review, Spokane. Danny May, sportswriter, The Spokesman-Review, Spokane Bob Johnson, sportswriter, Daily Chronicle, Spokane. Herb Ashlock, sportswriter, Daily Chronicle, Spokane.

Wire Services:

Jerry O'Brien, Associated Press, Chronicle Bldg, Spokane. Pete Hayes, United Press, 3135 W. Sprague, Spokane.

Local Weeklies:

Guyel Frost, editor, Cheney Free Press, Cheney, Wash. Sports Editor, EWCE Easterner, Cheney, (School Paper).

Radio Stations:

KREM, Spokane
KGA, Spokane
KNEW, Spokane
KEWC, Cheney (campus radio station)

KSPO, Spokane
KXLY, Spokane
KHQ, Spokane

Last Year's Results

Eastern- 6 Western -0 Eastern -7 C. P. S.-133 Eastern-12 U.B.C. -0 Eastern-15 Whitman-27 Eastern-20 P. L. C.-21 Eastern-19 C. W. C. -6 Eastern-31 W. W. C. -6 Eastern -0 Whitworth-25

1956 Schedule

Sept. 22-Carrol College, Helena, Montana* Sept. 29—College of Puget Sound, Cheney* Oct. 6-University of British Columbia, Cheney* Oct. 13-Whitman, Cheney, Homecoming Oct. 20-Pacific Lutheran College, Tacoma* Oct. 27—Central Washington College, Ellensburg Nov. 3-Western Washington College, Bellingham Nov. 10-Whitworth, Cheney

* Night Games

1955 Football Standings

	Won	Lost
Whitworth	6	0
Pacific Lutheran		1
Puget Sound	4	2
Eastern Washington	3	3
Central Washington	2	4
U. of British Columbia	1	5
Western Washington	0	6

Savages Big and Fast

Everybody agrees that the Evergreen conference will be tough "all around" this year, and everyone who has seen the Savages agrees that the Eastern Washington college 1956 grid club looks to be the finest group of ball players in several years at Eastern.

Of the 18 returning lettermen, ten were starters on previous Savage squads. They include little all-American end, Bernie Hancock; Dick Hollenbeck, center; Jack Collins, guard; George Smith, tackle; Les Greear, tackle; Gene Siegel, tackle; Ron Sperber, end; Leon Horton, guard; Dick Huston, center; Bob Lamber, end; and Don Anderson, center.

Lettermen in the backfield include Keith Mortenson, fullback; Ron Sullivan, left half; Bill LaVigne, quarter; Dewey Van Dinter, right half; Gary Davis, full back; and Clark Meyers, half.

Many of the returning lettermen have been pushed out of starting positions by newcomers to the team like Ron Mensinger, 220-pound, junior college all-American from Olympia; Dick Nearants, 248-pound tackle, a transfer from the University of Idaho, and John Sandle and Jim Bauer, both battling it out for the signal calling post. Bauer is a transfer from WSC and Sande from Everett JC.

The Savages have a line averaging 212 pounds and a backfield average of 175.

Ed Chissus

Head coach Ed Chissus, one time athletic great at Eastern, is beginning his fourth year as head coach of the Savage Red and White grid squad.

An Eastern graduate in the spring of 1941, Ed began his coaching career at Monroe, Wash., that same fall. He moved to Mabton the following year and in the fall of 1943 he took the coaching chores at Zillah where his teams won the Yakima Valley class B championship two years in a row.

After a two-year hitch in the army he went to Wapato junior high, and the following year moved up to the varsity as head football and track coach. In the next four years his squads either tied or won the Yakima Valley championship each year. He came to Eastern as head footall coach in 1953 after compiling 53-21 high school record.

In his first year at Eastern, Ed's grid squad tied for second place in the conference with a record of 6-2. The next year, because of a heavy loss via-graduation from the '53 squad, the Savages had a 1-7 record, and last year they wound up with a 4-4 record. For the past two years he has also been head baseball coach.

Frank Sarno

Assisting Chissus with the football duties and handling the backfield this year is Frank Sarno, Washington State's fiery little quarterback of 1954, 1955, 1956.

From 1950 to 1952 Frank was in the marines as a sergeant, and in 1952 he enrolled at Washington State to try something he had never done before, football.

In Boston, Mass., where he attended high school, Frank was a music major, and received a scholarship to Boston University to study music. He selected the marines instead, and upon his discharge was offered a scholarship at WSC.

Even though he had never played high school ball he gave college ball a try and lettered as a regular for three years on the varsity squad. His sophomore year he was selected as the Pacific Coast conference back of the week.

He was tagged by his team mates and sportswriters as the spark plug of the Cougars.

Savage Prospective

DON ANDERSON, 25, 5'-10", 175, Junior, Center, Seattle. "Andy" lettered last year but has been hampered by a knee injury picked up in the first week of practice. He's small but plays heads-up ball.

JACK COLLINS, 22, 6', 208, Senior, Guard, Mead. Jack was one of the outstanding guards in the conference last year and is a good bet for all-conference this ear. He plays the game rough both on offense and defense, and will be a big asset to the Savage line this year.

GARY DAVIS, 22, 5'-11", 190, Senior, half, Spokane. Gary laid out of football last year but was a starter in the Savage lineup in '52 and '53. He is rugged, has a lot of speed, and should see a lot of action this year.

MATT FINNEGAN, 21, 5'-9", 165, Freshman, Half, Spokane. Small, but fast and deceptive and a good broken field runner. Matt placed in the state 100-yard dash in 1953, and should be an aid to Reese's track squad this spring.

LES GREEAR, 23, 6'-1'', 200, Senior, Tackle, Mossyrock, Les was a regular and a standout in the line last year. He arrived for turnout a week late. He will be pressed to hold his regular position at tackle.

DUANE GREGORY, 18, 6'-1". 185, Frosh, End, Washougal. Duane has looked sharp in early scrimmages, has a good pair of hands and is a good pass receiver. Should see a lot of action this season.

ED GWINN. 23, 5'-1", 190, Frosh, Fullback, Walla Walla. Just returned from a four-year hitch in the army and is still a little rusty. He is strong, plays the game rough, and should see some action before the season is over.

BERNIE HANCOCK, 24, 6'-3", 185, Senior, End, Pasco. Bernie made little all-American in 1953, as well as making all-conference. Just returned from a two-year hitch with the army and looks like he is ready to take off from where he left in '53. Is an excellent receiver and plays the game tough on defense.

Roster

Name A	ge Ht.	Wt.	Hometown	Pos.	Year of Eligibility
Don Anderson Jack Collins Jim Bauer Gary Davis Matt Finnegan Les Greear Duane Gregory Ed Gwinn Bernie Hancock F. Hollenbaugh Dick Hollenbeck Leon Horton Dick Huston Bob Lambert Bill LaVigne David McWhirter Ron Mensinger	25 5-10 22 6 24 6 22 5-11 21 5-9 23 6-1 18 6-1 23 5-9 24 6-3 21 5-9 21 6 22 5-6 21 5-9 21 6 22 5-1 23 6-2 23 5-11 23 6-2 23 5-11 20 6-2 20 6-2		Hometown Seattle Mead Wapato Spokane Spokane Mossyrock Washougal Walla Walla Pasco Garfield Tekoa Spokane Wapato Tacoma Four Lakes LaCrosse Kennewick Spokane Zillah Ephrata Pasco Cheney Yakima Yakima E. Stanwood Harrington Metaline Spokane Sumner Colville Clarkston Libby, Mont. Kelso Athena, Ore.	Pos. C. G. Q.B. H. B. T. End F.B. End H.B. C. T. C. End G. F.B. H.T. G. C. H.B. End	Eligibility Junior Senior Soph. Junior
Joe Turner1	9 5-10	195	Kennewick	G.	Soph.

FRANK HOLLENBAUGH, 21, 5'-7", 145, Frosh., Halfback, Garfield. Frank came around towards the end of the season last year and played some good ball. Is fast and a good broken field runner, should see a lot of action this year.

DICK HOLLENBECK, 22, 6', 209, Junior, Center, Tekoa. Dick missed part of last year with a broken wrist. He is one of the best linebackers in the conference, and plays the offense well.

LEON HORTON, 25, 6', 235, Senior, Tackle, Spokane. Leon was out last season with a knee injury. The knee has been holding up good, and he should give the savages a lot of strength in reserve.

DICK HUSTON, 21, 5'-9", 195, Junior, Center, Wapato. He lettered the last two years as a fullback at Eastern, but has been changed over this year to center because of his lack of speed. He is strong, and once he gets the knack of centering should give Hollenbeck some stiff competition at center.

BOB LAMBERT, 22, 6', 180, Senior, End, Tacoma. Bob lettered on last year's squad and should see a lot of action this year. He is a good pass receiver but lacks speed.

BILL LAVIGNE, 24, 5'-11", 172, Sophomore, Quarterback, Four Lakes. Bill was number one quarterback last year, is expected to shift to a half before the season is over. He runs hard, plays the defense tough, and has a good competitive spirit.

DAVID McWHIRTER, 19, 6'-1", 195, Sophomore, End, La Crosse. Has looked sharp in early scrimmages and is a good pass receiver. He is weak on defense but should pick that up with experience. Considered good prospect.

RON MENSINGER, 21, 6', 220, Junior, Guard, Kennewick. Ron is a transfer from Olympic JC where he was third string junior college All-American. He is tough both offensively and defensively and looks to be one of the best guards in the conference.

BOB MILLER, 19, 5'-7", 159, Frosh, Guard, Spokane. Bob has changed from halfback to guard and has been giving some of the bigger linemen a rough time in scrimmages. Might see some action this year but is handicapped by his size.

KEITH MORTENSON, 23, 6', 185, Senior, Fullback, Zillah. One of the best fullbacks in the conference, Keith was hampered throughout the season last year with a bad "charlie horse." He runs hard and plays his defense well, should be a top candidate for all-conference.

CLARK MEYERS, 20, 5'-11", 178, Sophomore, Halfback, Ephrata. Clark lettered last year and should see a lot of action this year. He is fast, a good broken field runner and a good pass receiver.

DICK NEARANTS, 23, 6'-2", 248, Junior, Tackle, Pasco. A transfer from U. of Idaho, Dick has moved into the starting lineup at tackle. He is big, fast, strong and likes to play the game rough. Should be one of the outstanding linemen in the conference.

RALPH OREY, 223, 5'-11", 195, Junior, Guard, Cheney, Ralph has lettered two years at Eastern as a reserve guard, and again this year should give the Savages a lot of bench strength

DON ROACH, 19, 5'-11", 180, Frosh, Center, Yakima. Don is lacking in experience, but should come around before the season's end. Has potential and is a good prospect for the future.

KEN ROCHEL, 20, 6', 180, Frosh, Halfback, Yakima. Ken was an all-stater last year from Highland in football and basketball, and is a very good prospect for both football and basketball. He has been looking good in early scrimmages and should see some action before the season's end.

JOHN SANDE, 19, 6', 178, Junior, Quarterback, East Stanwood. John is a transfer from Everett JC where he was named all-conference. He is left handed, good passer, and handles the ball well. Will see a lot of action as the number two quarterback.

TED SCHULTZ, 18, 5'-11". 165, Freshman, End, Harrington. A very good prospect as he has shown a lot of promise in early scrimmages. Is lacking in experience but should come around and give the Savages some added bench strength.

GENE SIEGEL, 22 6'-1", 230, Senior, Tackle, Metaline Falls, Gene was ineligible last year, but was a regular in '53 and '54. Likes to play the game rough, is strong and will give the opposition a lot of trouble.

GEORGE SMITH, 20, 6'-2", 185, Junior, Tackle, Spokane. George was a regular last year but looks to be on the reserve list this year. He has a lot of drive, a good competitive spirit and will be a hard man to keep off the starting lineup. Will see a lot of action.

MONTE SMITH, 18, 6', 164, Freshman, Halfback, Sumner. Shows a lot of promise, is fast and should be an asset to the squad in the future.

RON SPERBER, 20, 5'-11", 190, Junior, End, Colville, Ron is fast and a good pass receiver, plays the defense tough and is a great competitor.

RON SULLIVAN, 22, 5'-6", 160, Senior, Halfback, Clarkston. One of the best backs in the conference, he is fast, shifty, and follows his interference exceptionally well.

JOE TURNER, 19, 5'-10", 195, Sophomore, Guard, Kennewick. A good looking prospect, runs hard and should play a lot of ball at Eastern in the future.

PETE NELSON, 20, 6'-2'2', 220, Freshman, Fullback, Libby, Montana. Pete is one of the brightest looking freshmen in some time. Was all-state in Montaana and was named most valuable player in the all-star game. He is also an excellent track prospect.

DEWEY VAN DINTER, 19, 6', 176, Sophomore, Halfback, Kelso. The best running back on the squad, and as good as any in the conference. He is also an excellent pass receiver and a good defensive man.

BOB WOLFORD, 21, 6', 178, Senior, Tackle, Athena, Oregon. Bob is strong and is a good competitor. Will give the Savages a lot of bench strength and should see a lot of action.

JIM BAUER, 24. 6', 184, Wapato, Quarterback, Sophomore. In the second week of practice Jim sprained his ankle and will miss the first game or two, but should move in as number one quarterback when his ankle heals.

