

ERIC SANDERS - WALTER PAYTON AWARD CANDIDATE



QUARTERBACK
6-1 • 200 LBS. • SR.
OELWEIN, IOWA
OELWEIN HS

Led the Panthers to 12 fourth-quarter/overtime victories in his career ... posted a 35-9 mark as a starter ... threw one interception in his final 139 pass attempts ... one of 16 candidates for the Walter Payton Award - given to the nation's best FCS offensive player.

2007: Accounted for all three touchdowns in a 24-13 win over Iowa State (9/8) ... connected on 27-of-32 passes for 330 yards in leading UNI to a 31-17 win at South Dakota State (9/15) ... hit on 19 consecutive passes against the Jackrabbits - one away from the FCS record ... guided the Panthers to a 30-24 win over No. 7-ranked Southern Illinois (10/13) with 253 passing yards and a touchdown ... completed all eight passes he threw for 93 yards and a touchdown, while running for two others scores in leading UNI to a 42-3 road win against Western Illinois (10/20) ... notched his 11th fourth quarter victory by leading the Panthers to 14 fourth-quarter points in a 14-13 win over No. 20-ranked Youngstown State (10/27) ... his 28-yard touchdown pass to Johnny Gray ignited the Panthers' fourth-quarter rally ... tallied his 12th career fourth quarter/overtime victory in a 38-35 win over New Hampshire in the first round of the NCAA FCS playoffs ... hooked up with Montari Leonard on a 24-yard touchdown pass with only seven seconds left to defeat New Hampshire ... passed for 314 yards on 27-of-36 passing against the Wildcats ... passed for 291 yards and a TD against Delaware.

UNI's Clutch Wins Under Sanders

#1 - UNI 22, Youngstown State 20 (10/16/04) ... UNI trailed 20-19 with 3:53 remaining before Panthers drove down the field and won on a 31-yard field goal from Brian Wingert with 0:00 on the clock.

#2 - UNI 45, Northern Arizona 21 (11/20/04) ... UNI trailed 21-17 with 10:06 remaining but scored four touchdowns in the fourth quarter including a touchdown run and pass from Sanders.

#3 - UNI 23, Western Kentucky 20 2OT (11/5/05) ... UNI tied the game in the fourth quarter on a 70-yard punt return by Johnny Gray ... UNI won the game overtime on a 20-yard pass from Sanders to Justin Surrency.

#4 - UNI 25, Southern Illinois 24 (11/12/05) ... UNI trailed 24-10 entering the fourth quarter ... the Panthers completed the comeback with a 35-yard touchdown pass from Sanders to Jamie Goodwin on a 4th-and-2 with 2:38 left in the fourth quarter to clinch the Gateway title.

#5 - UNI 41, Eastern Washington 38 (11/26/05) ... UNI trailed 38-24 with 11:03 left in the fourth quarter ... Sanders guided the Panthers to three straight scores including the game-winning field goal by Brian Wingert with 51 seconds left in the game.

#6 - UNI 24, New Hampshire 21 (12/3/05) ... UNI and New Hampshire were tied 21-21 entering the fourth quarter ... Sanders guided a Panther drive that netted a 22-yard field goal from Brian Wingert at the 11:50 mark to provide the winning margin.

#7 - UNI 40, Texas State 37 (12/9/05) ... UNI trailed 37-29 with 5:01 left in the game before Sanders guided the Panthers to a 10-play 72-yard touchdown drive ... Sanders' two-point pass to Justin Surrency tied the game with 1:27 left ... UNI won in overtime on a 25-yard field goal from Brian Wingert.

#8 - UNI 27, South Dakota State 17 (9/16/06) ... UNI was tied 17-17 with the Jackrabbits before scoring two times in the fourth quarter for the win.

#9 - UNI 31, Western Kentucky 20 (11/4/06) ... UNI trailed 20-17 with just over five minutes remaining ... Sanders put UNI ahead for good with a 56-yard touchdown strike to Terrell Allen at the 5:03 mark.

#10 - UNI 23, Illinois State 13 (9/29/07) ... UNI was tied 13-13 before Sanders found Terrell Allen for a 5-yard touchdown at the 5:17 mark of the fourth quarter.

#11 - UNI 14, Youngstown State 13 (10/27/07) ... UNI trailed 13-0 entering the fourth quarter ... Sanders led two fourth quarter touchdown drives for the win.

#12 - UNI 38, New Hampshire 35 (11/24/07) ... UNI trailed 35-31 with 1:16 left in the fourth quarter ... hooked up with freshman wide receiver Montari Leonard for a 24-yard touchdown pass with only seven seconds remaining to clinch the victory ... guided the Panthers 71 yards in only five plays with no timeouts to work with on the final drive.



Eric Sanders' Game-By-Game Stats

2004 Season

Date/Opponent	Att-Comp-Yds (TDs)
9/4 - @Iowa State	DNP
9/11 - Minnesota State	5-3-20 (0)
9/18 - Stephen F. Austin	DNP
10/2 - @Southern Illinois	13-5-56 (0)
10/9 - Western Kentucky	26-18-205 (1)
10/16 - @Youngstown State	18-9-137 (1)
10/23 - Western Illinois	15-9-120 (2)
10/30 - Missouri State	17-14-232 (2)
11/6 - @Indiana State	15-11-174 (4)
11/13 - Illinois State	14-10-165 (2)
11/20 - @Northern Arizona	27-16-198 (3)

2005 Season

Date - Opponent	Att-Comp-Yds (TDs)
9/1 - Drake	17-14-289 (3)
9/10 - Minnesota-Duluth	14-12-311 (3)
9/17 - @Iowa	29-19-263 (3)
10/1 - @Western Illinois	26-18-244 (2)
10/8 - @Missouri State	7-5-31 (0)
10/15 - Indiana State	DNP
10/22 - @Illinois State	DNP
10/29 - Youngstown State	15-7-73 (0)
11/5 - @Western Kentucky	29-24-235 (1)

11/12 - Southern Illinois	33-22-272 (3)
11/19 - Northern Arizona	15-5-98 (1)
11/26 - Eastern Washington	40-31-330 (2)
12/3 - @New Hampshire	25-15-185 (1)
12/9 - @Texas State	31-24-417 (4)
12/15 - Appalachian State	31-17-181 (0)

2006 Season

Date - Opponent	Att-Comp-Yds (TDs)
8/31 - @Drake	20-25-198 (1)
9/9 - North Dakota	18-31-208 (2)
9/16 - South Dakota State	9-12-79 (1)
9/30 - @Iowa State	23-29-158 (1)
10/7 - Missouri State	10-14-161 (2)
10/14 - @Indiana State	13-19-139 (0)
10/21 - @Youngstown State	19-27-291 (3)
10/28 - Western Illinois	20-36-201 (1)
11/4 - Western Kentucky	16-23-197 (1)

11/11 - @Southern Illinois	15-24-204 (1)
11/18 - Illinois State	6-9-98 (2)

2007 Season

Date - Opponent	Att-Comp-Yds (TDs)
8/30 - Minnesota State	24-31-295 (1)
9/8 - @Iowa State	23-29-180 (2)
9/15 - @South Dakota State	27-32-330 (0)
9/22 - @Drake	11-14-167 (1)
9/29 - @Illinois State	16-26-166 (2)
10/13 - Southern Illinois	19-26-253 (1)
10/20 - @Western Illinois	8-8-93 (1)
10/27 - Youngstown State	16-20-170 (1)
11/3 - @Missouri State	16-23-199 (2)
11/10 - Indiana State	9-11-178 (2)
11/17 - Southern Utah	15-21-206 (2)
11/24 - New Hampshire	27-36-314 (1)
12/1 - Delaware	26-38-291 (1)

Eric Sanders' Career Passing Statistics

Year	G-GS	Att	Comp	Pct.	Yds	Int	TDs	LG	HG
2004	9-7	150	95	63.3	1,307	5	15	74	232
2005	13-13	312	213	68.3	2,929	5	23	69	417
2006	11-11	249	169	67.9	1,934	7	15	70	291
2007	13-13	315	237	75.2	2,842	6	17	60	330
Totals	46-44	1,026	714	69.59	9,012	23	70	74	417