Three Bluejays Earn Academic Awards

ELMHURST, Ill., November 15, 2004 -- Three Elmhurst College student-athletes have been selected to the CoSIDA Academic All-District squads in their respective sports. Football players Todd Evans (Bartlett-Glenbard North) and Brian Slackert (Hinsdale-Hinsdale Central) were both named to the All-District football teams, while Nicole Carlson (Forreston-H.S.) was selected to the volleyball team.

Both the District V volleyball team and football squad, voted on by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA), is comprised of athletes from colleges in the states of Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Indiana. First-Team All-District selections are eligible to be honored as CoSIDA Academic All-Americans. Since the 2000-01 season, the Bluejays have produced 14 CoSIDA Academic All-Americans.

Slackert was selected to the Academic All-District football second team as an offensive lineman. The sophomore has been a two-year starter for the Bluejays. He was part of the offensive line that was selected to D3Football.com's "Team of the Week" after helping Elmhurst put up the third-highest single-game points (60) and total yardage (561) in school history in the team's win over Benedictine earlier this season. He maintains a 3.784 grade-point average while majoring in finance.

Evans earned third-team honors at wide receiver. Earlier this week he earned his first all-conference distinction at wide out. The junior caught 43 passes for a team-leading 678 yards and 12 touchdowns. His 12 touchdown grabs this year established a new single-season record and also gave his 18 touchdowns for his career, tying the school’s career mark. A management major, he maintains a 3.324 grade-point average.

Carlson earned Academic All-District third team honors in volleyball. Just last week, she earned her second-straight College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) first-team recognition, and the third of her three-year career, by leading the Bluejays in total kills (436) and kills per game (3.14). She also ranked second on the team in digs (582) and added 39 aces. She was named to the all-tournament teams at the CCIW, Emory University, and UW-Platteville tournaments. She helped guide the Bluejay volleyball team to its fifth straight CCIW Title and NCAA Tournament appearance. She holds a 3.945 grade-point average while majoring in business administration.

Football Players Honored by CCIW

ELMHURST, Ill., November 17, 2004 -- Four members of the Elmhurst College football team have been selected to the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) all-conference team. Andy Brogan (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) earned first-team accolades while second-team honors went to Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North), Todd Evans (Bartlett-Glenbard North) and Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel).

Brogan was a first-team selection at tight end. He was the Bluejays’ third leading receiver in 2004, catching 30 passes for 285 yards and a pair of touchdowns. This is the first all-conference honor in the junior’s career.

Demma earned his second-straight second-team selection at quarterback. The senior closed out his college career by completing 196-of-317 pass attempts for 2,425 yards and 26 touchdowns. He finished his career with single-game records for touchdown passes (five), pass completions (38) and passing yardage (455). He set single-season records for touchdown passes (26), passing yards (2,425), pass completions (222) and pass completion percentage (63.8). He also holds career records for touchdown passes (59), pass completions (567), passing yardage (6,283) and pass completion percentage (61.4).

Evans earned his first all-conference distinction at wide receiver. The junior wide out caught 43 passes for a team-leading 678 yards and 12 touchdowns. His 12 touchdown grabs this year established a new single-season record. He has 18 touchdown catches for his career, tying the school’s career mark.
Luna earned his second-straight second-team selection at running back. The junior tailback was the primary ball carrier for Elmhurst, rushing 227 times for 1,083 yards and 11 touchdowns. He also caught 26 passes for 273 yards and a touchdown. His 1,083 yards this season is the third-highest single-season mark in school history. He’s just the third Bluejay to break the 1,000-yard rushing barrier in a season. For his career, he ranks second in rushing yardage (2,604), rushing touchdowns (30) and points scored (200).

The Bluejays closed out the 2004 season with a 4-6 overall record and a seventh-place finish in the CCIW.

**Football Team Falls to Carthage**

**Carthage Boxscore**

ELMHURST, Ill., November 13, 2004 - The Elmhurst College football team closed out the 2004 season with a 49-14 loss to 15th ranked Carthage College. The Bluejays finished the season with a 4-6 overall record and a 1-6 record in the CCIW.

Carthage got on the scoreboard first when Ferni Garza carried the ball into the end zone on a four-yard quarterback keeper. The Redmen would tack on a second score in the first quarter when Chris Krepline hauled in an 18-yard pass from B.J. O'Donnell to cap a 12-play, 95-yard drive for the Redmen.

Carthage made it 21-0 in the second quarter when O'Donnell scored on a 23-yard touchdown pass from Garza. The Redmen took a 28-0 lead before halftime when Daunte Washington scored on a one-yard touchdown run.

The Redmen opened up a 35-0 lead in the third quarter when Washington capped the opening drive of the half with his second one-yard touchdown run. Elmhurst got on the board in the second half when Michael Cooley (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) hauled in a 36-yard touchdown pass from Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North). Carthage reclaimed a 35-point advantage when Brandon Fox returned an interception 53 yards for a touchdown.

Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel) gave the Bluejays' their second score of the game when he scored on a 23-yard run with 4:24 to play in the third quarter. The Redmen scored the final points of the game when Luke Thompson rushed into the end zone from 19 yards out.

Demma completed 15-of-37 passes for 248 yards and a touchdown. The 248 yards moved him into first place all-time at Elmhurst College in total passing yards. He moved past Jack Lamb's former mark (6,281) by two yards (6,283). Luna also became just the third Bluejay to rush for over 1,000 yards in a season. He carried 17 times for 94 yards and a touchdown. Todd Evans led the receiving corps for the Bluejays. He hauled in five passes for 107 yards.

**FB Team Falls to Millikin**

**Millikin Boxscore**

ELMHURST, Ill., November 6, 2004 - The Elmhurst College football team fell to Millikin University 28-21 to drop to 4-5 overall and 1-5 in the CCIW.

The Bluejays struggled to get rolling in the first half as Millikin jumped out to a quick 14-0 lead in the first quarter, while keeping the Bluejay offense off the field.

Millikin scored on the opening drive of the game as Nathan Wallick scored on a two yard run, capping an eight-play, 57-yard drive.
The Bluejay offense struggled on its first possession and was forced to punt. The Big Blue promptly marched 51 yards in 12 plays, with Mike Kenders scoring on a one-yard touchdown plunge. The Big Blue held the ball for over 12 minutes of the first quarter.

Elmhurst’s offense again sputtered and Millikin started to drive. The Big Blue hurt themselves with several penalties and was forced to finally punt after eating up another six minutes of the clock.

The Bluejays were still unable to get rolling on offense and had to punt again. The Big Blue drove inside the Elmhurst 30-yard line before turning the ball over on downs.

Elmhurst’s best scoring chance came on its final drive of the half. Elmhurst marched to the Millikin eight-yard line, but a holding penalty and a sack killed the Bluejays’ scoring chance. Elmhurst had just 77 yards of offense in the first half compared to Millikin's 198 yards. Millikin also enjoyed a near 10 minute advantage in time of possession.

Elmhurst got rolling in the third quarter. Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel) capped a nine-play 83-yard drive with a five-yard touchdown run to bring Elmhurst to within a score.

The Bluejays tried a surprise onside kick on the kickoff. While Elmhurst appeared to recover the ball just inside the 45-yard line, the Bluejays were ruled to have touched the ball a half-yard shy of the minimum 10 yards the kick needed to travel. Millikin took over at the Elmhurst 44-yard line and four plays later, Kenders ran into the end zone on a one-yard score to put Millikin up 21-7.

The Big Blue would tack on an additional score in the fourth quarter when Wallick scored on a five yard run, capping a 66-yard drive.

The Bluejays rallied though as Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) led the team on a 10-play 70-yard drive capped off by a five-yard touchdown pass to Todd Evans (Carol Stream-Glenbard North).

Millikin went on a long drive eating up five minutes of the clock, pushing to the Elmhurst 13-yard line. Jeremy Stephen was stripped of the ball with Elmhurst recovering. Demma led a 13-play, 94-yard drive in 1:52 hooking up with Evans on a 10-yard score.

The Bluejays attempted the onside kick, but the ball sailed out of bounds, and Millikin was able to run out the remaining clock.

For the game, Millikin rolled up 415 yards of total offense while the Bluejays finished with 366 yards.

Demma led the way for Elmhurst throwing for 276 yards on 28-of-40 passing. He also passed for two touchdowns Luna led the ground game with 71 yards and a touchdown. Jake Allen (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) and Evans each had six catches for the Bluejays. Evans’ two touchdown receptions gave him 18 for his career, tying the school's career mark.

Millikin was led by Wallick's 132 yards and two touchdowns on 27 carries. Kenders ran for 74 yards and two scores on 12 touches. Joe Albin completed 11-of-19 passes for 181 yards.

Defensively, Benitez Brown (Sparta-H.S.) led the team in tackles with 15.

Elmhurst will close out the 2004 season next weekend when they travel to Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis. Game time is set for 1:00 p.m.

Football Team Falls to Augustana
Football Team Falls to Augustana

ELMHURST, Ill., October 30, 2004 - It was a tale of two completely different halves as Augustana College (7-1, 5-0 CCIW) overcame a 21-6 deficit at halftime to defeat the Elmhurst College Bluejays (4-4, 1-4 CCIW).

Elmhurst owned the first half, taking a 14-0 lead and scoring on the final play of the half to go up 21-6 at halftime. The Bluejays dominated on offense in the first half, rolling up 263 yards of total offense on 41 plays while enjoying a five minute time of advantage edge. Augustana was limited to just 119 yards of offense on 23 plays in the first half.

It was a role reversal in the second half as Augustana rolled up 325 yards of offense. All of the Vikings yardage came on the ground with the rushing attack. The Bluejays were held to 131 yards in the second half as Augustana enjoyed an eight-minute time of possession advantage.

Elmhurst looked good right out of the gate as the Bluejays took the opening kickoff and drove all the way to the Vikings' 17-yard line. An Elmhurst penalty killed the Bluejay drive and backed them up 10 yards. A pooch punt by Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) pinned the Vikings at their own two-yard line.

Augustana drove to their own 34-yard line, before a botched hand-off led to a fumble that the Bluejays’ recovered at the Vikings' 37-yard line. Six plays later, Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel) plunged into the end zone from one-yard out to give Elmhurst a 7-0 lead.

The two team’s defenses both stepped up in the next possessions. Elmhurst forced Augustana into a three-and-out and the Vikings answered with a three-and-out stand of their own. The Bluejays defense stopped the Vikings and the offense went back to work. Elmhurst drove down to the Vikings 14-yard line before a Kelly Karlan (Munster, Ind.-Mt. Carmel, Ill.) 31-yard field goal attempt hit the left upright.

The Vikings still sputtered on offense as the Bluejays forced them to punt after a third straight three-and-out series. Kicking into a strong wind, Mike Clark’s punt traveled only 14 yards and Elmhurst took over at the Vikings’ 40-yard line.

After a three-yard run by Luna, Demma connected with Terence Young (Chicago-DeLaSalle) on a 37-yard touchdown strike to put the Bluejays up 14-0 after the point after.

Augustana got moving on offense on its next possession. The Vikings drove to the Bluejays 42-yard line and scored when Matt Roe scored on a 42-yard quarterback keeper. Clark’s extra point sailed wide and Elmhurst took over at the Vikings’ 40-yard line.

The Bluejays had 1:26 to work with before the half after the Augustana score. Starting at their own 30-yard line, Demma drove Elmhurst to the Augustana 15 yard line before he was sacked for a loss of 12 yards. With six seconds remaining and the ball on the Vikings 27-yard line, the Bluejays knew they’d have one shot at the end zone before the half. Demma fired up a ball to the corner of the end zone and Todd Evans (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) made a leaping catch and came down in bounds for the touchdown as the clock expired. The score gave Elmhurst a 21-6 halftime lead.

The Vikings made several second-half adjustments and came storming out of the gate. Just two plays into the third quarter, Greg Cozzi ripped off a 47-yard touchdown run. Roe rushed in for the two-point conversion to cut the Bluejays’ lead to 21-14.

Starting at their own 20-yard line after the kickoff, Elmhurst was kept in check by the Vikings defense and forced to punt after three plays.

The Vikings marched 55 yards in eight plays capped off by a Mike Guzman six-yard touchdown run to even the score at 21-21.
Elmhurst’s offense was unable to get anything going and forced to punt into the wind. The Vikings found themselves starting at the Elmhurst 41-yard line after the Bluejays’ punt. Cozzi capped a 41-yard drive with a three-yard touchdown run to put Augustana up 28-21.

The Bluejays finally got started on its next possession. Demma led the team to the Augustana two-yard line and Luna plowed into the end zone from two yards out to bring the Bluejays to within a point. A botched snap on the extra point, left Elmhurst trailing 28-27.

Augustana continued to roll on offense though as Roe scored on a one-yard run, capping a 13-play, 70-yard drive that ate up over six minutes of the game clock.

Still trailing by just one score, disaster struck for the Bluejays on the kickoff. Clark’s kick into the wind traveled to the Elmhurst 30-yard line, but the ball was blown back. Elmhurst was unable to grab the ball and the Vikings recovered the ball at the Elmhurst 38-yard line. Six plays later, Guzman rushed into the end zone from four yards out to put Augustana up 42-27 with four minutes to play.

Demma tried to spark a rally, but his pass was picked off at the Augustana 27-yard line, killing the Bluejays’ drive. Two plays later, Guzman broke free and scored on a 65-yard touchdown run for the final score of the game, giving the Vikings a 49-27 win.

For the game, Augustana finished with 444 yards of total offense, all coming on the ground. Roe never threw a pass in the contest. The Bluejays totaled 394 yards of offense with 153 coming on the ground and 241 through the air.

Luna led the Bluejays’ ground game, rushing 29 times for 130 yards and two touchdowns. Demma completed 19-of-28 passes for 241 yards and two touchdowns. Andy Brogan (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) caught six passes for 54 yards to lead all receivers.

Augustana was led by Guzman’s 174 yards and three touchdowns on 18 carries. Cozzi added 103 yards and two scores on 13 carries. Averil Sutchas rushed for 91 yards and Roe carried for 70.

Elmhurst will play host Millikin University next Saturday (November 6) for their final home game of the season. Kickoff is set for 1:00 p.m.

Football Team Falls to NCC

North Central Boxscore

ELMHURST, Ill., October 23, 2004 - The Elmhurst College football team dropped to 4-3 overall and 1-3 in the CCIW following a 30-21 defeat to North Central College in Naperville.

The Bluejays got on the scoreboard first in the first quarter after North Central drove inside the red zone but missed a field goal. Starting at their own 20-yard line the Bluejays needed just two plays to get on the board. After a loss of a yard on a rush, Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) hit Todd Evans (Bartlett-Glenbard North). Evans broke to the sideline and turned on the speed, racing 81 yards for a touchdown to put the Bluejays up 7-0 after the extra point. The touchdown grab by Evans was his ninth of the season, establishing a new Elmhurst College single-season record.

North Central answered right back on the very next drive when on second and long from the Elmhurst 40-yard line Kam Kniss threw a touchdown strike to Tyler Didier to knot the score at 7-7.

After a Bluejay punt, North Central reclaimed the lead when Matt Edgcomb capped a six-play 52-yard drive with a four-yard touchdown run.
Elmhurst was forced to punt on its next possession but the Bluejays' defense responded with a big play. Kyle Maple (Kaneville-Kaneland) picked off Kniss at the North Central 48-yard line and returned it to the 25-yard line. Five plays later, Demma connected with Jake Allen (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) from 11 yards out to tie the score at 14-14.

North Central answered back immediately. Kniss capped a seven-play, 80-yard drive with a 38-yard touchdown pass to Tyke Spencer to put the Cardinals up 21-14.

After a Bluejay punt, the Cardinal drove to the Elmhurst 11-yard line before settling for a Mike Augustine 28-yard field goal to make the score 24-14 in favor of the Cardinals.

The Bluejays closed the gap before halftime as Demma led a 12-play, 69-yard drive in 1:19 capped by a four-yard touchdown pass to Terence Young (Chicago-DeLaSalle). The extra point was blocked and North Central led 24-20 at halftime.

North Central took the opening kickoff of the second half and drove all the way to the Bluejay two yard line. Ryan Dollins (Broadview/Riverside-Brookfield) stripped Cardinal running back Steve Holden of the Ball and Travis Rueckert (Hawthorn Woods-Lake Zurich) recovered the ball at the Elmhurst five-yard line.

The Bluejays were held to a three-and-out on the next possession and were forced to punt. North Central blocked the Elmhurst punt attempt and recovered the ball at the Elmhurst five yard line.

The Bluejay defense made a tough goal-line stance against the Cardinals. North Central drove to the one-yard line and went for the score on fourth down. Dollins and Rueckert combined to stuff Holden on fourth and goal and force the turnover on downs.

The Bluejays had a bad break on their next possession when Demma was picked off at the Elmhurst 16-yard line by Mario Smith. Smith returned the ball to the one-yard line. After a loss of a few yards and a penalty, Kniss converted the third-and-goal attempt with a nine-yard touchdown pass to Chuck Earnest. The score gave North Central a 31-20 lead.

The Bluejays tried to answer back on their next possession, driving to the North Central 29-yard line. Demma's pass was deflected and picked off by Ben Hare killing the Bluejays' drive. Neither team was able to crack the scoreboard on its next possessions and after the Bluejays failed to convert a fourth-and-four at the North Central 35-yard line, the Cardinals were able to run out the final 3:45 of the game.

North Central out gained Elmhurst 418 yards to 278 yards. The Cardinals rushed for 152 yards and passed for 266. Elmhurst ran for 89 yards and passed for 189.

Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel) recorded his fifth 100-yard rushing game of the season with a 103-yard day on 16 carries. Demma completed 16-of-33 attempts for 189 yards and three touchdowns. Evans caught four passed for 105 yards and a score while Young grabbed five balls for 38 yards and a TD.

Holden led North Central with 140 yards on 31 carries. Kniss finished 18-of-25 with three touchdowns and an interception. Spencer caught eight passes for 125 yards and a score.

The Bluejays' defense was led by Rueckert's 13 tackles. Ward Brady (Bartlett-Glenbard North) added 10 stops in the loss.

Elmhurst will attempt to rebound from the loss when they host Augustana College next Saturday (October 30) at 1:00 p.m.

Football Team Suffers 56-6 Defeat
WHEATON, Ill., October 16, 2004 -The Elmhurst College football team suffered a 56-6 loss at the hands of Wheaton College to fall to 4-2 overall and 1-1 in the CCIW.

The Bluejays' offensive machine, which had been so dominant in the past weeks, was stalled against the defending CCIW Champion Thunder. Elmhurst was held to just 174 yards of total offense on 61 plays. The struggles of the Bluejays’ defense continued, as Wheaton amassed 526 yards of total offense, with over 280 yards coming on the ground. The Thunder scored on eight of their first nine possessions, including all five possessions in the first half.

Wheaton got on the board quickly in the first quarter. After Elmhurst was forced to punt on their opening possession, the Thunder blocked a Bluejay punt and recovered the ball at the Elmhurst 18-yard line. One play later, Drew Thornfeldt scored on an 18-yard run. The extra point was missed and the Thunder led 6-0.

The Bluejays pushed the ball to the Wheaton 40-yard line on the their next possession, but were again forced to punt. The Thunder responded with a six-play, 75-yard drive capped by a three-yard run by Thornfeldt. The two-point conversion failed and the Thunder led 12-0.

After another Bluejay punt, the Thunder marched 93 yards in 10 plays as Jeremy Cupp capped the scoring drive with a 39-yard touchdown pass to Colin Sinclair to put Wheaton up 19-0.

A three-and-out by the Bluejays gave Wheaton the ball at their own 45-yard line following the Elmhurst punt. The Thunder needed just seven plays to cover 55 yards as Thornfeldt found the end zone from nine yards out for his third score of the game. The touchdown put the Thunder up 26-0.

The Thunder scored on their sixth straight possession as they moved 51 yards in eight plays, capped by a Musso touchdown reception from Chupp. The score put Wheaton up 40-6.

After the Bluejays were forced to punt on offense, the Elmhurst defense kept Wheaton out of the end zone on its next possession. The Thunder drove all the way to the Elmhurst one-yard line before a false start penalty knocked them back five yards. Wheaton failed to convert on fourth and goal.

Pinned deep in their own territory, the Bluejays were forced to punt again, giving Wheaton the ball at the Elmhurst 45-yard line. Frank Andrews capped a 45-yard drive with a five-yard touchdown pass to Joe Chupp, giving Wheaton a 47-6 lead.

After the Bluejays’ eighth punt of the game, Wheaton scored on a 13-yard run by Matt Hamstra, capping an 11-play 57-yard drive to give the Thunder a 54-6 lead.

The Thunders final two points came when Elmhurst had a bad snap on a punt attempt. The ball rolled out of the end zone for a safety.
Offensively, the Bluejays passed for just 90 yards while rushing for 84. Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel) led the ground game with 85 yards on 21 carries. Demma completed 11-of-24 attempts for 90 yards and a touchdown. Brogan caught four passes to lead all Elmhurst receivers.

Nine different Wheaton ball carriers combined for 283 rushing yards and four touchdowns while Chupp and Andrews combined to complete 16-of-22 attempts for 243 yards and four touchdowns.

The Elmhurst defense was led by Ward Brady’s (Bartlett-Glenbard North) 15 tackles. Kyle Maple (Kaneville-Kaneland) and David Socarras (Miami, Fla.-Christian) each had 10 tackles for the Bluejays.

The Bluejays will look to rebound next weekend when they travel to North Central College on Saturday, October 23. Kickoff is scheduled for 1:00 p.m.

Pair of Bluejays Earn CCIW Honors

ELMHURST, Ill., October 12, 2004 -- For the second time this season, Elmhurst College quarterback Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) has been selected as the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin’s (CCIW) “Co-Offensive Player of the Week.” In addition, Elmhurst College wide receiver Terence Young (Chicago-DeLaSalle) has been selected as the league’s “Special Teams Player of the Week.” Demma shares the honor with Wheaton College’s Brad Musso.

Demma earned Offensive Player of the Week honors for his play in rallying the Bluejays to a 35-31 win over North Park University. Demma became Elmhurst’s all-time leader in pass completions with his 14th completion of the game. He finished the day 30-of-44 for 419 yards and three touchdowns. He now stands at 478 completions in his career. On the Bluejays’ game-winning drive in the fourth quarter, Demma accounted for 70 of the team’s 75 yards, passing for three first downs and rushing for two first downs.

Demma is in his third season as the starting quarterback for the Bluejays. He owns single-game passing records for passing yardage (455), touchdowns (five) and completions (38). Last season, he set the single-season record for touchdown passes (22), passing yards (2,339) and completions (222). He is also the record holder for most touchdown passes in a career with 45.

Demma is also a three-year starter at third base on the Bluejay baseball team, earning all-conference honors for two seasons.

A graduate of Glenbard North High School, Demma led his team to the state championship finals during his senior season while serving as captain. He was a three-time all-conference selection in both baseball and football.

He is the son of Dominic and Maryann Demma of Carol Stream.

Young received the Special Teams Player of the Week honors after he returned two kicks for 53 yards and had a key punt block that set up a second-half Elmhurst Touchdown. To top it off, Young also caught seven passes for 133 yards including a 51-yard touchdown reception.

During his freshman season, Young hauled in 31 passes for 396 yards and three touchdowns. A graduate of DeLaSalle High School, Young earned all-conference honors during his senior season.

He is the son of Terry and Drucilla Young of Chicago. The Bluejay football team is off to a 4-1 start to the 2004 season after posting a 6-4 mark in 2003. Elmhurst travels to Wheaton College on Saturday, October 16, at 1:00 p.m.

The Bluejays are charter members of the CCIW and compete at the NCAA Division III level.
Football Team Defeats North Park

North Park Boxscore

ELMHURST, Ill. October 9, 2004 - Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) completed 30 passes for 419 yards and three touchdowns, to help lead the Elmhurst College (4-1 overall, 1-1 CCIW) football team to a come-from-behind 35-31 win over North Park University (1-4 overall, 0-2 CCIW) in front of over 2,300 fans at Langhorst Field. In the process, Demma became the school's all-time leader in pass completions with 478.

Elmhurst overcame untimely penalties that cost the team a pair of touchdowns and rallied from 10 points down to bring home the victory during the team's homecoming game.

The Bluejays wasted little time jumping on the scoreboard as Demma led the team on a 13-play, 87-yard drive after the opening kickoff. Demma hooked up with Todd Evans (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) from 38-yards out to give Elmhurst a quick 7-0 lead.

The Bluejay defense held on North Park's first offense possession and the Elmhurst offense went back on the field. The Bluejays marched into Viking territory before a botched snap resulted in a turnover.

The Vikings took over in good field position, and moved to the Elmhurst 12-yard line before settling for a 30-yard Christen Thomsen field goal.

After both teams were forced to punt, the Bluejay offense took over at its own 38-yard line. After an 11-yard Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel) carry, Demma hooked up with Terence Young (Chicago-DeLaSalle) on a 51-yard touchdown strike to put Elmhurst up 14-3 after the extra point.

North Park responded with a seven-play, 74-yard drive capped by a Mike Haehn touchdown pass to Ahmod Williams. The drive was keyed by a 54-yard pass to Jon Harris in which the Bluejays missed multiple tackles.

After the touchdown, North Park surprised Elmhurst with an onside kick that the Vikings recovered at the Bluejay 48-yard line. Elmhurst's defense killed the drive when David Socarras (Miami, Fla.-Florida Christian) sacked and stripped Hahn of the ball. Matt Kelly (Bourbonnais/Bradley-Bourbonnais) scooped up the ball and raced down field into the end zone, but the return was called back due to an illegal block on the Bluejays. Elmhurst failed to produce on the drive and the two teams went into the locker rooms at halftime with the Bluejays leading 14-10.

North Park took the opening kick of the third quarter and moved 70 yards in just five plays to take the lead. Haehn hit Sherman Gant on a 38 yard pass play to put North Park up 17-14.

The Bluejays' first drive of the second half stalled after Demma was picked off on a deep pass play. The Bluejay defense stiffened and held North Park to a three-and-out. The special teams unit came up big when Young sprang free and blocked the Harris punt setting up the Bluejays' offense at the North Park 10-yard line.

Elmhurst capitalized on the North Park mistake immediately. Luna barreled into the end zone from 10 yards out on the first play from scrimmage to give Elmhurst the lead back at 21-17.

North Park moved deep into Elmhurst territory on its next possession, setting up shop at the Elmhurst 16 yard line where they faced a fourth-and-one. Rather than elect a running play for the short yardage, Haehn rolled out and fired a pass short of his intended receiver, giving the Bluejays the ball back on offense.

Elmhurst looked as though they had scored when Demma hooked up with Luna for a 65-yard pass play, but a holding penalty after the reception brought the ball back to the Elmhurst 44-yard line. The Bluejays' drive was killed when Luna was stripped of the football and North Park recovered at the Elmhurst 44-yard line.
Three plays into the Vikings’ drive, Haehn hooked up with Harris for a 30-yard touchdown to give North Park the lead back at 24-21.

Elmhurst marched into the Vikings territory and faced a first down and the North Park 20-yard line when a string of penalties went against the Bluejays. Elmhurst was slapped with back-to-back holding calls and an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty. The penalties moved the Bluejays back to midfield where they eventually turned the ball over on downs.

After a pair of punts by both teams, North Park took possession at its own nine yard line. Facing a third-and-short at the Viking 25-yard line, Haehn hooked up with a streaking Gant for a 68-yard touchdown reception giving North Park a 31-21 lead with 6:38 to play in the game.

After two incomplete passes, Elmhurst faced a third down and its own 31-yard line. Demma got the offense rolling, with three straight completions, moving the Bluejays to the North Park 10-yard line. After a six-yard run by Luna, Demma hooked up Evans on a fade pattern to the corner of the end zone to bring Elmhurst to within three points at 31-28. The drive took just 1:21 to cover 69 yards.

Elmhurst’s defense stiffened again as the Bluejays held the Vikings to a three-and-out. Elmhurst’s offense took over at its own 25-yard line with 3:51 to play after a Harris punt.

Demma went to work immediately, hitting Jake Allen (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) for 15 yards. Then he fired a strike to Young for 22 additional yards. Demma then pushed the offense to the North Park 24-yard line after a 14-yard pass play to Evans. After hitting Allen for a gain of seven, Demma scrambled four yards for another Elmhurst first down, setting up a first down at the North Park 13-yard line. After a three-yard rush by Luna, Demma fired an incomplete pass on a drive to Allen in the end zone. On a third and seven at the North Park 10-yard line, the pocket collapsed and Demma took off. Finding open field, the quarterback put his head down and muscled to the two-yard line to set up a first-and-goal. Luna punched the ball in from two yards out to put Elmhurst up 35-31.

With 2:01 to play, North Park took over on offense. The Vikings quickly picked up a first down at their own 44-yard line. After an incomplete pass, the Bluejays’ defense sealed the win, when Haehn was picked off by Socarras at the Elmhurst 31-yard line. The Bluejays were able to run out the clock on offense and come away with the win.

For the game, Elmhurst compiled 526 yards, its eighth highest offensive output in school history. 419 of the Bluejays yards came through the air, while 134 came on the ground attack. The Bluejays finished with 25 first downs in the game.

North Park’s offense also put up strong numbers, burning the Bluejay defense for 440 yards and four touchdowns through the air. On the ground, Elmhurst had North Park’s number. The Vikings carried 21 times for negative one yard.

Demma was the big star of the Bluejay offense, completing 30-of-44 passes for 419 yards and three touchdowns. His 14th completion of the game, gave him the school record for career completions, moving past Jack Lamb’s (1989-92) mark of 461. Demma now stands at 478 career completions. Demma also moved past the 5,000 yards career passing mark in the game.

Luna recorded his fourth 100-yard rushing game of the season, carrying 27 times for 101 yards and two touchdowns. Luna has an even 600 yards rushing through five games.

Seven different Bluejay receivers caught passes. Young, Evans and Allen all finished with seven receptions each. Young’s catches went for 133 yards and a touchdown. Evans’ catches went for 81 yards and two touchdowns. With his two touchdown catches, Evans now has eight touchdowns on the season, tying the school’s single season mark held by four different Bluejays.
Haehn powered the Viking offense with 441 yards and four touchdowns while completing 32 of his 54 pass attempts.

Harris had 12 catches for 187 yards and a TD while Chris Wada hauled in 11 passes for 91 yards.

Travis Reuckert (Hawthorn Woods-Lake Zurich) led the Bluejays' defense with 15 tackles, including four tackles for loss and two sacks. He also had a pass break-up. Ward Brady (Bartlett-Glenbard North) added 10 tackles in the victory.

Elmhurst will continue CCIW play next week when the Bluejays travel to Wheaton College to take on the defending CCIW Champions and undefeated Wheaton College Thunder.

Football Team Falls to IWU

Boxscore

ELMHURST, Ill. October 2, 2004 -- Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel) became just the third Bluejay in school history to rush for over 2,000 career yards, but the Elmhurst College Bluejay football team dropped their first game of the season, falling to Illinois Wesleyan University 44-29 in Bloomington.

The Titans came out firing, jumping out to a 14-0 lead just six minutes into the game. IWU took the opening kickoff 70 yards in seven plays capped off by a Tom Kudyba one-yard touchdown run. After a three-and-out by the Bluejays, the Titans marched 82 yards in eight plays with Rick Alvis ripping off a 34-yard touchdown run to cap the drive.

Elmhurst responded and got on the board on the last play of the first quarter when Luna capped a 13-play, 95-yard drive with a seven yard touchdown run. Elmhurst's extra point was blocked and the Titans led 14-6 at that point.

Illinois Wesleyan answered right back as the Titans scored on their next posses when Alvis scored on a 30-yard touchdown run to the Titans up 21-6. A Mike Berry field goal with 5:31 to play in the half gave Illinois Wesleyan a 24-6 advantage.

Elmhurst got on the board with just under a minute to play in the half when Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) hit Andy Brogan (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) with a one-yard touchdown pass. The Bluejays' two-point conversion attempt failed and Elmhurst trailed 24-12 at the break.

Elmhurst's offense exploded in the start of the third quarter. The Bluejays took the opening kickoff 68 yards in six plays with Luna scampering into the end zone from four yards out to close the deficit to 24-18 after the extra point was blocked.

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After Elmhurst's defense held the Titans, the offense went back to work with Demma leading a 62-yard drive in 10 plays and hitting Todd Evans (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) with a 10-yard touchdown pass. Demma found Luna in the end zone for a two-point conversion to give Elmhurst its first and only lead of the game at 26-24.

Elmhurst's defense held again, but the Bluejays next drive stalled at the Titans' 30-yard line. Illinois Wesleyan took control of the game late in the third quarter when Kudyba put the Titans back on top with a 34-yard touchdown pass to Eric White with 30 seconds to play in the third quarter.
IWU scored again at the start of the fourth quarter when Ryan Spellman rushed in from two yards out to put IWU up 37-26. The Titans put the game away with 3:22 to play when Marcus Dunlap scored on a one-yard touchdown run to give Illinois Wesleyan a 44-26 win.

Elmhurst gained 385 yards on 70 plays with 296 yards coming through the air and 89 coming on the ground. The Titans gained 480 yards of total offense on 71 plays. IWU passed for 230 yards and rushed for 250.

Luna led the ground assault with 93 yards on 29 carries and two touchdowns. Luna now sits third all-time on the career rushing list at Elmhurst College with 2,020 yards. Demma completed 23-of-32 passes for 249 yards and two touchdowns. He also threw his first interception of the season.

Terence Young (Chicago-DeLaSalle) was Demma's favorite target, catching nine balls for 117 yards. Evans caught five passes for 94 yards and a touchdown.

Grimes Earns D3Football Honor

ELMHURST, Ill., September 24, 2004 -- Elmhurst College defensive back, Kyle Grimes (Winthrop Harbor-Zion Benton) has been selected to D3Football.com's "Team of the Week."

Grimes, who has already been selected as a College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) "Defensive Player of the Week" this season, earned the honor for his play in Elmhurst's 39-27 win over the University of Chicago on Saturday, September 18. Grimes busted up six pass plays and intercepted two passes to go along with four solo tackles in Elmhurst's win. A reserve quarterback last season, he has at least one interception in each game this season and has picked off four passes in just three games as a defensive back.

In his first season with the Bluejays, Grimes saw limited action at quarterback and rushed for a touchdown.

A graduate of Zion Benton High School, Grimes was a two-year letter winner in football and baseball. He earned All-County recognition during his senior year in football and was an all-conference baseball selection. He was also a two-time all-conference academic team selection in both football and baseball, earning all-state academic team recognition in football during his senior season.

He is the son of Larry and Debbie Grimes of Winthrop Harbor.

The Bluejay football team is off to a 3-0 start to the 2004 season after posting a 6-4 mark in 2003. Elmhurst will open CCIW play at Illinois Wesleyan University on Saturday, October 2.

Dom Demma Named Player of the Week

ELMHURST, Ill., September 21, 2004 -- Elmhurst College quarterback, Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) has been selected as the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin's (CCIW) "Co-Offensive Player of the Week." Demma shares the honor with North Central College's Steve Holden.

The honor is in recognition for Demma's play in the Bluejays' 39-27 win over the University of Chicago on Saturday (September 18). Demma completed 21-of-29 pass attempts for 327 yards while tying his own school record for touchdown passes in a game with five. In the process, he moved into second place on Elmhurst's career passing yardage and total offense list.
Demma is in his third season as the starting quarterback for the Bluejays. He owns single-game passing records for passing yardage (455), touchdowns (five) and completions (38). Last season, he set the single-season record for touchdown passes (22), passing yards (2,339) and completions (222). He is also the record holder for most touchdown passes in a career with 45. Demma is also a three-year starter at third base on the Bluejay baseball team, earning all-conference honors for two seasons.

A graduate of Glenbard North High School, Demma led his team to the state championship finals during his senior season while serving as captain. He was a three-time all-conference selection in both baseball and football.

He is the son of Dominic and Maryann Demma of Carol Stream.

The Bluejay football team is off to a 3-0 start to the 2004 season after posting a 6-4 mark in 2003. Elmhurst will begin CCIW play on October 2, when they travel to Illinois Wesleyan University.

**Football Team Holds Off Chicago**

ELMHURST, Ill. September 18, 2004 -- The Elmhurst College football team held off a late rally from the University of Chicago to win 38-27 and improve to 3-0 on the season.

It was another record setting day for the Bluejays as quarterback Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) tied his own school record with five touchdown passes and moved into second place on the school's all-time passing yardage list.

The Bluejays led by as many as 18 points late in the fourth quarter, but two Chicago scores less than a minute apart made the game interesting down the stretch.

For the first time this season the Bluejays found themselves trailing in a game when Chicago took a 7-0 lead late in the first quarter on a Phil Marion 37-yard touchdown pass to Tom Guardi.

The Maroons did an effective job of keeping the Bluejay offense off the field for the majority of the first quarter, controlling the clock and limiting the Elmhurst offense. The Bluejays got rolling in the second quarter by ripping off four unanswered scores to take a 25-7 halftime lead.

Demma started the scoring by hitting Todd Evans (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) from 19 yards out to cap an eight play, 64-yard drive. The extra point was blocked and the Bluejays still trailed 7-6.

After a missed Chicago field goal, the Bluejays promptly marched down field 80 yards in just five plays capped off by a fantastic one-handed catch by Evans as he managed to stay in the end zone. The two-point conversion failed, but the Bluejays led 12-7, a lead they would never relinquish.

Elmhurst’s defense responded on the next series with back-to-back sacks of Marion to force Chicago to punt. On a third down from their own 40-yard line, Demma found Evans over the middle who sprung free and took it to the Chicago 14-yard line for the 60-yard score. The extra point put Elmhurst up 19-7 with 1:10 to play in the half.

Chicago moved quickly to their own 43-yard line on the next series. The drive was snuffed out by the Bluejays when Patrick Ambriz (Wausau, Wis.-East), making his first start at defensive back, picked off Marino and returned it to the Chicago 14-yard line with just 47 seconds to play in the half.

After a holding penalty on Elmhurst, Demma wasted little time putting the Bluejays back on the scoreboard as he hooked up with Terence Young (Chicago-DeLaSalle) from 24-yards out to give Elmhurst a 25-7 advantage at halftime.
Chicago cut the lead to 25-14 in the third quarter after Marion hooked up with Guardi again, this time from 34 yards out, for a touchdown.

The two teams' defenses held each other at bay for the rest of the third quarter until Elmhurst came up with a quick strike. The Bluejays, who had not reached a first down in the third quarter yet, faced a third down at their own 37-yard line. Demma dumped off a short screen pass to Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel). Luna shook a defender and used a key block to spring free to the outside where he scampered 63 yards to the end zone. The extra point gave Elmhurst a 32-14 advantage.

Chicago tried to answer back but the drive was killed when Marino was picked of by Kyle Grimes (Winthrop Harbor-Zion Benton) at the Elmhurst 20-yard line. Although the Bluejays couldn't do anything with the ball offensively and were forced to punt, their defense came up big again as Ambriz picked off a Marino pass at the Elmhurst 25-yard line. Elmhurst drove down to the Chicago 18-yard line but failed to convert on fourth and one.

Reserve Chicago quarterback Marc Zera took over the Maroons' offense and drove Chicago 82 yards in 10 plays resulting in a 16-yard touchdown pass to Micah Dawson. The extra point cut the lead to 32-21 with 2:43 to play.

Although the onside kick failed, the Maroons caught a break when Luna was stripped of the ball and Chicago recovered at their own 37-yard line.

On the first play from scrimmage, Zera dumped off a pass to Dawson who used two blocks to get to the outside and sprint 63 yards to the end zone to bring Chicago to within five points at 32-27 with 2:14 to play.

The ensuing kickoff went out of bounds and Elmhurst took over at their own 35-yard line. After two plays, the Bluejays faced a third-and-five at their own 40. Demma handed off to Young on an end around run. Young was hit in the backfield but bounced away from his tacklers. He caught a block to the outside and sprinted 60 yards to the end zone for the game-clinching score, giving Elmhurst the 39-27 win.

Offensively, it was another record setting day for the Bluejays. Demma equaled his own record of five touchdown passes in one game. Ironically, he last threw five touchdowns in a game against Chicago in 2002 at Langhorst Field. He finished the day 21-of-29 for 327 yards and the five touchdowns. He is yet to throw an interception on the season.

Evans equaled a school record by catching three touchdown passes. The record was set in 1980 by Paul Jaeckel. Evans finished the day with six catches for 120 yards and the three touchdowns.

Luna totaled 216 yards for the day. He rushed 28 times for 111 yards and caught five passes for 105 yards.

Defensively, Benitez Brown (Sparta-H.S.) led the way with 12 tackles, including eight solo stops. He also had an interception. David Socarras (Miami, Fla.-Christian) tallied 11 tackles, including a sack while also forcing a fumble. Jared Hagar (Bolingbrook-Romeoville) recorded 10 tackles before he was forced to leave the game with an unspecified leg injury. Ambriz and Grimes each finished the day with two interceptions.

Much like in 2002, when the teams combined for almost 1,100 yards of total offense, both offenses were able to move the ball. Elmhurst and Chicago totaled 977 yards of total offense. Elmhurst rang up 495 yards on 64 plays while Chicago finished with 482 yards on 87 plays. The difference in the offensive output was turnovers. Elmhurst turned the ball over just once, while Chicago committed six turnovers in the game.

Elmhurst will have next weekend off before opening CCIW play at Illinois Wesleyan on October 2.
ELMHURST, Ill., September 15, 2004 -- Elmhurst College defensive back, Benitez Brown (Sparta-H.S.) has been selected as the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin's (CCIW) "Defensive Player of the Week" in the second week of the football season. Brown received the award for his play in Elmhurst's 46-14 win over Concordia University on Saturday (September 11).

Brown covered the entire field, recording 12 tackles, including nine solo tackles in the contest. He also broke up a pass play.

Brown, a four-year starter for the Bluejays, earned first-team All-CCIW honors in 2003. He was also tabbed as the CCIW "Defensive Player of the Week," in the Bluejays' win over North Park where Brown scored a pair of defensive touchdowns.

A graduate of Sparta High School, Brown was a two-time all-conference selection in football who earned team MVP honors during his senior year.

He is the son of Bernard and Lisa Brown of Sparta.

The Bluejay football team is off to a 2-0 start to the 2004 season after posting a 6-4 mark in 2003. Elmhurst will host the University of Chicago on Saturday, September 18.

Football Team Pounds Concordia

ELMHURST, Ill. September 11, 2004 -- The Elmhurst College Bluejay football team improved to 2-0 on the season after hammering Concordia University 46-14 in River Forest.

Elmhurst got on the scoreboard in the first quarter when Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) hit Terence Young (Chicago-DeLaSalle) for a 17-yard touchdown strike.

After another defensive stand, the Bluejays hit the scoreboard again as Demma hit Todd Evans (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) from 16 yards out to put Elmhurst up 14-0.

After a turnover from Concordia, the Bluejays hit the end zone for a third time as Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel) sprinted 45 yards to the end zone to put Elmhurst up 22-0 after the Bluejays converted a two-point conversion.

Elmhurst went up 25-0 in the second quarter when Kelly Karlen (Munster, Ind.-Mt. Carmel, Ill.) hit a 26-yard field goal.

Concordia got on the scoreboard after an eight-play, 70-yard drive capped by an Aaron Kuester 3-yard run.

The Bluejays answered right back when Demma threw his third touchdown pass of the game, this time hitting Rob Kosciuk (Wood Dale-Fenton) with a three yard touchdown pass. Elmhurst led 32-7 at halftime.

After a Concordia three-and-out on offense, the Bluejays' offense went on the attack again, with Luna scoring on a one yard touchdown plunge to cap a six play 55-yard drive.

Concordia added a touchdown in the third quarter to cut the lead to 39-14.

T.J. Imam (Chicago-Curie) scored on a 30-yard touchdown run for the final score of the game.

Much like their win last week over Benedictine, the Bluejays led a balanced attack on offense. The team rushed for 261 yards and passed for 190 yards. The Bluejays held Concordia to just 248 yards.
Luna led the attack for the Bluejays finishing with 139 rushing yards and two touchdowns on 21 carries. Imam also had a strong day with 87 rushing yards on eight carries.

Demma completed 16-of-27 passes for 190 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Elmhurst air attack.

Young was the favorite target, catching seven passes for 75 yards and a touchdown. Jake Allen (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) hauled in three passes for 50 yards.

Defensively, Elmhurst was led by Benitez Brown (Sparta-H.S.) who finished with 12 tackles. Jared Hagar (Bolingbrook-Romeoville) and David Socarras (Miami, Fla.-Christian) each finished with nine stops. Socarras and Kyle Grimes (Winthrop Harbor-Zion Benton) each had an interception on the day.

The Bluejays return home next Saturday when they host the University of Chicago at 1:00 p.m.

Grimes Named Player of the Week

ELMHURST, Ill., September 8, 2004 -- Elmhurst College defensive back, Kyle Grimes (Winthrop Harbor-Zion Benton) has been selected as the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin's (CCIW) "Defensive Player of the Week" in the inaugural week of the football season.

After serving as a reserve quarterback last season, Grimes transitioned to corner back this season and made an impressive debut in the Bluejays' 60-14 win over Benedictine University on Saturday, September 4. Grimes recovered a live ball on a kickoff that Benedictine thought would roll out of bounds, setting up Elmhurst's third score in the first quarter. Grimes added to the scoring in the second quarter when he picked off a Benedictine pass and returned it 45 yards for an Elmhurst touchdown. He also added a pair of tackles in the Elmhurst win.

In his first season with the Bluejays, Grimes saw limited action at quarterback and rushed for a touchdown. A graduate of Zion Benton High School, Grimes was a two-year letter winner in football and baseball. He earned All-County recognition during his senior year in football and was an all-conference baseball selection. He was also a two-time all-conference academic team selection in both football and baseball, earning all-state academic team recognition in football during his senior season.

He is the son of Larry and Debbie Grimes of Winthrop Harbor.

The Bluejay football team is off to a 1-0 start to the 2004 season after posting a 6-4 mark in 2003. Elmhurst will travel to River Forest this Saturday (September 11), to play at Concordia University.

Football O-Line Honored

ELMHURST, Ill., September 8, 2004 -- After turning in one of the most dominant offensive outputs in school history, the Elmhurst College offensive line has been honored by D3Football.com for their part in the Bluejays' 60-14 win over Benedictine University on Saturday (September 4). The entire offensive line has been selected to D3Football.com's "Team of the Week."

The Bluejays scored the second highest point total in school history (60) and produced the third highest single game effort in total yardage with 561 yards of total offense. It marked the first time the Bluejays broke the 550 yard barrier as a team since the 1983 season. Elmhurst running backs rushed for a combined 337 yards and the Bluejay quarterbacks completed 19-of-23 passes for five touchdowns. The offensive line did not give up a sack and Benedictine recorded just two tackles for loss in the entire contest.

The entire starting offensive line was named to the team of the week. Starters against Benedictine included: left tackle Brian Slackert (Hinsdale-Hinsdale Central), left guard Zach Massell (Carol Stream-Glenbard North), center
Andrew Cook (Oreana/Argenta-Oreana), right guard Frank Hodgeman (Chicago-St. Rita) and right tackle Karl Constant (Miami, Fla.-Southridge).

The Bluejay football team is off to a 1-0 start to the 2004 season after posting a 6-4 mark in 2003. Elmhurst will travel to River Forest this Saturday (September 11), to play at Concordia University.

**Football Team Hammer Benedictine**

ELMHURST, Ill. September 4, 2004 -- New Head Coach Tom Journell couldn't have asked for a better start to the 2004 season and for his head coaching debut. Journell's Elmhurst College Bluejays turned in third highest offensive production performance in school history while pounding Benedictine University 60-14 in the season opener.

Elmhurst wasted little time getting on the scoreboard as the Bluejays took the opening kickoff and marched 60 yards in just seven plays capped-off by Terence Young (Chicago-DeLaSalle) scoring on a 14-yard end around run.

After a three-and-out by Benedictine, the Bluejay offense went back to work as Dom Demma (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) hit Rob Kosciuk (Wood Dale-Fenton) from 16-yards out for another Elmhurst score. The extra point was no good and Elmhurst was up 13-0.

The Bluejays made it 20-0 after Benedictine made a mental mistake on the next kickoff. Geoff Steele's (Downers Grove-North) kickoff sailed short, but Benedictine failed to pick up the ball, thinking it would roll out of bounds. Elmhurst pounced on the live ball and recovered to start at the Eagles' 24-yard line. Three plays later, Demma hit Todd Evans (Carol Stream-Glenbard North) on a three-yard touchdown pass to put Elmhurst up 20-0.

Benedictine finally generated some offense and scored on their next possession as Jared Weeks hooked up with Bob Sanchez from 17 yards out to close the lead to 20-7.

The Bluejays answered right back as Demma led a six-play, 59-yard drive capped off by an Eric Luna (Wadsworth-Carmel) 12-yard touchdown run. Elmhurst led 26-7 at the end of the first quarter.

After the Bluejay defense held the Eagles, Demma and the offense went to work again. The Bluejays marched 80-yards in 13 plays capped off by an 8-yard touchdown pass from Demma to Young.

The Bluejays' defense came up big in the next series. Making his first start at defensive back since moving from quarterback, Kyle Grimes (Winthrop Harbor-Zion Benton) picked off Weeks and returned it 45 yards for an Elmhurst touchdown.

The Bluejays would add a final score in the first half as T.J. Imam (Chicago-Curie) scampered into the end zone from 10-yard out. The Bluejays led 46-7 at halftime. The second half was quicker, with most of the offense revolving around the rushing game.

Elmhurst cracked the scoreboard first in the second half, when Demma, connected with Brian Parker (Cooper City, Fla.-H.S.) for a three-yard score.

Backup quarterback Mike Paynter (Algonquin-Jacobs) continued the scoring when he hit Mike Chernick (Prospect Heights-Hersey) from 19 yards out for what would be the Bluejays final score of the game early in the fourth quarter.

Benedictine added one last touchdown when Ryan Keag scored on a four-yard quarterback keeper.
The Bluejays had their way with the Benedictine defense all game. Elmhurst turned in a 561 total yard performance, the third highest single game total in school history. The Bluejays hadn't broken the 550 yard barrier as a team since the 1983 season.

Individually, several Bluejays had standout days. Luna turned in a solid performance on the ground. The junior tailback rushed for 156 yards on just 25 carries while scoring a touchdown. Imam carried 10 times for 84 yards and Josh Schmitt (Sycamore-H.S.) carried six times for 61 yards.

Demma hit a very proficient game leading the passing attack. The senior quarterback completed 17 of his 20 attempts for 196 yards and four touchdowns. Five different quarterbacks took snaps for the Bluejays in the game.

The passing offense was well distributed as 11 different receivers caught passes for the Bluejays. Evans was the favorite target, catching five balls for 44 yards and a score.

Defensively, the Bluejays limited Benedictine to just 241 total yards and just 58 rushing yards. Eagle quarterbacks Keag and Weeks completed just 16-of-31 passes and were intercepted three times total. Frito St. Hilaire (Pompano Beach, Fla.-Ely) and Ward Brady (Bartlett-Glenbard North) led the defense with six tackles apiece. Brian Keaton (University Park/Crete-Monee) recorded the lone sack of the game.

The Bluejays will take the road next week when they travel to River Forest to play Concordia University. Kickoff is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 11.

Beck Headed to Hall of Fame

ELMHURST, Ill. July 6, 2004 -- Tom Beck, the most successful football coach in Elmhurst Bluejay history, will be enshrined in the National College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, Indiana, on Saturday, August 14. Beck will be inducted in a class that includes football greats Barry Sanders, Joe Theismann, Coach Hayden Fry and others.

Beck's special gift was an ability to transform slumping football teams into winners. "He had the golden touch when it came to building something out of nothing," recalled John Quigley, former associate public relations director at Elmhurst College, and member of the Class of 1977.

Mired in a drought of just two winning seasons in 23 years before Beck arrived, the Bluejays quickly turned the program around under his leadership. After losing seven games during his first season at the helm, Beck's Bluejays captured the school's first College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) Championship just two years later in 1978. Beck led Elmhurst to another conference crown in 1980 and eventually compiled a 50-22 (.694) record in his eight seasons at Elmhurst (1976-83). His Elmhurst football squads were offensive powerhouses, setting records for yardage and scoring which still stand, 20 years later.

Beck's overall college coaching mark was 137-52-1 (.724), and included stops at Illinois Benedictine College and Grand Valley State University (Mich.). He later had several stints in pro football scouting and coaching including the Chicago Blitz of the USFL.

The enshrinement festivities begin Friday, August 13, and continue through Saturday, August 14. The Hall of Fame induction ceremony and dinner begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday in the Convention Hall, Century Center, South Bend. Tickets to see Coach Beck and his fellow inductees may be obtained by calling the College Football Hall of Fame at 800-440-FAME. Additional details can also be found by visiting the Hall of Fame's website at www.collegefootball.org.

Messages of congratulations to Tom Beck may be mailed through the Office of Alumni Relations, Elmhurst College, 190 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126 (or sent online via ALUMNI@ELMHURST.EDU).

The Bluejays are charter members of the CCIW and compete at the NCAA Division III level.
Stanford Hired as Offensive Coord.

ELMHURST, Ill. June 9, 2004 -- Henry Stanford has been named offensive coordinator for the Elmhurst College football team. Stanford, who most recently served as an assistant coach at Tiffin (Ohio) University, takes over for Tim Lester, who became the head coach at NCAA Division II St. Joseph's College earlier this year.

"We're very excited to have Henry Stanford on board with our coaching staff," said Elmhurst's first-year Head Football Coach Tom Journell. "Henry's a perfect fit for Elmhurst College; he shares my vision of our players being great people, great students and great players. Students are at the center of Henry's philosophy. Our players were very excited about the announcement. They knew how important this decision was for the further development of this program toward a College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) championship."

Stanford spent three seasons at Tiffin serving as an assistant football coach from 1999-2000 and rejoining the team before the 2003 season. At Tiffin, he was charged with coaching the running backs and the kick-off return game while also assisting with the team's strength and conditioning program. He coached four all-conference players at Tiffin, three of them during the 2003 season.

Sandwiched in between his two stints at Tiffin, Stanford spent a season at Division III Kenyon College (2002) and two seasons at Otterbein College (2000-01). While at Kenyon, he helped guide linebacker Casey McConnell to All-American honors from D3Football.com, while coaching the team's linebackers and serving as an assistant to the defensive coordinator. While at Otterbein, he mentored two all-conference players while coaching the running backs in 2000 and the defensive line in 2001.

An all-area tight end at Muskegon (Mich.) High School, Stanford's college playing days were cut short before he was ever able to take the field. A knee injury forced him to the sidelines at the Ohio State University where he gained valuable experience by serving as a student assistant coach working with the running backs. While at Ohio State, Stanford assisted Tim Spencer, who now serves as the running backs coach of the Chicago Bears. There he helped coach four Buckeyes to all-Big Ten honors. In his four years as a student assistant coach, the Buckeyes won a pair of Big Ten title (1996 and 1998) while also winning the Rose Bowl (1997) and the Nokia Sugar Bowl (1999).

Stanford earned a bachelor of arts in psychology from the Ohio State University and a master of business administration degree from Tiffin University.

Stanford joins a Bluejay team that's coming off its most successful season in 16 years. The Bluejays finished the 2003 season with a 6-4 overall record. In the four games the Bluejays lost, Elmhurst was outscored by an average of fewer than seven points. Elmhurst returns eight starters on offense and six starters on defense from last season's 6-4 team that shattered multiple school records.

"I'm confident Henry will be very successful as our offensive coordinator," said Journell. "He has brilliant ideas that will attack defenses. He has studied the (NFL coaches') Bill Walsh and Brian Billick approach to game planning. He will put defenses in binds with his analytical abilities."

Tom Journell Named Football Coach

ELMHURST, Ill. February 11, 2004 -- Elmhurst College has selected Tom Journell as its new head football coach. Journell, an assistant head coach at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls for the past 15 years, becomes the 16th head coach in the College's history.

Journell takes over for Paul Krohn, who stepped down this past December to become Elmhurst’s Athletic Director.

"Tom Journell exudes integrity and honesty," said Krohn. "I know that we can depend on Tom to give us his best. He'll be a great addition to the college and to the community."
Journell will inherit a Bluejay football team that's coming off its most successful season in 16 years. The Bluejays finished the 2003 season with a 6-4 overall record. In the four games the Bluejays lost, Elmhurst was outscored by an average of fewer than seven points. Elmhurst returns eight starters on offense and six starters on defense from last season's 6-4 team that shattered multiple school records.

"It's been a life-long dream for me to be the head coach of a College that has a 'small school' atmosphere," said Journell. "It's what I've prepared myself for and I'm thrilled to have the opportunity. Coach Krohn and his staff have done a tremendous job with the Elmhurst football team and I'm excited to work hand-in-hand with them and build on their recent success."

Journell's love for the NCAA Division III combination of academic and athletics began when he attended Wittenberg University (Ohio) and was a four-year participant on the football and baseball teams. He graduated from Wittenberg with a degree in health and physical education in 1987.

From Wittenberg, he signed on as a graduate assistant coach at Miami University (Ohio). He assisted in coaching the defensive secondary and linebackers while also participating in recruiting and the strength and conditioning program. He earned a Master of Science degree from Miami in 1989.

Journell joined the coaching staff of UW-River Falls in 1989 and has remained with the team for the past 15 seasons. He served as the secondary coach in 1989 before being promoted to defensive coordinator a year later. He was promoted again in 1995, this time to assistant head coach, a position he has held the last eight years.

Journell's UW-River Falls teams have experienced a great deal of success, earning a Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) championship in 1998 and earning NCAA Division III playoff invitations in 1995 (when they advanced to the quarterfinals of the national playoffs) and 1996. His teams led the WIAC in scoring defense four times (1992, 1995, 1996, 1999) and total defense three times (1992, 1995, 1999). In 15 seasons, UW-River Falls compiled an 86-60-3 record (.587) with Journell as an assistant.

He was certified as a Strength and Conditioning Specialist by the National Strength and Conditioning Association and has served as UW-River Falls' strength and conditioning coach for the past eight seasons. He also coached UW-River Fall's only national champion in the discus and coached three All-American throwers while serving as the track and field team's throws coach during the 1996 season.

Success in the classroom in addition to on the field has been stressed by Journell. In 15 years, UW-River Falls graduated 145 of 146 players (who finished all four-years of eligibility at UW-River Falls) while also having the WIAC's highest team grade-point average in 2001 and 2002.

"I'm a big proponent of the Division III philosophy," said Journell. "I want our athletes to excel academically and athletically."

Journell has three immediate goals for the Elmhurst College football team.

"The first goal that I have for my players is that I want every single one of them to graduate and be able to work in a field that they're excited to be a part of," he said. "Secondly, I want every team member to compete with honesty and integrity and truly have a great experience playing college football. Lastly, I expect us to be in a position to be able to compete for College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) championships each year."

Journell feels that the groundwork to achieve his third goal is already in place. "The stage is set for my third goal to become a reality," he said. "Coach Krohn and his staff did a great job of establishing offensive and defensive systems that have worked well. It's my job to come in and learn those systems and add to them. I don't plan on coming to Elmhurst and making sweeping changes. I'm going to simply build upon what is already in place."

A native of Eaton, Ohio, Journell and his wife, Betsy, have a six-year old son, Mack.