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## Daily Eastern News: November 02, 2022

Eastern Illinois University

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THE WEEKLY EDITION

# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

'TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID'



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Cross Country sweeps OVC Championships

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# Rally supports Workers' Rights Amendment

By Madelyn Kidd  
News Editor | @DEN\_News

Eastern's AFSCME President Kim Turner and one of EIU-UPI's team negotiators, Betsy Jewell, spoke at a Worker's Right Rally held by Coles Progressive and Coles County Democrats on Sunday.

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 981 and Eastern's chapter of the University Professionals of Illinois represent a variety of Eastern employees.

The Workers' Rights Rally intended to encourage Illinois voters to vote by Nov. 8, and to vote yes on the Worker's Rights Amendment to the Illinois Constitution.

This amendment was proposed to benefit workers in unions within Illinois and workers in Illinois who are not a part of a union.

The amendment proposed to be added under Article I of the Illinois Constitution reads as followed:

"Employees shall have the fundamental right to organize and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing for the purpose of negotiating wages, hours, and working conditions, and to protect their economic welfare and safety at work. No law shall be passed that interferes with, negates, or diminishes the right of employees to organize and bargain collectively over their wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment and workplace safety, including any law or ordinance that prohibits the execution or application of agreements between employers and labor organizations that represent employees requiring membership in an organization as a condition of employment."

This would provide workers within unions or not, more protection under the constitution.

Betsy Jewell, a member of EIU-UPI, on the negotiation team during the ongoing negotiations for a new contract over the last nine months and a faculty assistant



BY ROB LE CATES | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

From left, Chairmen of the Douglas County Democrats and Secretary Donna Gillespie talk with Coles County Board Candidate Matt Titus before the start of the worker's rally at Morton Park Sunday afternoon. The two said they came to the rally to show solidarity among Democrats, noting there isn't enough in today's country. Warner said he wants to let all Democrats know there are strength in numbers and encourages union support.

in the student publications office, said she first started working at Eastern when she was 21 in 1997.

Jewell was just out of college, and being part of a union kept her from still being on six-month temporary contracts today.

Jewell had received four six-month temporary contracts when EIU-UPI stepped in to get Jewell a full contract.

"But thank God for the Union," Jewell said. "Because after you've been on two years of temporary contracts and the position I was in, you're automatically put into the Union and then they fight for you, right? So [I'm] 21 or 22. I had no idea what I was doing. I had no idea that these temporary contracts were not in my best interest, but my union did. And so thank goodness for that. Thank goodness that that automatically kicked in. I didn't have to do anything to fight for those rights because today, if they could have done so, I would probably still be in a temporary six month contract renewing every six

months."

This was the first of many experiences Jewell had with a union that helped her receive benefits from Eastern in her best interest.

Jewell urged others to vote yes for the Worker's Rights Amendment because decades from now, there might not be unions to advocate for Illinois workers, but at least this amendment would protect workers.

Kim Turner, AFSCME Local 981 president and an office manager of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences dean's office, said the AFSCME union helped protect her and other Eastern employees when the state budget impasse happened.

The state budget impasse impacted public universities across Illinois and led to Eastern having to make several budget cuts and many employees being laid off.

**Madelyn Kidd can be reached at 581-2812 or at dennewsdesk@gmail.com.**

FRONT PAGE COVER ART BY LUKE TAYLOR

## WHAT'S HAPPENING NOV 2-9

**WEDNESDAY**  
Student Government  
7 p.m. - Arcola/Tuscola Room, MLK Jr. University Union

**SATURDAY**

**YOUR EVENT  
COULD GO HERE!**

**MONDAY**  
Honor Jazz Combo Day  
All day - Doudna Fine Arts Center

**THURSDAY**  
Council on Academic Affairs  
2 p.m. - Witters Conference Room, Booth Library  
Art Mix  
3:45 p.m. - Tarble Arts Center  
The American Soldier  
7:30 p.m. - Doudna Fine Arts Center

**SUNDAY**  
Panther Marching Band Concert  
2 p.m. - Doudna Fine Arts Center  
Faculty Jazz Concert: the Goodness of Music  
7:30 p.m. - Doudna Fine Arts Center

**TUESDAY**  
Election Day  
Resiliency for Beginners  
3 p.m. - MLK Jr. University Union  
Art Mix  
3:45 p.m. - Tarble Arts Center  
Table Wellness: Crystal Bowl Sound Bath  
6 p.m. - Tarble Arts Center

**FRIDAY**  
Special Guest Pianist Sean Chen  
7:30 p.m. - Doudna Fine Arts Center

**WEDNESDAY**  
Change Our Language, Change Our Politics  
3:45 p.m. - Tarble Arts Center  
Student Government  
7 p.m. - Arcola/Tuscola Room, MLK Jr. University Union

Send your event information to dennewsdesk@gmail.com to be added to our online and print calendars!

**About**

The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published weekly on Wednesday, in Virden, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and online during the summer term except during university vacations or examinations. One copy per week is free to students and faculty. Additional copies can be obtained for 50 cents each in the Student Publications Office in Buzzard Hall.

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The News contacted candidates with a list of questions to learn about them and their stances on various issues. The same questions were sent to all candidates listed on the Coles County 2022 General Election specimen ballot for the county, county board, judicial, and appellate and circuit court judge races. These are summaries of the responses we received.



**Matt Titus**

I've served four years (2017-2021) on the Charleston CUSD #1 School Board. I was campaign chairman for a nonpartisan ballot initiative for school facilities in Coles County. There are a number of projects underway for the long-term economic health of Coles County. We can do big things in Coles County - when we work together. No more of this Mattoon vs. Charleston or Charleston vs. EIU nonsense. I'm a townie. I know it is past time to abandon these old rivalries. Family, integrity, and work ethic

is how we're raised around here. I had so many great teachers who became personal role models and heroes for me. Politics is how I enter the world. We're at a generational inflection point. Are we going to grow and remain the regional leader we've always been, or are we going to stagnate and dry up like so many other small towns? One thing I love about Mattoon-Charleston is that there are so many ways to be helpful. Organizations need volunteers. Shops need customers. Democracy needs standard bearers. It makes me sad that Coles County hasn't been able to keep its best young talent here. Whatever adversarial or confrontational attitude existed between the city and the university in the past, now is the time to abandon it and work together. The Mattoon Sports Complex is going to be a major economic driver for all of Coles County. There will soon be new wind and solar farms here in Coles County that could support more local expansion in the green energy/high-tech industries.

My goals are the same as from when I was appointed to the Coles County Board: to work with the other members of the board to make Coles County the best place possible to live, work, raise a family, get an education, and to do this by being as fiscally responsible and fair-minded as possible. I am fiscally conservative and socially liberal: do the greatest good for as many people as possible with the sources available, but don't overlook those with special needs or circumstances. I'm running because I've found the work to be rewarding.

I grew up as a "towny" in a college town. I understand the dynamics of "town-gown" and ways to bridge the two. As one of two Democrats on a board, I think I help make the CCB a more accurate reflection of the broader county community. I'm against all predatory loans, which I think apply to some student loans. I believe in a woman's right to choose, to have control over her own body. I also think we need to do more to promote birth control, especially among



**Michael Watts**

males, to minimize the need for abortions to be performed. I remember a time when law enforcement was in favor of gun control so the police would not be out-gunned by the criminals--what was wrong with that logic?

Students might be interested in the revised wind farm ordinance the county board recently passed. I believe it promotes energy independence as a renewable green energy source and provides new economic opportunities for the county.

## Get to know local candidates



**Kent Martin**

I will meet with every employee individually within 90 days of taking office, and I will begin a dialogue with local school administrators to explore ways to make our schools safer. I value honesty and integrity and will not tolerate dishonest or unethical behavior.

I am running for office so I can continue to serve the citizens of Coles County. I am a 28-year veteran of law enforcement and I want to continue working to ensure the safety of my

friends and neighbors.

As sheriff I will work with all local law enforcement agencies, including UPD, to provide a safe environment in which EIU students can live, work, and study.

Government should not forgive student loans. Those loans are not actually forgiven, they become the responsibility of every taxpayer.

I am pro-life with very limited exceptions. We do not need more gun laws, we need to enforce the laws we currently have and punish offenders, not the law abiding gun owner.

The most important thing to discuss right now is how to bring civility back to our government so we can work together to find solutions to problems instead of pointing fingers and placing blame.

I served eight years on School Board; I was president for two years. I was elected to the Coles County Board almost two years ago. My first goal is to finish distributing the almost \$10 million dollars the federal government allocated to Coles County. We reviewed over 60 applications from Courthouse departments and Coles County agencies. My second goal is to work toward Board transparency and effectiveness by actively participating during the monthly Board Meetings and multiple subcommittee meetings. It is easier and healthier for us to share information and work together rather than being forced to read between the lines to find the truth. I recognize there are diverse yet valid perspectives and different ways to get things done. I believe in facts, research, following a process, and working for the best interests of the citizens of Coles County. I think I'm the best can-



**Gail Mason**

didate from a student's perspective. I am in favor of some loan forgiveness because it might help over 20 million Americans. I have been pro-choice since I was a teenager. The 2nd Amendment guaranteed the right of individuals to defend their liberties by participating in a STATE MILITIA. Individuals do NOT need high capacity weapons. People should be talking about BALANCE. There are only two Democrats on a 12-person Board. There are four Democrats running for office.



**Nancy Purdy**

Two goals would be to promote the County for future growth, while continuing to be fiscally responsible to our taxpayers. I value honesty and integrity.

As an EIU graduate with a degree in history, journalism, and French, I have always been interested in governments and how our Constitution sets us apart from all others by placing the power in the hands of the people. American Government is among the subjects I teach, so I decided to take responsibility to serve an active role in local grassroots

government.

Over the years, I have seen an erosion and reinterpretation of the guarantees of the U.S. Constitution. Young people today do not have the same freedoms and security that I enjoyed at their age. I will continue to stand for what makes this country great so that young people can enjoy a responsible, prosperous life.

The timing of the student loan forgiveness seems more like a political ploy than an altruistic program. I have always been pro-life.

A nation that calls the killing of its own children a "right" has lost its moral compass.

Knowing why our founding fathers considered the right of the citizenry to bear arms important enough to make it the second amendment leads me to stand with them on this matter. We need to deal with the causes of violent behavior.

People should be talking about how to get politicians to serve "We the people" instead of working to gain power for themselves and their political party.

I worked at the CCSD as a deputy, then transferred to the Coles Cumberland Court Services Department. My goals if elected are to find a way to keep our departments funded with the lost revenue from the bail reform act. I would like to implement county ordinance that would allow money from violations such as speeding to stay here in Coles County. Secondly, I want to pass a reasonable ordinance for renewable energy. I'm a firm believer that the government should not be able to tell farmers or any landowners what to do with their property as long as it doesn't negatively affect other people. I believe in the rule of law and I am a family man. I understand the importance of the university to our community and will make sure the student's voices are heard as well as the full-time residents. After all, I too was a student at EIU. I would be proud to earn the vote of any of my alma maters students. I believe education should be more affordable for everyone. I support using tax dollars on the American people. I'd much rather see my tax dollars pay off student loans than being sent overseas. The ruling was correct in over-



**Andrew Shick**

turning Roe vs Wade. The Federal government doesn't have the authority to tell people what they can and can't do with medical decisions. I do not support taking guns from law-abiding citizens. As far as background checks go, I support that. I just don't trust our federal government to pass any kind of common-sense laws right now. There are going to be dangerous people released on the streets because of [the bail reform act] and innocent people are going to be put in harm's way. This law is going to do way more harm than good.

EDITORIAL

## Workers' Rights affect all of us



GRAPHIC BY MADELYN KIDD

the amendment. This would be 50 percent plus one of all voters, including those who did not answer yes or no on the voting ballot.

There are three other states, Missouri, New York and Hawaii, that have passed a version of a worker's rights to organize and bargain together into their state's constitution.

Many unions across Illinois are in support of passing the amendment.

This includes Eastern's chapters of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFSCME Local 981, and the University of Illinois Professionals, EIU-UPI.

Last year, AFSCME Local 981 ended their contract negotiations with Eastern administration after several years of negotiating and working without a contract.

AFSCME struggled to achieve a fair, new contract until last year, which the process could have been easier with the benefits from the Worker's Rights Amendment.

Currently, EIU-UPI is still working towards a fair contract with increased pay for the last eight months. EIU-UPI have been working without a contract since Aug. 31.

Both Kim Turner, the president of AFSCME Local 981, and Betsy Jewell, a member on the EIU-UPI negotiating team, both recently spoke at a Worker's Rights Rally hosted by the Coles Progressive and Coles County Democrats on Sunday in support of the amendment.

We at *the News* fully support the Worker's Rights Amendment and urge those able to vote, to vote yes on this amendment and also to go out and vote on election day Nov. 8.

We at *the News* fully support the Worker's Rights Amendment proposed on this year's election ballot to amend the Illinois Constitution's first amendment.

This amendment, which would be added under Article I in the Illinois Constitution, would provide some protection Illinois workers without the workers being a part of a trade or labor union.

Unions are organizations providing a way for workers to gather and use their strength as a group instead of individuals to work to improve working conditions and better pay and raises.

The proposed amendment would, according to workersrights.com:

- Guarantee workers' rights to gather and negotiate pay raises and raising wages for all Illinois workers
- Ensure workers can speak about situations without fearing punishment or retaliation
- Ensures workers have proper training to do their jobs efficiently, including first responders and their training
- Make the way for better pay and raises easier
- Protect workers' safety and ensure safe working conditions

The amendment proposed to be added to the Illinois Constitution reads as followed:

"Employees shall have the fundamental right to organize and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing for the purpose of negotiating wages, hours, and working conditions, and to protect their economic welfare and safety at work. No law shall be passed that interferes with, negates, or

diminishes the right of employees to organize and bargain collectively over their wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment and workplace safety, including any law or ordinance that prohibits the execution or application of agreements between employers and labor organizations that represent employees requiring membership in an organization as a condition of employ-

ment."

For the proposed amendment to pass to ratify the Illinois Constitution first amendment, there are two options.

First, if at least three-fifths, or 60 percent, of people voting in Illinois vote yes to pass the proposal, the first amendment would be ratified to include the amendment.

Second, a simple majority could pass

COLUMN

## Post-pandemic college makes me grieve previous schooling

So, I transferred here from a local community college close to my hometown.

At the community college I went to, despite the word community being in the name, there wasn't much community and camaraderie between the students.

Even though I was able to meet new people, make new friends, and gain connections with other students and faculty, I still fell into the stereotype that community colleges usually have: students go to class and go home.

If I wasn't at speech practice (which was only two days a week), in class (for 15 hours or less), or studying at the on-campus Starbucks in between classes (I didn't want to go home for two hours just to go back and waste



Katja Benz

more gas), I was usually working or at home with my family.

I was starting to think that college was great, I loved it and that I never wanted to leave. Then the pandemic hit in March of 2020. I was a college

sophomore. I was lonely, I was sad and all I wanted to do was go back to in-person classes (even though I was ecstatic to not have to get up every day at 6:00 a.m. to get ready and make it to my 8:00 a.m. classes).

I realized that I would have been more lonely spending time in my dorm room five days a week, not having a roommate, making reservations to go work out, or getting food to go from the dining hall just to go back to eat it in my room.

Fortunately, things seemed more normal when I came to Eastern in the fall of 2021. While we were still required to wear masks inside, we could go to sporting events, concerts, other activities and live more freely than in the previous school year.

Last year was one of the best years

of my life. I actually made friends and made meaningful connections with both fellow students and staff. It was slowly starting to feel like freshman year again... kind of.

Now the pandemic isn't in full force and taking over our lives, my first fully normal year of college came when I was a senior. That's when things started to become normal again. Now, it's just post Halloween and family weekend. I have 24 weeks until I graduate with a bachelor's degree.

As much as I've loved college, I never really enjoyed myself and lived my college life to the fullest. So, please enjoy yours for me.

**Katja Benz is a senior English major. She can be reached at [kkbenz@eiu.edu](mailto:kkbenz@eiu.edu) or 217-581-2812.**



### QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Are you registered to vote?



ANSWER THE POLL ON...  
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COLUMN

# Swift's 'Midnights' captures true beauty

This week, it's all about Taylor Swift as she just released her tenth studio album, "Midnights." If you want to talk about a performer who reinvented herself, look no further because that's what she did last week.

Swift went from being the girl next door who encapsulated the fairy tale-esque idea of love and finding a prince charming to a more realistic protagonist who values the messes that comes with love and loss.

Swift kicks it off with "Lavender Haze," which portrays a young woman who is finding her liberation from being an old-fashioned girl via the lyrical repetition of "I'm damned if I do give a damn what people say, no deal ...The 1950s sh\*t they want from me, I just wanna stay in that lavender haze."

It reminds me of Prince's "When Doves Cry," where the protagonist is trying to come into his own without the influences of his parent's shortcomings.

Next, "Maroon" softens the pace with the theme mentioned earlier about loving someone and, in time, losing them.



**Brie Coder**

It's a characterization of a relationship that began on a euphoric high (like most relationships do), but in time, that feeling is gone.

Following the heartache that's "Maroon," "Midnight Rain" describes a polar opposite romance where the partners break up, but one of the partners comes to regret it over time.

If listeners thought Swift wouldn't revisit themes of love and heartbreak,

they'll surely be disheartened.

"Karma" temporarily breaks away from the pains of dating and highlights the empowerment the protagonist has through the decisions they've made in time.

I liked how she describes karma as "my boyfriend...Karma is a God...Karma is the breeze in my hair on the weekend...Karma is a cat purring in my lap 'cause it loves me."

I felt very moved by this song because let's be honest, how often do we stop and appreciate the moments where we stand up for ourselves and our hearts?

Swift ends her concept album with "Mastermind," which evokes someone who's learned earlier how to take control of her surroundings, including potential relationships.

Once someone catches her eye, she'll do whatever it takes to keep that person within her grasp.

Swift ends her concept album with "Mastermind," which evokes someone who's learned earlier how to take control

of her surroundings, including potential relationships.

Once someone catches her eye, she'll do whatever it takes to keep that person within her reach.

"Midnights" is an album that strips away all the pretty and polished sounds that once described Swift's legacy to a more wholesome identity relatable to anyone who has experienced the late-night reflections that creep into our minds and drive us towards sleepless nights.

With thirteen four-minute anecdotes, "Midnights" encapsulates the trepidations, exhilaration, and uneasiness that have kept the pop princess up at night from time to time.

Her beautiful nightmares are our driving force for understanding ourselves and the crossroads we face in life, especially in the love department.

**Brie Coder is a graduate student in communication and leadership. She can be reached at [bmcoder@eiu.edu](mailto:bmcoder@eiu.edu) or 217-581-2812.**

**Quote of the Week:**

"Always vote for principle, though you may vote alone, and you may cherish the sweetest reflection that your vote is never lost."

-John Quincy Adams

COLUMN

# The Forward Party: Back Democrats this time around

The Forward Party is a new political party that supports ballot initiatives for open primaries and ranked choice voting. I think many will question the strategic viability of a new national third political party in the US, but if Forward proclaims to be forward thinking, then they need to start campaigning for Democrats as we approach the November midterm elections.

There are Democratic campaigns that I think would be a good opportunity for the Forward Party to endorse. Two such endorsements could be Beto O'Rourke for Texas governor and Tim Ryan for Ohio Senate. Both races are tight and each uniquely symbolic of a struggle democracy must overcome.

In Texas, there is a behemoth media machine suppressing the Beto campaign. He debated current Governor Greg Abbot at the end of September and there was no real mention in the news cycle. If YouTube comments are any indicator (they shouldn't be, but hear me out), the consensus was that the debate was poorly hosted and poorly moderated. Anyone watching would have seen that the debate hall was missing a live



**Dan Hahn**

audience. This was because the debate was held on the incumbent governor's terms.

Beto mentions during the debate that families of victims from Uvalde drove to the debate, hundreds of miles in some cases, and were watching from outside. How disrespectful to those families. Where was the news story and outrage about this?

Fivethertyeight.com's popular election forecast predicts that the governor's race is a long shot for Beto. He is after all a Democrat running in a Republican stronghold.

Hence, this is why an outsider needs to

come in. A new, and albeit controversial third party should go campaign for Beto.

If there's one lesson we've learned from the Yang 2020 campaign is that dark horse campaigns can be scrappy, are media savvy, and know how to activate young or right leaning voters. I think we would be much better off seeing positive messaging coming from anywhere this election cycle, and this is a great way to deliver much needed positivity and fresh thinking.

The second race I offer as an example is the senate race in Ohio between Tim Ryan and JD Vance. On "Pod Save America," the Tuesday October 18th podcast panel agreed that there are other senate races more worthy of Democrat resources.

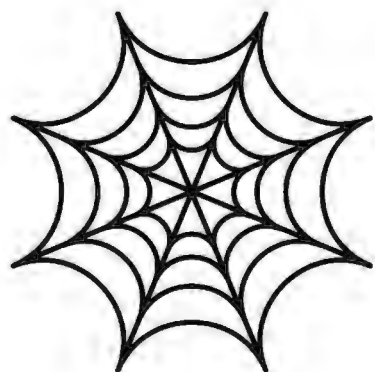
In other words, Ohio is a tough state to win for Democrats, so it's not logical to expend resources there. Ryan is compelling and stands up to Democratic party leadership, for example he supports President Biden stepping down after his current term.

He sees the legislative deadlock caused by party leaders as a huge source of the problem and that our government needs to be representative of younger people.

These are sound progressive ideas spoken by a member of the two-party establishment, and these opinions deserve to be amplified across the media spectrum so that young people turn out and vote. I know nothing about founding a political party, but what an October surprise this would be. Andrew Yang, his media machine and math-hat-wearing followers descending on Ohio and Texas (or wherever) supporting progressive Democratic candidates.

This would give Forward a veneer of legitimacy, which is what they need if they're ever going to gain a foothold in the current political duopoly. Forward is in a unique position to do something radical and redefine how voters engage with politics. What better gesture than for the fledgling Forward Party, in the year of their establishment, to back Democrats as a signal to the world that political parties can work together, even during campaign season, and present a positive message of cooperation.

**Dan Hahn is an English student. He can be reached at [dhahn@eiu.edu](mailto:dhahn@eiu.edu) or 217-581-2812.**



**LAST WEEK'S RESULTS**  
**45% of respondents are not celebrating Halloween this year... Spooky.**



# Families reunite, celebrate Eastern's Family Weekend

By **Kyara Morales-Rodriguez**  
Campus Reporter | @DEN\_News

Library Quad became a space for Eastern students and their families to get together and enjoy fun activities during Family Fun Fest on Saturday afternoon.

The event was hosted as part of Eastern's annual Family Weekend to give families the opportunity to visit campus, spend time together and make memories.

Kristal Munoz, a junior criminology student, is the University Board homecoming co-coordinator.

Munoz said that Family Weekend usually happens before Homecoming, but this year they decided to do it after. She said that she is happy with the turnout and that the cooler weather probably "let more families come out."

"I got to speak with a few [families], and they said they've been looking forward to this event for a really, really long time," she said. "Given that it's Halloween, that also brought some spirit into this."

Dozens of families attended Family Fun Fest, bringing students' siblings, parents, grandparents and all their loved ones to Eastern.

With trackless train rides, a shaved ice truck, caricatures, pumpkin painting and more, the event featured activities for the whole family to enjoy.

"This is really a family-centered activity to bring the college kids' families out here and let them celebrate that same EIU pride that our students share," Munoz said.

Rakai Garth, a Danville, Ill. resident, came with her family to spend the weekend with her daughter, DeAsia Gamble, a freshman early childhood education student. She said that this was her first time attending Family Weekend.

Garth said that Family Weekend has been peaceful and welcoming, and that "everybody's been nice so far."

"I like the fact that we can come down and spend time with [DeAsia]," Garth said. "It's a great day. The weather's per-

fect. It's not too hot, too cold, it's not raining, and so all these activities are really fun for all of us to really bond as a family."

She said that her favorite activities were getting a caricature drawn of her with her husband and making bottles of colorful sand art.

Mindi Jenkins, a Palestine, Ill. resident, attended the Family Weekend alongside her family, spending time with her stepdaughter who is an Eastern student.

Jenkins said she had attended Family Weekends at other universities, but this was her first time at Eastern's. She said she enjoyed many of the afternoon's activities and looked forward to going to the L&A Family Farms Haunted Corn Maze after the event.

"I think [Family Weekend is] a great idea," Jenkins said. "It's just a good time to spend time together and be on the campus with them and have a good day together."

This event was not only fun for parents that traveled from all over the United States to spend time with their children attending Eastern, it was also fun for Eastern students themselves.

Martin Solis, a senior exercise science student, attended Family Fun Fest with his friend.

He said they decided to stop by after spending some time at Eastern's tailgate for the football game between Eastern and Tennessee Tech.

Solis said he enjoyed getting some "refreshing snow cones" and painting pumpkins with his friend. He said he thinks Family Weekend is a good opportunity for the families of students.

"They get to know the environment that their kids are in and the people that they've met and stuff that they do on the weekends," Solis said.

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BY ASHANTI THOMAS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

For Family Fun Fest, Booth library hosts Family Reading Time outside in the Library Quad where kids can play with legos and read books on Saturday afternoon.

## COLES COUNTY DEMOCRATS



**GAIL CRANE MASON**  
COUNTY BOARD DISTRICT 12

- Strong voice for Coles
- Lifelong connection to EIU
- Believes in the power of diversity and inclusion
- Advocate for citizens of Coles, regardless of political party



**MATT TITUS**  
COUNTY BOARD DISTRICT 11

- Supports the Mattoon Sports Complex
- Supports the northern Coles Co. Wind Farm
- Supports creating ARPA grant program for local philanthropies



**MIKE WATTS**  
COUNTY BOARD DISTRICT 3

- 36 yrs. Coles County District 3 resident
- 40 yrs. Administrative experience (29 yrs. at EIU)
- 27 yrs. Charleston Rotary Club volunteer; past president, 2021 Family Food box Project, Peace, Meals, Soup Shop, Fly the Flag project, Hwy. 66/140 Youth Exchange
- Community Volunteer, past & present Chas. Tourism Board, Coles Co. Historical Society Board, Chas. Youth soccer coach, RSVP-Coles Co. Board, Chas. Presbyterian Church elder, Heritage Woods Homeowners Assn. (secretary), Run for the Pollen!
- Committed to business, transparency, and fiscal responsibility

**ROBERT ST. GEMME'**  
(WRITE-IN)

COUNTY BOARD DISTRICT 10

Now to Cast a Write-in Vote

1. Find office for which write-in candidate is running
2. Print candidate's name on write-in line.
3. Fill in oval next to candidate's name

COUNTY BOARD District 10  
(VOTE FOR ONE)

- Tad Freezeland
- Robert St. Gemme



**VOTE FOR WORKERS RIGHTS' AMENDMENT**  
Better Pay Stronger Communities  
Safer Workplaces World Class Training  
Growing Economy



BY KYARA MORALES-RODRIGUEZ | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

At the Family Fun Fest, Mindi Jenkins helps Zackary Riggs color a puzzle piece page outside in the Library Quad Saturday afternoon.

# Men's soccer team loses on Senior Day

By Nick Bays

Men's Soccer Reporter | @DEN\_Sports



BY HAN BYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Chad Hamler (13), fights for possession of the ball vs. Denver University at Lakeside Field. The Panthers lost 3-0 vs. the Pioneers.

In what was a physical game that saw eight yellow cards between the two teams, Eastern men's soccer team lost on Saturday afternoon at home against the Denver Pioneers 3-0 on senior day.

Eastern honored six seniors before kick-off who will be leaving the program after this season.

The first half began with both teams trading possession and defensive challenges back and forth with Denver controlling much of the possession. They would send in 16 shots in the first half alone including a goal late in the first half from Holger Olsson that snuck past Panther goalkeeper Chad Smith in the 41st minute.

Both teams were not afraid to get physical. The yellow cards started early with Eastern defender William Bruce picking up the first of the Panthers' five total on the afternoon. With the game only nine minutes in, players from both teams got in each other's faces and words were exchanged before one of the referees de-escalated the situation.

"We're working really hard, so emotions go," said Eastern head coach Josh Oakley. "Denver are fighting for a championship. We're fighting to play our very best stuff at the end of the season, we're at home for senior day."

Early in the second half, Denver kept up the offensive pressure scoring two goals in the span of six minutes. Olsson made it a brace on the day with his second goal coming off a headed ball in the 49th minute and Lukas Fisher joined in the scoring shortly after in the 55th minute.

"Tempers got fairing in the second half too, especially when we let a goal in to make it 2-0," said Oakley. "We got frustrated, which any team is going to do. We have got to learn to manage those emotions a little bit better."

Tension seemed to cool down later in the second half when one of the officials went to speak with both Oakley and Denver head coach Jamie Franks. By this point, seven of the game's eight yellow cards had already been delivered with five to Eastern and two to Denver.

After the discussion, Oakley sent in a multitude of substitutions to try to help

ease some of the frustration on the field.

"We subbed I think five players at that point," said Oakley. "We got to bring out some young players. I told them, Look, this is going to be you in a few years, so I want you to show your quality and I want you to focus on playing, not talking."

"It can be difficult, especially against teams like Denver," said Eastern senior midfielder Munir Sherali. "They're a top 25 team. We try our best to stay composed by communicating with each other. That's one of our biggest ways to cool our guys off and stay disciplined."

The Panthers would create a few key opportunities throughout the match with three shots on target including an impressive sequence by junior forward Sam Eccles in the 15th minute who stole the ball deep in Denver territory off a misplaced pass by the keeper and sent a shot in towards the bottom-right corner. The shot, however, rolled right of the post.

Eastern's attack was unable to match

the offensive output of Denver with the Panthers only recording four shots on the day, all of those coming in the first half. The Pioneers would end up with 25 shots total including 12 on target.

Sherali said that the final pass for Eastern when they were trying to create goal scoring chances was the reason they were unable to capitalize on offensive opportunities.

"We did a good job building up from the back line all the way to the final third," said Sherali. "It was just a lack of composure towards the final third."

Sherali was one of six seniors honored before the game. The other seniors included Chad Hamler, Mac VanOudt, Delphy Sabu, Nikola Salopek, and Maxwell Allen. Each walked out with some of their loved ones and framed jerseys.

"A lot of guys are emotional right now, obviously," said Sherali. "This was our last home game. We really left it all on the field today. Unlucky with the result, but I'm

proud of how the guys finished the game."

After the final whistle, the players organized in front of the home crowd and the seniors received one last round of cheers and applause from the Panther fans at Lakeside Field.

With the loss, Eastern drops to 1-11-3 on the season with Denver improving to 9-2-5. With the victory, Denver firmly plant themselves in second place in the Summit League men's soccer standings with a conference record of 4-0-2 while Eastern remain at the bottom of the Summit League standings at 0-6-1.

"We're looking forward to finishing the season next weekend," said Sherali.

"It's the last game of the year," said Oakley. "We want to go out on a good note."

The Panthers' final game of the season is Saturday, Nov. 5th where they take on Omaha on the road at 1 p.m.

**Nick Bays can be reached at 581-2812 or [ntbays@eiu.edu](mailto:ntbays@eiu.edu)**

## COLUMN

# I'm excited to cover women's basketball this season

Basketball season is one of the best seasons when it comes to sports.

As I am relatively new here at the Daily Eastern News, it is my first year covering women's basketball.

I'm excited to see what the teams here at Eastern have to offer this season. The women's basketball team had an amazing season last year and I am looking forward to seeing what they will accomplish this season.

There were some exciting moves made in the offseason with the addition of three new freshmen as well as the transfers from UW-Milwaukee and DePaul.

I am looking forward to seeing these additions play as Panthers this season.

I also like the coaching additions that head coach Matt Bollant made during the offseason.



**Kate Stevens**

New assistant Mariah King is a former EIU player who has been playing overseas for the last nine seasons and this is her first time as a collegiate

coach.

She helped lead EIU to four straight postseasons in her time at Eastern in 2010-2013. I feel as though her stats and accomplishments resemble current player senior Lariah Washington, so having her help coach Washington in her senior year will be something great to watch.

The other new addition is assistant coach Marqus McGlothlan. He brings a ton of coaching experience as he is also the founder of Minnesota basketball training facilities in both St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Both Washington and sophomore guard Julia Bengston trained with him in the offseason, so they already have gotten to know each other.

With all the excitement coming into the season, I feel like this team is com-

ing into the season with a chip on their shoulders because of that tough loss to Tennessee State in the OVC tournament last year. I just feel that this team is going to be so amazing to witness and give the rest of the OVC a run for its money.

Basketball season is truly one of the best as the games bring so much fun and excitement to campus.

As football, soccer, volleyball, cross country, tennis, and golf fall seasons come to an end, it's time for winter sports!

Make sure you all come out to the exhibition game this coming Thursday and Monday evening to officially kick off this season!

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# Cross country teams sweep OVC Championships



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

Adam Swanson, a senior criminology major, holds up an OVC championship plaque after the Conference Championship Saturday afternoon at Putnam County Sports Complex in Cookeville, Tenn.

By **Autumn Schulz**  
Sports Editor | @autschulz

The Eastern men's and women's cross country teams swept the OVC Cross Country Championships in Cookeville, Tennessee last Saturday for the first time since 2001.

Saturday's championship wins marked the third straight OVC title for the men's team and the third ever title for the women's team.

It was a close race for both the men's and women's teams as they won the title by two points and one point, respectively.

The men scored 65 points in the 8K to take the title with UT Martin taking second place with 67 points. In third place was Southern Indiana with 82 points and fourth place belonged to host Tennessee Tech with 82 points.

Freshman runner Mason Stoeger said the men thought they had lost the race at first because of the order in which some of the runners finished. However, the live results proved different.

"Pretty much everyone there was checking the live results, so we had found out we won before they announced, and it was a surreal feeling," Stoeger said. "A lot of guys were emotional because it was their last conference, and it would've been dreadful to walk out of the meet without a title. We walked in with confidence that we were going to win so when we found out we won, I think everyone was just relieved that the stress was lifted off."

Fifth year runner Dustin Hatfield was second in the race with a time of 24:47.6.

Fellow runner, senior Adam Swanson, was third with a time of 25:10.7. Their performances earned them first team All-OVC honors.

Coach Erin Howarth said that Hat-

field brings something to Eastern that she has never seen before.

"I can't really put into words what Dustin Hatfield has brought to the team, to the program, and to the university," Howarth said. "Dustin is unlike any other athlete I have ever known; he is fierce and competitive beyond belief; he absolutely hates to lose. He doesn't understand why someone would ever do anything in the competitive arena with anything less than 100% of their heart and guts."



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS  
Cross Country Coach Erin Howarth accepts OVC Cross Country Coach of the year award after the Conference Championship Saturday afternoon.

Graduate student Andrew Pilat finished ninth in the race with a time of 25:36.2, earning second team All-OVC honors.

Hatfield had another historic season to go along with his third-straight OVC title. At the Louisville Cross Country Classic, Hatfield broke his own 8K time record and finished eight seconds behind the winner in a field with over 300 runners.

Hatfield's performance this season earned him is second straight OVC Runner of the Year honor.

Stoeger said that training alongside and running with Hatfield has been something all the runners have benefited from.

"It's pretty cool to train with Dustin day in and day out," Stoeger said. "He's one who has grown up working hard and he continued to work hard every single day with his running. He takes every workout seriously and is a smart racer. Watching Dustin do what he's been doing has just been a fun ride."

Competing in the 6K distance race for the first time in championship history, the women scored 41 points, allowing them to walk away with a one-point victory over Southern Indiana.

Tennessee Tech finished in third place with 71 points while Southeast Missouri finished in fourth with 91.

Four Panther runners earned All-OVC honors with Kate Bushe and Mackenzie Aldrige earning first team honors.

Sarah Carr and Katie Springer both earned second team honors.

Bushe finished second in the 6K with a time of 21:54.8 and Aldrige was third with a time of 21:58.1.

Howarth said that watching both teams had a sense of what it would take to get to the OVC Championships.

"Each one of these women has improved immensely throughout the season. It has been one of my very favorite seasons in that sense," Howarth said. "The men came in more as veterans in the top 5; the top 5 were all returners from last year's championship team so they already knew what it took and just needed to work on our team dynamic and belief in each other. We have an older team in the top 5 and then a very young team

thereafter. So, it was fantastic watching the younger runners learn and soak in all that they could from the older guys. They knew from day one that we had what it took to win, but we had to stay healthy, make progress on our fitness, and continue to work on packing it up."

The runners were not the only ones to receive honors as Howarth was named OVC Cross Country Coach of the Year for the fourth year in a row.

Stoeger said that the success of the men's and women's teams would not be possible without Howarth's coaching.

*"A lot of guys were emotional because it was their last conference, and it would've been dreadful to walk out of the meet without a title."*

- Mason Stoeger

"I think the thing that makes both the women and the men successful is the training of coach Howarth," Stoeger said. "Having the same coach for both men's and women's makes us all be on a similar training schedule. Having that overall consistency in training resulted in both teams being very fit heading into conference."

The men are ranked No. 13 in the USTFCCCA Midwest Regional Poll. Both the men and women will return to the track on Friday, Nov. 11 at the University of Missouri for the NCAA Midwest Regional.

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