

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

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April

2023

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## Daily Eastern News: April 26, 2023

Eastern Illinois University

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THE WEEKLY EDITION

# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

'TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID'

## DEEN 2023 People of the Year



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# The News announces 2023 DEN People of the Year

**By The News Staff**  
@DEN\_news

For 2023, *The News*' Editorial Board selected 11 recipients of an honorary title as one of the DEN 2023 People of the Year.

Similar to the TIME People of the Year, *The News* selects various people on campus to be People of the Year based on their involvement with the Eastern community, accomplishments, character and more.

*The News* asked for community members to nominate individuals they thought should be people of the year as well as editor's nominations.

The 11 DEN 2023 People of the Year are:

- Person of the Year Billy Hung, biology professor
- Faculty/Staff of the Year Todd Bruns, Booth head of scholarly communications
- Undergraduate Student of the Year Brian Barrett, senior sport management major
- Graduate Assistant of the Year Jennifer Wisner, studying business administration
- College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Person of the Year Rebecca von Kamp, music instructor
- College of Education Person of the Year Jennifer Stringfellow, special education professor
- Lumpkin College of Business and Technology Person of the Year Marko Grünhagen, marketing professor
- College of Health and Human



GRAPHIC BY ROB LE CATES | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

- Services Person of the Year Jacy Ghist, nursing program professor
- Coach of the Year Erin Howarth, head cross country coach
- Athlete of the Year Christina Martinez Mundo, volleyball player
- Newcomer Athlete of the Year Macy McGlone, women's basketball player

**The News Staff can be reached at 581-2812 or at dennewsdesk@gmail.com.**

FRONT PAGE COVER BY MADELYN KIDD, ROB LE CATES AND HAN BYER

## WHAT'S HAPPENING APRIL 26 - 3

<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b></p> <p><b>Administrative Professionals Luncheon</b> 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. - Grand Ballroom, MLK Jr. Union</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY</b></p>	<p><b>MONDAY</b></p> <p>First Day of Finals</p>
<p><b>THURSDAY</b></p> <p><b>Composer's Forum</b> 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. - Recital Hall, Doudna Fine Arts Center</p>	<p><b>SUNDAY</b></p> <p><b>YOUR EVENT COULD GO HERE!</b></p>	<p><b>TUESDAY</b></p> <p>Finals</p>
<p><b>FRIDAY</b></p> <p><b>Spring 2023: Last Class Day</b> <b>Nothing to Lose: A Forgettable Performance w/ Eric Burton</b> 11:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m. - Main Gallery, Tarble Arts Center</p>		<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b></p> <p>Finals</p>

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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**Comments / Tips**

Contact any of the above staff members if you believe your information is relevant.

**Corrections**

*The Daily Eastern News* is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds or is made aware of by its readers will be corrected as promptly as possible. Please report any factual error you find to Editor-in-Chief Madelyn Kidd at 581-2812.

**Employment**

If you would like to work for *The Daily Eastern News* as a reporter, photographer, columnist, cartoonist, copy editor, designer or videographer, please visit at the newsroom at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

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# Meet the 2023 DEN People of the Year

## Billy Hung, Person of the Year

By Madelyn Kidd  
Editor-in-Chief | @Madelyn\_\_K

Billy Hung, a biology professor and EIU-UPI's lead negotiator this past year, was chosen to be the DEN 2023 Person of the Year due to his involvement with the Eastern community in the last year.

Hung said he was honored and flattered for being chosen.

"I was just excited to have the attention on the issues that I care about being able to talk about," Hung said.

Hung has been working at Eastern since the fall of 2008. Hung said he chose to work at Eastern almost 15 years ago because of the small classroom size and the location in the country.

Hung said the best memories from his time at Eastern have been memories with

students.

Even today, Hung said he has students who email him years later to update Hung on their lives and how he impacted them.

Hung said he has previous students who had to repeat his courses who are now a lab coordinator in Chicago.

One memory Hung has while at Eastern which holds importance to him is the memory of faculty and students going to the state capital to advocate and talk about the impacts of the state budget impasse.

"That was a really eye opening learning experience because I was trained as a biologist not an activist or organizer," Hung said. "So I never knew that when groups of people come together for a shared goal, call that you could exercise your power and your voice and actually make things happen. That was an eye opening experience,

so seeing that when you organize groups of people effectively and get them to advocate for themselves to see a positive outcome. Then that was really defining for me as a union participant."

Hung said he feels happy with the EIU-UPI negotiations for a new contract concluding, but said this is the only beginning of the next paragraph in the story at Eastern.

"Because it is a lot of work to keep the bargaining team going to keep the organizing team going," Hung said. "I don't do a lot of the organizing part of it, but I help and I know that they put a lot of effort into organizing our members and so having that paragraph end is definitely a good feeling."

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



## Todd Bruns, Faculty/Staff Member of the Year

By Cam'ron Hardy  
News Editor | @DEN\_news

Head of Scholarly Communications and Dean of Library Services, Todd Bruns was selected the Faculty/Staff Member of the Year and has helped students find the resources they need.

Brunns has also been helpful to students that come to Booth Library for the keep, institutional repository.

"It's an archive of various, like images and audio files and video files," Bruns said. "We have almost 100,000 documents or file types in there. It's pretty cool. I love it. I love doing it. I also do teach a class for the school technology as an adjunct."

Brunns said why he came to Eastern as a faculty member and explained how Eastern's campus influenced him.

"The reason I came here to EIU was because of the collegiality that I was seeing amongst the faculty and staff of how much they support each other, how much they work together, how much they're there for the student," Bruns said.



Brunns experiences at University of Wisconsin-Madison were completely different than the experience at Eastern.

"So, a big part of when you're at a school is you sort of have to self-manage you as a student," Bruns said. "You have to kind

of be very proactive in making sure you get the right classes, making sure you get the right help getting support when you need it, versus an institution like EIU where there is a lot more very obvious and immediate help available to you."

International students have influenced Bruns in many ways and some have made a positive difference in his life.

"I just feel that connection with them. I teach a lot of international students come here and it's an adventure for them. It's also challenging, right because they're not at home," Bruns said. "They're not in their environment, or culture or food and their family is far away and they're coming here to get their degree. It's empowering to see them come here and do that, so I've been influenced by many of them. Just seeing them as future leaders in technology and seeing them embrace. When they get out into the field."

Brunns mentioned a few students from other countries and explained how they influenced Bruns.

"I would say I had a student from Nige-

ria several years ago, who came here and was in my class, and very clearly a leader he just had amazing capabilities. He and I just knew he is going to be somebody who is going to be a leader in his future company," Bruns said. "He had that level of skills and everything. It was just very inspiring to see him in my class. The things he would say, the very thoughtful critical analysis he would do. He was great at critical thinking. He is great at bringing up you know, particular issues."

Brunns explained what the nomination meant for him and how much impact it has on him.

"I wasn't expecting it at all," Bruns said. "I was surprised to get the email. I mean, it's a surprise and it's an honor. I don't know who nominated me, but I appreciate the nomination. It means a lot to me. I hope it means that I was somebody who students identified as someone who's making a change in a good way."

**Chandler Smith can be reached at 581-2812 or at cbsmith5@eiu.edu.**

## Jennifer Stringfellow, COE Person of the Year

By Adriana Hernandez-Santana  
Features Junior Editor | @DEN\_news

Jennifer Stringfellow, the associate director in special education, as well as the president of the Eastern's UPI chapter, has been selected for College of Education Person of the Year.

Coming to her as a surprise, Stringfellow said that she was not prepared for the nomination in the slightest. Hearing about her winning was a shock to say the least.

"It was daunting, but it's also very rewarding and very flattering," Stringfellow said.

One of the biggest things about being a professor in the special education department is ensuring the students are sure about who they are as a person.

As the president of the UPI strike, it was more critical than ever for her to have a voice.

Luckily, this talent does not go un-



noticed.

"To me it is really important to have a strong voice so to have students recognize that on some level is

really gratifying," Stringfellow said. "To know that you want to have an impact when you're a teacher, and it's just nice to know sometimes that

you actually do [have an impact]."

One positive that did come out of the strike was the opportunity to meet different people, not just in her field, but in other areas of campus as well. It gives her the ability to hear their concerns. Stringfellow says that it was super helpful to learn the other struggles and find solutions.

"It allowed me to get to know other people in other domains on the campus much better," Stringfellow said.

As for being an educator to the students, Stringfellow is proud of what she and her fellow professors on campus.

"I love the young people that I have met here and I've gotten the opportunity through all of this to meet even more, and I am never disappointed," Stringfellow said.

**Adriana Hernandez-Santana can be reached at 581-2812 or at aihernandez@eiu.edu.**

# Marko Grünhagen, LCBT Person of the Year

By **Cam'ron Hardy**  
News Editor | @DEN\_news



able to contribute to their careers and development.

He said he tries to be “hands on” with the students while teaching. With the marketing courses, he uses real life examples that could apply to students.

For instance, with some of his students working at bars, they could bring in examples to display to the class and have different types of engagements with students through this method.

With teaching, Grünhagen said he has to learn about the students to get a better understanding of where they come from. This also helps him relate to the students.

“Humor has to be part of it too right,” Grünhagen said. “I mean there has to be a kind of give-and-take, making jokes. Sometimes the students will reveal something about themselves that I don’t know may be surprising, and to use that to build on it, so to speak, to create a relationship.”

Grünhagen said his favorite part of the job is doing the research on a topic and after all the work he puts into it finally gets published. The feedback he gets from his work gives him a sense of gratification.

He said he does not view his job as work. His work life and personal life coincide.

“I don’t leave the office at 5 o’clock, drop the pen and be done with it,” Grünhagen said. “I live this. When I go home, I read something, I work on something when I’m on vacation. I may read a newspaper article or a magazine on a plane because I can take [it] back to the classroom, that kind of stuff.”

He had no plans to return to Eastern after obtaining his doctoral degree, but he said everything just “worked out” for him and said Eastern as been a good place for him and he hopes other students share the same passion he has.

“I hope that many of our students feel that same way once they leave here that they have fond memories of a place that I think in many ways, they do things right here,” Grünhagen said.

**Cam'ron Hardy can be reached at 581-2812 or at [dennewsdesk@gmail.com](mailto:dennewsdesk@gmail.com).**

# Brian Barrett, Undergraduate Student of the Year

By **Cam'ron Hardy**  
News Editor | @DEN\_news



the panther awakening retreat, which is for new students to help build the community.

“As far as leading that, it was cool to lead other students and kind of allow them to know because they were passionate about it and just kind of chan-

neling that to a productive retreat,” Barrett said.

Starting the position in Fall 2020 during his sophomore year, Barrett helped with preparing and disassembling practices for Eastern’s men’s baseball team. He was also an extra

hand for the coaching staff.

He concluded his time as student manager during the Dec. 2022.

While being in the position, Barrett was able to “experience a lot of good coaches.”

One of the coaches that Barrett worked with was Jason Anderson. Barrett said all of the coaches were supportive of him and the other managers.

The coaches helped Barrett obtain connections and along with the baseball players, made the environment fun to be around.

“We weren’t just the managers, like you kind of think about them being lower than everyone else, but they didn’t make it feel that way,” Barrett said.

Barrett said he was “super excited” when he found out about winning the undergraduate of the year award and said it was “an absolute honor.”

**Cam'ron Hardy can be reached at 581-2812 or at [dennewsdesk@gmail.com](mailto:dennewsdesk@gmail.com).**

# Jennifer Wisner, Graduate Assistant of the Year

By **Cam'ron Hardy**  
News Editor | @DEN\_news



like I met the accounting advisory board and it was part of Student Accounting Society, and now I’ve moved on to a leadership role in that and helping to facilitate that and giving people the experience that I had or finding ways to improve it. And that’s been a lot of fun. For me. It’s been a leader-

ship thing. I’ve learned a lot.”

She hopes to use the skills she is learning now in the real world when she gets her career started.

“A lot of my job is emailing people, talking to people, connecting people together, whether it’s mentors to mentees and student accounting society,” Wisner said. “Trying to get students to come to events and how do we connect with students, and I think that’s been really valuable just learning how to talk to people network and then just handling problems as they come and go with the flow and being that person to where if there’s an issue, they can say, ‘Jennifer, what do we do? And I can help fix that, so problem solving, too.’”

With being selected as Eastern’s Graduate Assistant of the Year, Wisner said she is “very honored.”

“I love Eastern,” Wisner said. “I’ve been here for five years, two degrees, it’s been a lot of fun for me, like I really appreciate the

campus community. I’ve made a lot of really great friends here. The opportunities through Lincoln College and the School of Business has been great.”

Wisner said the connections that she’s made have been great and the people have been supportive. They have helped her prepare for her life after college.

She has enjoyed her time planning and organizing the events. Being behind the scenes has been “satisfying” to her and being able to see things that she is involved in come together.

“I really enjoy the whole process of it,” Wisner said.

With Wisner graduating soon, she said, “Graduating in a couple of weeks. So just thinking back on it’s like oh, like I do you love this place is really good.”

**Cam'ron Hardy can be reached at 581-2812 or at [dennewsdesk@gmail.com](mailto:dennewsdesk@gmail.com).**

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## Off to the next chapter of my life story

After two years at Eastern and The Daily Eastern News, the inevitable time has come for me to graduate and move on in life.

I have had an amazing experience and time here at The News.

Two years ago I could never have imagined I would be where I am now.

Two years ago, then Editor-in-Chief Corryn Brock took a chance on me, and for that I am eternally grateful for.

Corryn has taught me many things since I have met her both in the journalism world and as a friend.

But along with her have been our journalism advisors and my other editors.

Without them I would not be who I am right now.

The News will always hold a special place in my heart, but it is time for my next adventure.



**Madelyn Kidd**

I am in the process of getting admitted into the University of Illinois Springfield's Public Affairs Reporting program where I would get a masters degree within a 10-month time span.

I am excited for the next chapter in my life, but I will miss the friends and relationships I have made here

at The News.

My semester as Editor-in-Chief was more than I could have hoped for.

Previous editors joke that your only goal as Editor-in-Chief is to keep The News running and not receive a lawsuit.

However, I set several goals for myself and my staff and am proud of how we achieved them throughout the semester.

One of my biggest goals was to have a sexual assault awareness edition in April, which we did last week.

Two big goals of mine were covering the new president announcement and the ongoing EIU-UPI contract negotiations.

Never did I imagine I would be covering a union strike and picketing, but I cannot deny the experience it gave me.

Through the negotiations and the strike, I got to know the Eastern community even better than I did before.

I met new faculty members and students as they got involved with what was going on.

I was once told that every Editor-in-Chief has one continuous news coverage during their time as chief that everyone will remember, an Editor-in-Chief legacy.

Mine is the UPI negotiations and the first union strike at Eastern since 1973.

While it is bittersweet to say goodbye, if you never say goodbye new opportunities never arise to say hello.

**Madelyn Kidd is a senior journalism: public affairs reporting major. She can be contacted at 581-2812 or at DENeic@gmail.com.**

**Quote of the Week:**

" My dear terrified graduates, you are about to enter the most uncertain and thrilling period of your life."

- Lin-Manuel Miranda

COLUMN

## Journalism is a crucial tool in today's society

As a senior journalism major, I have spent a lot of my time recently reminiscing and reflecting on my year here at the News and my two years at The Warbler.

I am so proud to be a part of these groups as they have taught me so much about journalism, writing, and life in general.

My reminiscing and reflecting has led me to one conclusion: journalism is a crucial tool in society. I have enjoyed seeing my coworkers cover some of the most important things to happen on this campus and how the coverage helped create change at Eastern.

I have certainly enjoyed working with Autumn and our small group of reporters to bring coverage to the sports here on campus. It has been hard with our small group, but we certainly did our best to bring coverage to different sports, athletes, and staff here at Eastern.

I have gained a lot of learning experiences these past two years as my writing has drastically improved and my reporting and interviewing have gotten better. It has helped me come out of my shell and get to know some of the most inter-



**Kate Stevens**

esting people on this campus. Everyone here, both in and out of athletics, has a story and I just wish I had more time to tell them all.

Journalism has changed my life. I have gained an enormous amount of respect for the time and effort that people put into this industry because it is no easy feat.

Being a student journalist has been pretty interesting to say the least. We have to step back sometimes and realize that we are students and journalists,

so our days can be overwhelming and exhausting. Nevertheless, we persevere.

A big part of me feels guilty for not being able to cover all of the things that every team does here at Eastern. There has been so much success in so many teams on campus and it has been fun to witness. It makes me proud to be an Eastern student and an Eastern student journalist.

I am so appreciative of journalism and more specifically of our student publications here at Eastern. They are so important and I hope that students continue to join them. They are the perfect hands-on experience that any journalism student ought to be a part of.

In my year at the News, being a student journalist has taken me to many places. I traveled to cover the Eastern vs. Illinois State football game and the Eastern vs. Tennessee State football game in Nashville. It was truly an amazing experience to be able to not only travel to Nashville, but to be able to stand on the Tennessee Titans field and to work in their press box. It was just incredible and it is something I will treasure forever.

I was also able to travel to Chicago for the ICPA awards and I got to go on my first flight ever when we traveled to Washington, D.C., for a media convention. These were both incredible experiences that brought our team together.

So, it has definitely been a fun ride. I hope I encourage those who enjoy journalism to join Eastern's student publications. I also hope that you all appreciate the News and journalism in general just as much as I do. It's really not as scary as some may think.

Lastly, I wish nothing but the best for the future of the News and the Warbler as they continue to tell stories and bring light to everything here on campus. It has been pure joy to be a part of these groups, even if it was just for a short time.

Thank you to my coworkers, advisors, and those I have been able to meet along the way for a great two years. It will be something I remember and reflect on fondly forever.

**Kate Stevens is a senior journalism major and can be reached kestevens2@eiu.edu or 217-581-2812.**

### LAST EDITION'S RESULTS

WE ASKED STUDENTS IF THEY THINK THERE IS ENOUGH SUPPORT FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS?

Yes 22.45%

No 77.55%

THANK YOU EIU  
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WE ARE HERE BECAUSE OF  
YOU AND WE ARE ENRICHED  
AND JUST PLAIN HAPPY TO  
WORK WITH AND FOR YOU!!!!!!



# Howarth named 2023 DEN Coach of the Year

By **Kate Stevens**

Assistant Sports Editor | @katestevens25

Winning coach of the year is nothing new for Erin Howarth.

Howarth is the head coach of Eastern's cross country team and the distance coach for the track and field team.

Since being hired in 2010, Howarth has won OVC coach of the year six times.

Her most recent time being in 2022 as she was awarded both men's and women's OVC coach of the year.

She previously won OVC men's cross country coach of the year in 2020 and 2021 and OVC women's cross country coach of the year in 2011 and 2019.

In her time at EIU, Howarth has led the men's cross country team to win the OVC championship three consecutive times in 2020, 2021, and 2022.

She also led the women's team to OVC championship victory in 2011 and 2022.

Howarth has coached countless runners over the years.

These runners have gone on to become All-OVC runners, OVC champion runners, OVC runners of the year, and All-Midwest Region runners.

Howarth said her favorite thing about her job is that she can impact these young student athlete's lives.

"My favorite thing is that I have the opportunity each and every day to im-



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

Cross Country Coach Erin Howarth accepts OVC Cross Country Coach of the year award after the Conference Championship Saturday afternoon, Oct. 29, 2022, at Putnam County Sports Complex in Cookeville, Tenn.

pact young people's lives," Howarth said. "It's my choice how I utilize every interaction and each situation. I also love that no two days are ever the same in this career. I always try to

bring humor and a smile. I know being a student athlete is stressful so I do my best to make it fun while also keeping the expectations high."

She said she feels she won coach of

the year because of each of the runners that she coaches.

"This team has built something so special and worked so hard at each part of what it takes to be an elite distance runner," Howarth said. "They push each other to new levels and encourage each other to be their very best self. No one is selfish in what and how they operate. You just don't get that in every group of people that comes together as a team. That is what brings me the most happiness."

She said the most important thing to her is that the runners develop both on and off the tracks and courses.

"The success of X's and O's doesn't mean nearly as much to me as it does to see each person develop on and off the track/course," Howarth said. "I love to see the growth throughout their career, especially in their confidence and their leadership abilities."

Howarth said she would like to continue finding and recruiting the runners with the best mentalities because that's what it takes to create a successful team.

"I'll continue to recruit good people and people who believe in the team first mentality," Howarth said. "If we have that foundationally within every person on the team, the rest will take care of itself."

*Kate Stevens can be reached at 581-2812 or at [katestevens2@eiu.edu](mailto:katestevens2@eiu.edu).*

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# Mundo named 2023 DEN Athlete of the Year

By Autumn Schulz  
Sports Editor | @autschulz



PHOTOS BY ASHANTI THOMAS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Mundo is the 2022-23 DEN Athlete of the Year. She finished the 2022 volleyball season with 599 digs, breaking the EIU single season dig record and earning her second team All-OVC honors.

most beautiful thing and to do that as a team, to come out with a lot of success, feel like you have made it.”

Mundo ended her junior season with 599 digs total, breaking the EIU single season dig record.

She was third in the OVC in digs per set and in total digs. These statistics alone earned Mundo second team All-OVC honors.

Mundo broke the single season dig record during the 2022 OVC Tournament against Southeast Missouri in the quarterfinals, collecting 14 digs during the match.

In the NCAA, Mundo ranked seventh in

total digs and 17th in digs per set.

Mundo said that she fully expected to break the single season dig record.

“I wasn’t surprised when I got it because I was working for it,” Mundo said. “My first individual goal for the season was to get my 1,000 career digs and I got it. Then after, I wanted to break the digs record and I did. So, I was not surprised because I worked for it.”

The 2023 volleyball schedule has not been released yet and the recruiting class has not been announced.

However, in an interview after the home volleyball spring match earlier this month, head coach Sara Thomas told The

News that she is very excited for the recruiting class to join the Panther volleyball program.

The recruits will play alongside a solid senior class as Mundo, Ella Collins, Emily Wilcox, and 2022 OVC Player of the Year Giovana Larregui Lopez are all seniors.

Mundo said that her individual goals are to set a new record of total digs in the OVC and to win Libero of the Year.

“However, that is not as important as my teams’ goal, which is to bring that championship home,” Mundo said.

**Autumn Schulz can be reached at 581-2812 or at [acschulz@eiu.edu](mailto:acschulz@eiu.edu).**

# McGlone named 2023 DEN Newcomer Athlete

By Autumn Schulz  
Sports Editor | @autschulz



Macy McGlone was named to All-OVC first team and OVC All-Newcomer of the Year during the 2022 season.

the summer really confident with where we were going and obviously, we have shown that there’s a reason for it.”

Before the OVC Tournament semifinal against Tennessee Tech back in early March, McGlone told *The News* that she was looking to bring a strong presence in the paint for her team.

“I just want to do my role to the best of my ability,” McGlone said.

She was certainly a strong presence in the paint for the Panthers during the 2022-23 season. Her performance earned her the title of OVC All-Newcomer and first-team All-OVC.

She was also named OVC Newcomer of the Week five times throughout the season which is the most out of all players combined in EIU history.

McGlone averaged 12.5 points per game and ranked second in the OVC in rebounds per game with 7.3.

She also ranked second in the OVC in offensive rebounds per game with 2.6.

She led the OVC in blocks with 41.

As for scoring, McGlone had five 20-point scoring games during the 2022-23 season. She led the team with a 54.4

field goal percentage, scoring in double figures 17 times throughout the season.

She had four double-doubles with her highest double-double coming against Morehead State as she scored 26 points and had 15 rebounds.

In her first OVC Tournament ever as an EIU Panther, McGlone put in 21 points and pulled down 11 rebounds, leading the Panthers in scoring and rebounds.

The Panthers also outscored the Golden Eagles in the paint 44-24 and McGlone was a large part of that.

After the loss to the Golden Eagles in the OVC Tournament, McGlone told *The News* that with Lariah Washington and Morgan Litwiller leaving, new people are going to have to step up come the 2023-24 season.

“I think that me and some of the other girls on the team are gonna have to step up and fill that role and be the leaders on the team so we can be successful,” McGlone said.

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Sophomore Eastern women’s basketball forward Macy McGlone has only been a Panther for one season but has already proved her presence on the court.

Before McGlone became an EIU Panther, she played two seasons as a Panther at Milwaukee. During the 2020-22 season, McGlone appeared in 19 games and put up 32 bench points, 47 rebounds, and five blocks.

In the 2021-22 season at Milwaukee, McGlone played in all 30 games.

She averaged 2.3 points and 2.5 rebounds per game. She had nine assists and 11 steals during the season.

Head coach Matt Bollant, after the Panthers captured their 13th consecutive OVC win on Feb. 10, told *The News* that the summer preseason made him confident in the players that he brought in.

“Obviously, you never know what to expect, but we really anticipated good things,” Bollant said. “We came out of