

Women's Volleyball Player Anna Barry is All-America

Senior middle hitter Anna Barry of Andover has been recognized as an All American Volleyball Coaches' Association (AVCA) Division III All-America honorable mention choice for 2021, becoming the program's third All-American. Barry recorded the sixth-best season attack percentage in program history this past year and led the Little East Conference in five offensive categories. Prior to her All-America selection, she repeated as a selection on the AVCA Division III All-Region I Team, becoming Eastern's first first-team selection in 15 years after being named to the honorable mention team in 2019.



"Obviously, Anna's stats tell a great story about how dominant she was on the court this past season," noted Eastern head coach Megan Silver-Droesch. "As a leader, she was motivating to her team, humble beyond belief and supportive of everyone around her."

This year, Barry repeated as the Little East Conference Offensive Player-of-the-Year and was named first-team All-LEC for the third straight year when she led the conference in points (414.5), points per set (4.36), attack percentage (.393), kills (371), and kills per set (3.91). She was also fifth in the LEC in block assists (37) and block solos (23) and sixth in total blocks (60).

Eastern's previous All-America honorees were first-team middle hitter Kathy Kimball in 1993 and second-team setter Andrea Costa in 1986, both now members of the Eastern Athletics Alumni Hall of Fame.



3 CHAMPIONSHIPS FIELD HOCKEY



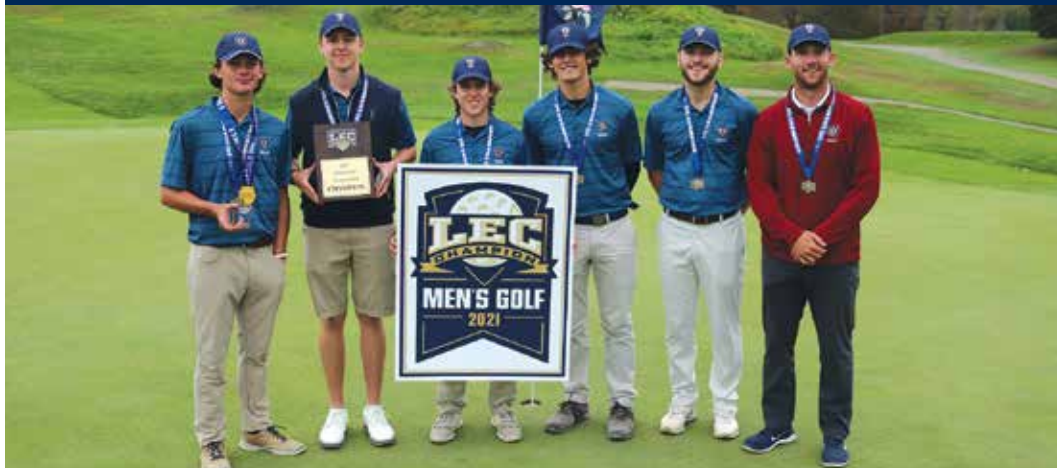
Eastern celebrated its first Little East Conference field hockey championship this past fall. Ranked eighth in the conference in the preseason poll, the Warriors did not allow a goal in three LEC playoff wins, set multiple individual and team records, and finished with a 14-6 overall record.

MEN'S SOCCER



The top-seeded men's soccer team drew plenty of support at Thomas Nevers Field when it avenged its only Little East Conference loss of the year with a 2-1 win over third-seeded Western Connecticut State University on Nov. 6 to win its sixth LEC playoff title.

GOLF



In its second season on the intercollegiate level, the Eastern men's golf team won the inaugural Little East Conference Men's Golf Championship this past fall with a 32-stroke win over runner-up Castleton University.



(Top right) Eastern Athletics Alumni Hall of Fame Class of 2021: (from left: Lori Franchina '95, Patrick Ammendolia '03, Dwight Wildman '13, David Nicholson '06 and Marianna (Capomolla) Linnehan '07

(Bottom left) Recent inductees to the Little East Conference Hall of Fame were honored at the Eastern Athletics Alumni Hall of Fame banquet. (from left: Wendy Rogers '92, Marc DiGiovanni '03, Jason Edwards (1997-02), and Scott Chiasson (1996-98). At far right, representing the 1998 NCAA Division III national baseball championship team, which was also inducted, is former team manager Charles Carey.

(Bottom right) Executive Vice-President Emeritus Michael E. Pernal (at right) became the 28th recipient of the Michael A. Atkind '75 Exceptional Service Award at the 27th Eastern Athletics Alumni Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Oct. 16, 2021.



Chris D'Ambrosio, Women's Soccer Coach, Retires



Chris D'Ambrosio, who coached more seasons and matches and won more games than anyone in the history of Eastern women's or men's soccer, has retired after 22 seasons as head coach of the women's program, stepping down at the completion of the 2021 fall season.

D'Ambrosio was with the women's program for 24 seasons, taking over as head coach in 2000 after two seasons as an assistant coach under Matt Paton.

D'Ambrosio coached 64.0 percent of the program's 644 matches from 2000-21, and won 66.9 percent of the team's 359 games. He was 240-137-35 overall (62.6 percent) in 412 matches. D'Ambrosio won or shared nine of 21 LEC regular-season championships and captured four LEC tournament championships.

"Christian has served the Eastern athletics department with distinction, and has made countless women better athletes, better students and better citizens," praised Director of Athletics Lori Runksmeier. "Eastern soccer will miss his leadership and dedication. We will all miss his calm demeanor, his ready smile and his positive attitude."

Eastern's Departmental Major Award-Winners

Bonnie J. Edmondson '87 Senior Female SportsPerson-of-the-Year
Megan Hodgdon, Softball, Cheshire

Francis E. Geissler Senior Male SportsPerson-of-the-Year
Maxwell Chace, Cross Country-Track & Field, Brooklyn

Morrell Service Award
(Named in honor of Morrell brothers John '83, Tim '84, Patrick '87, and Brian '93)
Julia Koonjy, Jefferson, NJ

Team Sport Male Athlete-of-the-Year
Luke Broadhurst, Baseball, Stafford

Team Sport Male Rookie-of-the-Year
Jason Claiborn, Baseball, Prospect

Team Sport Female Athlete-of-the-Year
Brooke Matyasovsky, Softball, Orange

Team Sport Female Rookie-of-the-Year
Alyssa Vilchez, Softball, Brampton, Ontario

Individual Sport Female Athlete-of-the-Year
Kerry-Rose Buchanan, Swimming, Southington

Individual Sport Female Rookie-of-the-Year
Wendie Stewart, Track & Field, Hartford

Individual Sport Male Athlete-of-the-Year
Ryan Escoda, Cross Country-Track & Field, Newtown

Individual Sport Male Rookie-of-the-Year
Ashton Lewis, Golf, Fairfield