



Eastern-in-the-News



'MOOREFIELD MAVERICKS' VICTORIOUS AT EASTERN'S CONSTITUTION BOWL

Moorefield — Sept. 23 – An energetic team of four Early Entrance college students, seniors at Moorefield High School taking college courses, outcompeted two other student teams at Eastern WV Community and Technical College's seventh annual Constitution Bowl earlier this month.

Showing superior knowledge and understanding of the U.S. Constitution, the winners credited their triumph to special preparation by Eastern English Instructor Curtis Hakala.

"He went over all of the articles of the Constitution with us," including the purpose and meaning of each one, said Shannon Combs, who, like her teammates, plans on attending college fulltime after graduation next spring.

Hakala had drilled them so intensely that the Mavericks seemed to run away with the contest in the early rounds, as they correctly answered question after question on the articles.

After moderator 'Ben Franklin' (who bears a striking resemblance to Robert 'Buck' Eagle, Eastern's Dean for Academic and Student Services) announced that he had run out of questions in that category, the other teams — the 'Fiery Framers' and the 'Cunning Constitutionalists' — made up ground quickly. At the final buzzer, only three or four correct answers separated the victors from their opposition.

Constitutional Power



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Seated, from left: the 'Moorefield Mavericks' team, 2011 Constitution Bowl Champs:

Shannon Combs; Justin Fitzwater; Langley Sayers; Kevin Judy.

Standing from left: Bowl Judge Dave Jones, American History instructor, Eastern; Benjamin Franklin, host and moderator; Bowl Judge Ward Malcolm, Dean of Career, Technical and Workforce Education.

The afternoon's contest — an annual Eastern tradition marking Constitution Day — impressed moderator Franklin. "We are likely to find that the future of our country, as decided by the character and ideas of the officials we put in office under our democratic system," he observed later, "will ride on the same kind of narrow margins and close contests.

"So it's all the more essential that each and every citizen realizes the importance of the Constitution," he emphasized, "and the enormous power it gives us through the right to vote."

For their learning, the winning team also credited their Eastern History Instructor, Dave Jones, and they each took home a can of Feridies "world's best" nuts — donated by the South Branch Valley Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution — as a prize.

For more information about Eastern's Early Entrance program, financial aid opportunities, programs of study, workforce training and community education, call toll free: 877-982-2322; or check the College's website: "www.easternwv.edu".

Serving the residents of Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, Pendleton and Tucker counties, and fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College is a comprehensive and equal opportunity community and technical college bringing the resources and assets of Education That Works to the families, communities and employers of the Potomac Highlands.