

Ryan McComb

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EDUCATION

Evanston Township High School, Class of 2028

Evanston, IL

4.44 weighted GPA (3.97 unweighted). Website editor of *The Evanstonian*, read hundreds of thousands of times a year.

EXPERIENCE

Data Science Fellow, VoteHub (*Student Fellow, Feb - May 2026*)

Feb 2026 - Present

- Called several hundred races across the 2026 primary season on VoteHub's election-night decision desk.
- Co-author of *The VoteHub 2026 Midterm Forecasting Model*, combining fundamentals, polling, expert ratings and prediction markets with correlated simulations for House, Senate and gubernatorial races.
- Built the prediction-market stage, combining Kalshi orderbook and trade data with liquidity-aware pricing.
- Built VoteHub's Voter Power Index, scoring how much a single ballot matters in every House district and Senate race.
- Helped build nationwide predictions for 175,000+ precincts, including ecological-inference estimates of demographic voting patterns.
- Help maintain live maps and election-night operations used by the CBS News Data Desk in primary coverage.
- Built VoteHub's daily campaign-finance hub from raw FEC filings, covering fundraising, spending, PACs and independent expenditures; its data feeds the 2026 Campaign Tracker, where I am the first-listed contributor.
- Election-night graphics and analysis that have drawn more than 12 million views.

Volunteer Finance Lead, Daniel Biss for Congress (IL-09)

Oct 2025 - Mar 2026

- Ran donor research and volunteer finance operations through a competitive open-seat Democratic primary, which Biss won.

Lakefront Lifeguard, Evanston Fire Department, Special Operations Group

Summers

PROJECTS

DeepSky Partisan Estimator, creator

2026

- Built a gradient-boosting model using Google AlphaEarth satellite embeddings and census data to estimate 2024 Democratic two-party vote share across 62,145 precincts in 39 states.
- Reduced average error from 9.1 to 8.1 percentage points by adding satellite embeddings to census inputs; published comparisons of geographic patterns, regional failures and visually similar precincts.

IL9Cast, founder · il9.org

2025 - 2026

- Built market-based and precinct-level fundamentals forecasts for the IL-09 Democratic primary. Estimated the winner's vote share within 0.8 points, every candidate's within two, and the finishing order exactly.
- Drew 4,300+ live viewers on election night; covered by Capitol Fax, the Evanston RoundTable and the *Daily Northwestern*.

Cohese, co-founder · cohese.org

2026 - Present

- Built Shoal, a GPU redistricting sampler 18x to 27x faster than *redist*; wrote it up in *Every Map Everywhere All at Once*.
- Released Tessera, a native Mac redistricting app with a live 3D map and precinct data for all 50 states.
- Post-trained race-calling language models with SFT and RL on historical returns and AP/Decision Desk HQ call times.

Manifold, trader and market maker; co-founder, ManiFed Markets

2023 - Present

- Ranked in the top 0.25% of 160,000+ traders by profit, with a 2.6 realized Sharpe ratio in AI and election markets.
- Provided liquidity in midterm markets; co-founded ManiFed Markets, a peer-to-peer lending system and trading terminal.

Seiche, creator

2026 - Present

- A small gradient-boosted model that forecasts Lake Michigan water temperature continuously from buoy and weather history, close to what a physics-based lake model achieves.

Project 2028, host

2022 - Present

- Politics and forecasting podcast started with friends in eighth grade, now with listeners in 50+ countries.

SELECTED WRITING

Are the Campaigns Cooking the Books?, VoteHub, June 2026

IL-09: An Election for the Ages, VoteHub, April 2026

Primary previews, postmortems and a simulation-forecast paper; index at mccomb.ca/writing.

SKILLS

Model architecture and design; election forecasting and racecalling; prediction markets and futures; campaign-finance (FEC) and precinct-level data; forecast calibration and backtesting; applied ML and LLM post-training.

INTERESTS

Competitive swimming, club and ETHS; sports photography, at times for the Chicago Union; onion futures advocacy.