

2013 BCAM MEN'S AND WOMEN'S COLLEGE ACADEMIC - ATHLETIC TEAM

Each BCAM Honor Team pays tribute to five outstanding scholar-athletes from Michigan colleges and universities at the NCAA I, NCAA II, NCAA III, and NAIA levels. To be eligible, players have to be either a starter or an important reserve and have at least a 3.2 grade point average. The BCAM teams are selected on the basis of academic achievement, athletic accomplishments, grade point average and their coach's BCAM membership.

Jr Travis Bader Oakland University 3.45 Okemos, MI

Travis led the country with a school and Summit League record 139 three point field goals. An All-Summit League first team selection, he averaged 22.1 ppg. Bader graduated from Oakland in three years with a 3.45 in Communications and is currently working on his master's degree.

Sr Brett Beland Saginaw Valley State University 3.58 Menominee, MI

Brett was 4th in the nation in Free Throw Percentage in 2011-12. This past season he averaged 13.0 points per game connecting on 60 three point field goals. Named to the SVSU Dean's every semester of his career; and a four-time member of the GLIAC All-Academic Excellence Team. Brett has a cumulative GPA of 3.58 in Marketing and Management.

Jr Derek Billing Lake Superior State University 3.58 Anna, OH

Derek was an All-GLIAC Second Team selection this year while averaging 15.2 ppg. Twice he was selected as the GLIAC Player of the Week. He was also selected to the 2013 Capitol One Academic All-District IX Team. He has a 3.58 GPA and is majoring in Exercise Science.

Jr Mark Ghafari Kalamazoo College 3.78 Grosse Pte Shores, MI

Mark is a 1st team All-MIAA selection as well as a two year team captain. This past season he was voted team MVP and the Best Teammate by his team. He was also selected to the Academic All-American – 3rd Team. Mark has a cumulative GPA of 3.78 in Economics.

Jr Brandon Krause Alma College 3.76 Midland, MI

Brandon was an All-MIAA 2nd Team selection this season and was voted his team's MVP. He averages 10.5 ppg and was selected as a MIAA Player of the Week. He finished in the Top Ten in four different MIAA statistical categories. He has a cumulative GPA of 3.76 in Math and Business.

Sr Talisha Bridges Wayne State University 3.51 Anna, OH

Talisha was voted to the Datronics All-Region Second Team as well as being named to the GLIAC First Team and All-Defensive team. She is a three-time GLIAC North Division Player of the Week. Talisha was also a CoSIDA Academic All-District nominee. During her senior season, she averaged 15.5 pts, 6.9 rebs, 2.5 assts, and 1.7 steals per game. She carries a 3.51 GPA in Sociology.

Sr Niki DiGullio Central Michigan University 3.60 Grosse Pte Shores, MI

Niki helped lead the Chippewas to a MAC tournament championship and a berth in the NCAA tournament while averaging 7.3 points and 2 rebounds per game. The prolific three-point shooter was named MAC player of the week during her senior season and shot 40.6% from behind the arc. The biomedical major carries a 3.6 GPA and has been a team leader in community service events.

Sr Liz Ellis Hope College 3.77 Okemos, MI

Liz was named to the First Team All-MIAA Team for the second straight year and led her team to a 26-1 record. She was named the MIAA Defensive Player of the Year for the past three seasons. This is the first time in league history that one player has earned that award three times. Liz averaged 10 points, 2.2 assists, and 2.3 steals per game while leading her team to the elite eight. The senior Business/Spanish major carries a 3.77 GPA. Outside of basketball she has been involved with West Michigan Special Olympics for the past four years.

Sr Karli Harris Davenport University 3.40 Midland, MI

The senior point guard finished off a stellar three-year career at Davenport earning First Team All-American, First Team All-WHAC, and WHAC All -Defensive Team honors while leading her team to the NAIA D2 national championship game. She averaged 14.8 points, 3.3 rebounds, 6.22 assists, and 3.75 steals. During her senior season, she scored her 1,000 point as a Davenport player and broke the Panther single season record for free throws made (155) and assists (221). Karli carries a 3.4 GPA in Medical Assisting and Case Management and is a National Honor Society Chapter member.

Sr Carissa Verkaik Calvin College 3.76 Menominee, MI

The 6'2 senior center earned her fourth consecutive MIAA Player of the Year award and was named the DIII Player of the Year. Carissa averaged 20 points, 9.2 rebounds and 3.2 blocks while leading her team to a 23-4 overall and 15-1 MIAA record. She scored over 2,000 points in her career. The Elementary Education major will graduate with a 3.76 GPA and was a Capital One Academic All-American.