



Scholar-Baller®

Education Sport Entertainment



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NCAS and Scholar-Baller® Announce National Academic Momentum Award Winners: *Sixteen Student-Athletes Recognized for their Academic Performances*

Orlando, FL...January 23, 2008 – The Scholar-Baller® Program, in conjunction with the National Consortium for Academics and Sports (NCAS) today announced the winners of the Academic Momentum Award. Forty nominations were received from 23 different colleges and universities across the country. A male and female winner was chosen from eight of the NCAS regions.

The names, schools, majors, sports, hometowns and NCAS regions of the female Academic Momentum Award winners are **Kristin Marie King**, Rockhurst University, Education, Golf, St. Louis, MO, (Midwest); **Anjelica Maria Selden**, UCLA, History, Softball, Huntington Park, CA, (Western); **Domineque Scott**, East Stroudsburg University, Sport Management, Field Hockey, Milton, DE, (Mid-Atlantic); **Lisa Geer**, St. John's University, Communication Arts, Softball, Anaheim Hills, CA, (Northeast); **Lindsey Lee**, Fairfield University, Psychology, Volleyball, Hilo, HI, (New England); **Kim Critton**, University of Florida, Tourism, Recreation & Sport Management, Basketball, Memphis, TN, (Southeast); **Tara Langley**, University of Mississippi, Communicative Disorders, Volleyball, New Orleans, LA, (South Central); and **Jena Lind**, Southern Methodist University, Psychology, Soccer, Arlington, TX, (Southwest).

The names, schools, majors, sports, hometowns and NCAS regions of the male Academic Momentum Award winners are **Cesar Zambrano**, University of Illinois at Chicago, Criminal Justice, Soccer, Chicago, IL, (Midwest); **Jon Toailoa**, Northern Arizona University, Parks and Recreation Management, Football, Long Beach, CA (Western); **Jarryd Anderson**, La Salle University, Economics, Football, Neptune, NJ, (Mid-Atlantic); **Tadeu Terra**, St. John's University, Management, Soccer, Brazil, (Northeast); **Dan Boudreau**, Fairfield University, Economics, Lacrosse, Canton, MA, (New England); **Jaager Good**, University of Central Florida, Interdisciplinary Studies, Baseball, Atlanta, GA, (Southeast); **DeAngelo Smith**, University of Cincinnati, Criminal Justice, Football, Columbus, OH, (South Central); and **Demarcus Conner**, Oklahoma State University, Economics, Football, Houston, TX, (Southwest).

Winning nominations included stories of special admits earning dean's list recognition, whole GPA point improvements, and threats of university dismissal leading to renewed motivation for academic

performances. One winner, Tadeu Terra of St. John's University, a native of Brazil, suffered through his English-taught classes early on. After struggling in his first semester, Terra sought hours of tutoring and finished his third semester with an improvement of more than one whole GPA point from the first.

The NCAS is an ever-growing organization of colleges and universities that provides opportunities for current and former student-athletes to continue their pursuit of higher education, while working in the community with children to address social issues. Established in 1985, the overall mission of the NCAS is "to create a better society by focusing on educational attainment and using the power appeal of sport to positively affect social change."

Established in 1995, the Scholar-Baller[®] movement evolved in response to concerns that the student-athlete's athletic role increasingly superseded the student role. In order to address this issue, the founding members of Scholar-Baller[®] developed a groundbreaking program to bridge the gap between education and sport utilizing student-athletes' passion for entertainment and athletics. As a result, the Scholar-Baller[®] program has produced unprecedented outcomes in student retention and academic achievement.

The Academic Momentum Awards will be officially presented on January 28, 2008 at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, FL during the Founder's Luncheon (11:45-1:45 pm) of the NCAS Annual Conference.

The runners-up of the award are Garrett Fischer, Rockhurst University; Al Teric-Balaam and Cali Stratton, University of Akron; Lorenzo Mata, UCLA; Sarah Vallen, Northern Arizona University; Troy Nolan and Dymond Simon, Arizona State University; CalvinJohn Smiley and Terry Mongan, Lehigh University; Christopher Bach, East Stroudsburg; Alexis Gray, Rutgers University; Shannon Halleran, La Salle University; Ellen Ott and Michael Letts, University of Maryland; Robert Novak, Seton Hall University; Breanna Gomez and Pat McCaffery, Drexel University; Amber Long, University of Central Florida; Cedrick Dorsey, Southern Methodist University; LaKendra Greathouse, Oklahoma State University; DeMarco McNair, Middle Tennessee University; Camelia Blake and David Gibson, Virginia State University; Anka Autman, University of Mississippi.

All nominees are individually and collectively a testament to the "student" in the "student-athlete." Their commitment to academics and athletics is truly an inspiration.

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