

2023 BCAM Men's and Women's College Academic-Athletic Teams

Sr.	Cory Ainsworth	Cornerstone University	3.71 GPA	Wayland, MI
Cory played a vital role in this year's Cornerstone success. Kim Elders' team racked up 18 wins with this young man leading the way. This two-time WHAC Player of the Week winner averaged 17 points and 7.4 rebounds without even attempting a three pointer. The pre-med student carried over a 3.7 GPA while volunteering as a lab assistant and working with the EMS. This is the second straight year Cory has been named WHAC 1 st Team All-Conference for his efforts.				
Sr.	James Ballard, Jr.	Rochester University	3.04 GPA	Suisan, CA
This 2 nd Team ALL-WHAC performer, averaged 13.3 points and 7.6 Rebounds per game for Rochester this past year. James was an integral part of the successful season for head coach, Klint Pleasant, helping the Warriors finish tied for 3 rd in the overall WHAC standings and a combined record of 20-11. James will be graduating from Rochester University with his degree in Sports Management this spring.				
Sr.	Caden Ebeling	Lake Superior State University	3.81 GPA	Shelby Twp, MI
Caden was an integral part of Steve Hettinga's 2022-2023 Laker squad. The senior product from Shelby Township knocked down 56% of his shots, on his way to averaging over 16 points and just under 5 rebounds per game. This Business Administration student earned a 3.8 GPA and was named First Team All GLIAC for his basketball efforts.				
Sr.	Peter Kalthoff	Hillsdale College	3.75 GPA	Hillsdale, MI
This local product decided to stay home and help Hillsdale College to another successful season. John Tharp's team posted an impressive 23-win season and Peter was a vital part of that success. The senior English major carried a 3.75 GPA, all while being named First Team All GMAC, as well as being a member of the GMAC All Defensive Team. Peter averaged over 13 points and 7 rebounds this season, all while shooting 55% from the field and an impressive 67% from three.				
Sr.	Evan Thomas	Hope College	3.89 GPA	Okemos, MI
A year ago, Evan Thomas was named the MVP of the MIAA, all while leading his team and league in scoring and rebounding. A hand injury caused him to miss over a third of this season, but Evan was able to come back to help his team to a 20-10 record by averaging nearly 16 points and 7 rebounds in his senior year. His contributions earned him a spot on the First Team All MIAA, as well as First Team Academic All-American honors. Evan will graduate with a 3.89 in Biology and will begin medical school at the University of Michigan in the fall.				

Sr.	Sydney Cleary	Calvin University	3.46 GPA	Middleville, MI
A four-year member and 3-year starter on the Calvin University women's basketball team, Sydney Cleary is an accomplished student-athlete. She helped her team to a 21-6 overall record and a third-place finish in Michigan Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) conference play at 12-4. Sydney earned her first career All-MIAA recognition spot on the 2023 All-Conference Second-Team. She posted new career highs this season in multiple categories including points per game (11.3), three-point percentage (37.7%), three-point field goals (63) and rebounds per game (4.7). Cleary also averaged 3.7 assists per game, which was tied for best in the MIAA conference. Her 63 made three-pointers this season landed her 8th for a single season in Calvin University program history and second most makes overall among her peers in the MIAA.				
Jr.	Alexis Johnson	Oakland University	3.70 GPA	Farmington, MI
Oakland University junior Alexis Johnson has demonstrated a notable work ethic on the court, in the classroom and within her community. The College of Arts and Sciences Communication major has taken time from her busy collegiate student-athlete life to give back. She volunteered this winter at a non-profit organization in Pontiac to help others and spent time in elementary classrooms reading to youth. On the court, Alexis made an impact in the Horizon League as she finished in the top 20 in three different statistical categories: 17 th in average points per game (11.0 ppg), 13 th in average rebounds per game (5.5 rpg) and 16 th in average steals per game (1.2 spg).				
Sr.	Maxine Moore	Wayne State University	3.86 GPA	Southfield, MI
Wayne State University fifth-year senior Maxine Moore started all 27 contests this season for the Warriors. She concluded her career in the green and gold as 23rd in WSU history in career field goal percentage (46.3%). Maxine was named to the 2022-23 GLIAC All-Academic Excellence Team and received Academic All-District honors by College Sports Communicators. Her passion and knowledge for the game was recognized when she was selected by the WBCA (Women's Basketball Coaches Association) for the 2023 So You Want To Be A Coach program. This program assists female collegiate basketball players who are interested in pursuing a career in coaching women's basketball by providing them with professional development. Maxine also served as a member of the NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Council on Wayne State's campus.				
Jr.	Lauren Ross	Western Michigan University	4.00 GPA	Muskegon, MI
Lauren Ross was the 7th leading scorer in the country among DI female basketball players prior to a season ending injury during the seventeenth game of the season. Until this point, Lauren had started all 17 games and was averaging 21.8 ppg, 4.8 rpg and 2.35 apg. During the 2022-23 season she had been named Mid-American Conference (MAC) player of the week on four (4) different occasions. Academically, Lauren has been named 3rd team Academic All-American (this is only the second time in Bronco history). Lauren serves as a member of the NCAA student athlete advisory committee (SAAC) along with a select few of her Bronco student-athlete peers.				
Gr.	Emily Spitzley	Grand Valley State University	3.95 GPA	Westphalia, MI
Graduate student Emily Spitzley has had an impressive career at Grand Valley State University; both on and off the court. She became GVSU's all-time wins leader in the Laker's program history. At the conclusion of the 2023 season Emily's honors included being named WBCA Honorable Mention All-American, voted D2CCA All-Region, First-Team All-GLIAC, as well as GLIAC All-Defensive team and earned the GLIAC Tournament MVP award. She ended her career with 1,257 points, ranking 20th in program history. Head coach Mike Williams described Emily as a consistent example of hard work and dedication. "Emily has sacrificed her own minutes to ensure that our team has the most success possible." This is evident as she became the program's all-time career leader in wins at GVSU with 133 career wins.				

Each BCAM Academic-Athletic 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 must be nominated by their BCAM member coach, be either a starter or an important reserve, have reached sophomore standing, have participated in at least 50% of the team's games, and have at least a 3.0 GPA. The BCAM teams are selected on the basis of academic achievement, athletic accomplishments, and extra-curricular activities.