

ASU dominates SoCon All-Academic Selections

Written by Mike Kelly
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The Southern Conference announced its 2008-09 Spring Academic All-Conference team on Sunday, and a total of 320 student-athletes, representing all 12 Southern Conference institutions, were named to the team.

These student-athletes competed in men's and women's golf, men's and women's tennis, men's and women's outdoor track and field, baseball and softball. They averaged a 3.56 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Junior David Towarnicky of the Appalachian State baseball team carried a perfect 4.0 GPA into the spring semester. Towarnicky is majoring in Finance and Banking. The ASU Baseball team had nine players selected to the team.

Two former Watauga High athletes also made the list. Men's tennis player Bobby Lake, who turned in a solid senior year at ASU, was also named to the SoCon Academic All-Conference team. Lake, who graduated in May, was a Communications major and had a 3.45 GPA.

Senior Ashley Norris of the ASU cross country and track teams made the squad as well. An Elementary Education major, Norris sported a 3.33 GPA. Norris was also named to the all-academic squad last fall in cross country and last winter in indoor track.

Sophomore Nick Zeller (who attended Alexander Central High School) of the ASU men's track team is majoring in Management and had a 3.58 GPA; and junior Brook DeHart (Freedom High) of the ASU women's golf team is majoring in Communications and owns a 3.33 GPA.

To be eligible, a student-athlete must possess at least a 3.2 cumulative grade point average entering the spring season. In all, Appalachian State had the most student-athletes represented with 44, followed by Western Carolina (33) and Georgia Southern (32). Track and field had the most athletes on the list with 113 (57 females and 56 males). Baseball and softball followed with

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65 and 36 athletes respectively.