Appalachian State University baseball first baseman David Towarnicky has earned a prestigious NCAA postgraduate scholarship, the NCAA has announced.

Towarnicky is one of only 29 men's spring sports student-athletes nationwide to receive the ultra-competitive award this year.

Towarnicky, who became the first ASU student-athlete in 18 years to earn first-team Academic All-America recognition this spring, carries a perfect 4.0 grade point average as a double-major in banking and finance and risk insurance management with a minor in international business. He was one of 10 finalists for this year's college baseball Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, which honors Division I senior student-athletes for notable achievements in four areas of excellence — classroom, character, community and competition.

On the field, Towarnicky hit .303 with nine home runs and 50 RBI as a senior in 2010. He finished his career with a .304 batting average, 39 doubles, 22 home runs and 154 RBI (good for fourth in ASU history). He made 195 career starts, including a string of 121-straight to close out his career, and sported a .992 career fielding percentage with only 15 errors in 1,806 chances as a four-year starter at first base.

Academically, he was honored this spring by ASU's Walker College of Business as the college's top overall student and top banking and finance major, as well as earning an academic achievement award from the Wall Street Journal. A member of ASU's Chancellor's List, Dean's List, Walker College of Business honors program and Beta Gamma Sigma honor society, Towarnicky is also the recipient of the Southern Conference's Camp Champs graduate scholarship. He is currently studying in Germany to fulfill degree requirements and will graduate from ASU in December.

****

BOYKIN NAMED HEAD COACH AT ST. ANDREWS

Longtime ASU assistant coach Matt Boykin has been named the head coach at St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, N.C.

Boykin served for six years on head coach Chris Pollard's staff at ASU. He helped Pollard engineer a turnaround from eight-straight losing seasons before their arrival to the

Mountaineers' current string of four-consecutive 30-win campaigns, including this year's 38 victories (the second-most in program history). Boykin was especially instrumental in Appalachian's recruiting efforts, which have consistently netted ASU top-ranked classes since the staff's arrival prior to the 2005 season.

A 2003 graduate of Barton College, where is was an infielder, outfielder and pitcher for the Bulldogs' baseball team, Boykin came to ASU after spending one season as an assistant coach at his alma mater.

St. Andrews is a member of the NCAA Division II Conference Carolinas. The Knights finished 11-36-1 in 2010.