Cortland's Mike Burnett and Brian Atkins Earn ESPN the Magazine National Academic All-America Honors

SUNY Cortland senior baseball pitcher Mike Burnett (Westfield) and junior men's lacrosse attackman Brian Atkins (Adams/South Jefferson) both earned 2005 ESPN the Magazine national Academic All-America honors. Burnett was named to the College Division baseball second team, while Atkins was selected to the College Division men's at-large second team. Both Burnett and Atkins were first team Academic All-District I selections to earn their spot on the national ballot.

The teams were selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). The College Division consists of all Division II, Division III and NAIA schools in the United States and Canada.

Burnett was one of 33 players, including only six pitchers, chosen to the baseball Academic All-America squad. An adolescent education/social studies major, Burnett entered the spring semester with a 3.76 grade point average. He posted a 9-2 record and 2.03 earned run average this spring as he helped the 43-9-1 Red Dragons finish second nationally at the NCAA Division III World Series. He allowed only 53 hits and 25 walks and struck out 60 batters in 71 innings pitched. Over his three seasons at Cortland, Burnett totaled 21 victories and 172 strikeouts, both ranked sixth on Cortland's career charts.

Atkins is one of 46 student-athletes from a group of 11 sports to earn national at-large recognition. An athletic training major, he began the spring semester with a 3.98 grade point average. After recording a total of just seven goals and four assists over his first two seasons, Atkins broke out this spring and registered 32 goals and eight assists in 19 games. He led the Red Dragons with six extra-man goals and also totaled 46 ground balls. Cortland finished the season with a 17-2 record and advanced to the NCAA Division III quarterfinals.

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