Cortland Men’s Lacrosse Player Brian Atkins Repeats as Academic All-American; Field Hockey’s Kelli Johnson, Swimming’s Andy Chevalier Earns All-District Honors

SUNY Cortland senior men’s lacrosse attackman Brian Atkins (Adams/South Jefferson) has been selected to the first team of the 2006 ESPN the Magazine national Academic All-America College Division men’s at-large team. He is an Academic All-American for the second straight seasons – he earned second team recognition last season.

Atkins earned his spot on the national ballot after being named to the District I all-academic team. Two other Red Dragon athletes earned second team at-large all-district honors – junior swimmer Andy Chevalier (Chazy/Chazy Central Rural) on the men’s side and junior field hockey forward Kelli Johnson (Elma/Iroquois Central) on the women’s side.

The academic All-America and all-district teams are selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). The College Division national team consists of all Division II, Division III and NAIA schools in the United States and Canada. Atkins is one of only 15 student-athletes from a group of 11 sports chosen on the national first team.

An athletic training major with a 3.98 overall grade point average prior to the spring semester, Atkins recorded 15 goals, seven assists and 23 ground balls for the NCAA Division III champion Red Dragons in 20 games. He finished seventh on the team in scoring with 22 points. Atkins scored once in Cortland’s victory over Salisbury in the national title game and also scored versus Wesleyan in the national semifinals. He finished his career with 54 goals and 19 assists for 73 points.

Chevalier is a kinesiology major with a 3.79 grade point average entering the spring semester. This winter he captured both the 200-yard individual medley and 400-yard individual medley titles for the third straight year at the State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) Championships. He also was on the second place 400-yard medley relay team that set a school record and placed third in the 1,650-yard freestyle. Chevalier is a two-time recipient of the SUNYAC Men’s Swimming and Diving Chancellor Scholar-Athlete Award, given to the all-conference swimmer with the best GPA.

Johnson, a mathematics major with a 3.64 overall GPA through the end of last fall, finished the season with 18 goals and six assists for 42 points. Through three seasons, she is ranked third at Cortland in both career goals (54) and points (138). Johnson earned first team All-America honors as both a sophomore and junior and was the 2005 SUNYAC Field Hockey Player of the Year. She was also one of only 12 athletes in New York to earn the all-sport New York State Women’s Collegiate Athletic Association (NYSWCAA) Scholar Athlete Award this past season.

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