



FOR RELEASE:

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## MATT HOWARD OF BUTLER, AUSTIN MEIER OF MSOE LEAD CAPITAL ONE ACADEMIC ALL AMERICA® MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAMS

**TOWSON, Md.** – Senior forward **Matt Howard** of Butler University and senior forward **Austin Meier** of Milwaukee School of Engineering headline the Capital One Academic All-America® Men's Basketball teams, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Howard and Meier have been selected as the Academic All-America® of the Year award winners in the University and College Divisions, respectively.

A 6-8 forward, Howard was one of the stars of Butler's magical run to the NCAA Division I National Championship Game last season. As a junior, he was the Bulldogs' third-leading scorer with an 11.6 average while averaging 5.2 rebounds per contest, second on the team. Named as the Most Valuable Player at the Horizon League Tournament, Howard led Butler to a 33-5 record and a berth in the national championship game where the Bulldogs dropped a 61-59 heart-breaker to Duke.

A Finance major with a 3.77 G.P.A., Howard has been named to the Capital One Academic All-America® first team for the second year in a row. He earned a berth on the Academic All-America® second team as a sophomore.

A two-time All-Horizon League first team honoree, Howard has led Butler to a 20-9 record in his senior year. The Bulldogs' leading scorer, he is averaging 17.1 points per game with a .495 field goal percentage. Howard is also the Bulldogs' top rebounder with an 8.0 average.

The third-leading scorer in school history with 1,809 points, the Connersville, Ind. native also ranks third on Butler's all-time list with 822 rebounds. Honored as the Most Outstanding Player at the 2010 Diamond Head Classic, Howard ranks third in the Horizon League in scoring and rebounding.

A repeat selection on the Capital One Academic All-America® College Division first team, Meier has a double major in Architectural Engineering and Construction Management with a 3.93 G.P.A.

A 6-4 forward, Meier has led the Raiders to a school record 19 victories as a senior and the number three seed in the Northern Athletic Conference Tournament. He is averaging 17.0 points and 10.7 rebounds per game, the top marks on the team. A starter in every game of his four-year career, the Oshkosh, Wis. native has 873 career rebounds, the top mark in school history.

The fourth-leading scorer in the NAC, Meier was named first team All-NAC as a sophomore and junior. He was also named as the NAC's Freshman of the Year in 2008.

As a junior, Meier led the Raiders to a 17-10 record by averaging 16.4 points and 8.6 rebounds per game.

Howard is one of two repeat selections on the Capital One Academic All-America® University Division first team. Graduate student **Tim Abromaitis** of Notre Dame was also named to the first team for the second consecutive year.

Senior **Devon Beitzel** of Northern Colorado, a third team honoree last season, joins senior **Tyrel Reed** of Kansas and junior **Tyler Zeller** of North Carolina to complete the Capital One Academic All-America® University Division first team.



A graduate student with an undergraduate degree in Finance, Abromaitis graduated from Notre Dame with a 3.72 G.P.A. last year. He is currently pursuing his M.B.A. and has a 3.62 G.P.A. A native of Uncasville, Conn., the 6-8 forward has helped eighth-ranked Notre Dame to a 21-5 record. The second-leading scorer for the Fighting Irish, he is averaging 14.1 points and 6.3 rebounds per game. One of the team captains, he also ranks 16<sup>th</sup> in the BIG EAST in scoring and rebounding. Named as the BIG EAST Scholar-Athlete of the Year for men's basketball in 2010, he graduated a year ahead of his class. An All-BIG EAST honorable mention pick last year, he was named as the Most Valuable Player of the Old Spice Classic.

The leading scorer in the Big Sky Conference, Beitzel is averaging 20.2 points per game. A Finance and Accounting major with a 3.69 G.P.A., he leads the conference with a .918 free throw percentage. A native of Lafayette, Col., Beitzel has led the Bears to a 15-10 record and second place in the Big Sky. As a junior, he earned second team all-conference honors while averaging 14.3 points per game. He has been named as the Big Sky Player of the Week four times in his career.

A 6-3 senior guard, Reed has helped #2 Kansas post a 25-2 record this season. A Pre-Physical Therapy and Exercise Science major with a 3.65 G.P.A., Reed has started all 27 games for the Jayhawks and ranks fourth on the team with a 9.9 scoring average. An excellent shooter, he has a .393 field goal percentage from three-point range and will finish his career as one of three-point shooters in school history. The Jayhawks' top free throw shooter with an .841 mark, the Burlington, Kan. native was a member of the Jayhawks' national championship team in 2008 and has played for three Big 12 Conference championship squads.

A Business Administration major with a 3.56 G.P.A., Zeller has captained #19 North Carolina to a 20-4 record. The Tar Heels' top scorer with a 14.5 average, he ranks second in the Atlantic Coast Conference with a .534 field goal percentage. A 7-0 forward, Zeller is also the ninth-leading rebounder in the ACC with a 7.3 average. A two-time member of the All-ACC Academic team, the Washington, Ind. native was named to the all-tournament team at the Puerto Rico Tip-Off Classic.

The five members of the Capital One Academic All-America® University Division men's basketball first team have an average G.P.A. of 3.68.

Seniors **Nathan Hedgecock** of U.S. Military Academy, **Blake Hoffarber** of Minnesota, **Levi Knutson** of Colorado, **Garrett Leffelman** of Brown and **Jalin Thomas** of Central Michigan were named to the Capital One Academic All-America® University Division second team. Seniors **Riley Benock** of Mississippi State and **Will Creekmore** of Missouri State are joined on the Capital One Academic All-America® University Division third team by juniors **Scott Saunders** of Belmont, **Drew Spradlin** of Elon and **Chris Wroblewski** of Cornell.

Joining Meier on the Capital One Academic All-America® College Division men's basketball first team are seniors **Zach Ashworth** of Scranton, **Sharif Bray** of Cheyney and **Steve Djurickovic** of Carthage as well as juniors **Spencer Liddic** of Muhlenberg and **Aris Wurtz** of Ripon College.

Named as a second team Capital One Academic All-America® selection as a junior, Ashworth has led Scranton to an 18-5 record and the number one seed in the Landmark Conference Tournament. A starter in all 23 games as a senior, he averages a team-leading 20.7 points per game. A Finance major with a 3.89 G.P.A., Ashworth is a two-time All-Landmark Conference selection who was the Landmark Conference Player of the Year as a junior. The sixth-leading scorer in school history, the Doylestown, Pa. native helped the Royals earn NCAA Division III playoff berths as a freshman and sophomore.

A Recreation and Leisure Management major with a 3.70 G.P.A., Bray has led Cheyney to a 16-8 record while averaging 20.4 points per game. An All-Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference first team selection as a junior, he also earned second team Division II All-American notice by averaging 21.7 points per game. A native of Philadelphia, Pa., Bray was named as the 2010 PSAC Scholar-Athlete.

Honored as an NABC Division III All-America first team selection last year, Djurickovic was a Capital One Academic All-America® third team honoree in 2010. An Exercise and Sport Science major with a 3.51 G.P.A., Djurickovic is already Carthage College's all-time scoring leader with 2,547 points. He also owns the school record with 649 career assists. As a senior, the Pleasant Prairie, Wis. native is averaging 22.3 points, 3.8 rebounds and 6.5 assists per game. Named as the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) Player of the Year in 2010, he was named first team All-CCIW as a sophomore and junior.

A Business Administration and Finance major with a 3.84 G.P.A., Liddic is averaging 20.4 points and 9.8 rebounds per game for Muhlenberg, which finished the season with a 13-12 record. A 6-5 junior forward, Liddic was named first team All-Centennial Conference as a sophomore and third team all-region. The leading scorer and rebounder in the Centennial Conference, he ranks ninth in the conference with a .513 field goal percentage. A native of Clarks Summit, Pa., he was named as the conference Player of the Week three times and earned the Most Valuable Player award at the Scotty Wood Tournament.

A three-year starter at Ripon College, Wurtz has a double major of Political Science and Government with a perfect 4.0 G.P.A. A 6-4 forward, Wurtz leads the Midwest Conference in scoring with a 21.2 average. A first team all-conference selection as a sophomore, he has a .505 field goal percentage while averaging 6.6 rebounds per contest. Last season, he set a school record with an .866 free throw percentage and already ranks among the top 20 scorers in school history. A native of Waupun, Wis., he has led Ripon to a 14-9 record.

Due to a tie in the voting, there were six Scholar-Athletes named to the Capital One Academic All-America® College Division men's basketball first team. Their average G.P.A. is an impressive 3.82.

A Criminal Justice major with a 4.0 G.P.A., senior **Jared Wall** of Mount Marty leads the Capital One Academic All-America® College Division men's basketball second team. He is joined on the second team by senior **Michael Labanowski** of Rochester, senior **Devon Young** of Felician and junior **Matt Carr** of Worcester Polytechnic.

Senior **Eric Duerr** of Case Western Reserve tops the Capital One Academic All-America® College Division men's basketball third team. A Biology (Pre-Med) major with a 3.93 G.P.A., Duerr was named to the third team for the second year in a row. He is joined on the third team by senior **Kodey Haddox** of Kenyon, senior **Alex Henderson** of Truman State, junior **Felix Griedt** of Whitworth and junior **Tim McCarty** of Johns Hopkins.

### ***About Capital One***

Capital One Financial Corporation ([www.capitalone.com](http://www.capitalone.com)) is a financial holding company whose subsidiaries, which include Capital One, N.A. and Capital One Bank (USA), N. A., had \$122.2 billion in deposits and \$197.5 billion in total assets outstanding as of December 31, 2010. Headquartered in McLean, Virginia, Capital One offers a broad spectrum of financial products and services to consumers, small businesses and commercial clients. Capital One, N.A. has approximately 1,000 branch locations primarily in New York, New Jersey, Texas, Louisiana, Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. A Fortune 500 company, Capital One trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "COF" and is included in the S&P 100 index.

Capital One, an NCAA Corporate Champion, began its affiliation with college sports with the sponsorship of the 2001 Capital One Florida Citrus Bowl (now the Capital One Bowl) and ESPN's Capital One Bowl Week. In 2010, Capital One launched the Capital One Cup, a prestigious new program rewarding NCAA Division I athletics programs for their cumulative on-field performance across multiple men's and women's sports. In addition, Capital One sponsors the ABC College Football Halftime Report, Capital One All-America Mascot Team, all 88 NCAA Championships including the Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Championships, and numerous other collegiate athletics programs.

To be eligible, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.30 on a scale of 4.00, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standings at his/her current institution and be nominated by his/her sports information director.

Since the program's inception in 1952, CoSIDA has bestowed Academic All-America honors on more than 15,000 student-athletes in Divisions I, II, III and NAIA, covering all NCAA championship sports.

For more information about the Academic All-America® Teams program, please visit [www.cosida.com](http://www.cosida.com).

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## UNIVERSITY DIVISION

### FIRST TEAM

Name	School	Dist.	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Tim Abromaitis (1)	Notre Dame	V	Gr.	Unionville, Conn.	3.72	Finance/MBA
Devon Beitzel (3)	Northern Colorado	VII	Sr.	Lafayette, Colo.	3.69	Finance & Accounting
Matt Howard (1),(2)	Butler	V	Sr.	Connersville, Ind.	3.77	Finance
Tyrel Reed	Kansas	VII	Sr.	Burlington, Kan.	3.65	Pre-Physical Therapy/Ex.Sci.
Tyler Zeller	North Carolina	III	Jr.	Washington, Ind.	3.56	Business Administration

### SECOND TEAM

Name	School	Dist.	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Nathan Hedgecock	U.S. Military Academy	I	Sr.	El Paso, Tex.	4.00	Mech. Engineering Management
Blake Hoffarber	Minnesota	V	Sr.	Minnetonka, Minn.	3.50	Finance
Levi Knutson	Colorado	VII	Sr.	Littleton, Colo.	3.92	Business Administration
Garrett Leffelman	Brown	I	Sr.	Naperville, Ill.	3.89	Economics, Political Science
Jalin Thomas	Central Michigan	IV	Sr.	Columbus, Ohio	3.65	Sport Studies

### THIRD TEAM

Name	School	Dist.	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Riley Benock	Mississippi State	VI	Sr.	Battletown, Ky.	3.97	Kinesiology, Physical Educ.
Will Creekmore	Missouri State	VII	Sr.	Tulsa, Okla.	3.67	Finance
Scott Saunders	Belmont	IV	Jr.	New Orleans, La.	3.84	Finance
Drew Spradlin	Elon	III	Jr.	Wheelersburg, Ohio	3.65	Political Science
Chris Wroblewski	Cornell	I	Jr.	Highland Park, Ill.	3.61	App. Economics & Management

**Capital One Academic All-America of the Year: Matt Howard, Butler**

- (1) *Academic All-America first team selection in 2009-10*  
 (2) *Academic All-America second team selection in 2008-09*  
 (3) *Academic All-America third team selection in 2009-10*

## COLLEGE DIVISION

### FIRST TEAM

Name	School	Dist.	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Zach Ashworth (2)	Scranton	II	Sr.	Doylestown, Pa.	3.89	Finance
Sharif Bray	Cheyney	II	Sr.	Philadelphia, Pa.	3.70	Recreation & Leisure Mgmt
Steve Djurkovic (3)	Carthage College	V	Sr.	Pleasant Prairie, Wis.	3.51	Exercise & Sport Science
Spencer Liddic	Muhlenberg College	II	Jr.	Clarks Summit, Pa.	3.84	Bus. Administration, Finance
Austin Meier (1)	Milwaukee Engineering	V	Sr.	Oshkosh, Wis.	3.93	Architect. Eng./Construction Mgmt.
Aris Wurtz	Ripon College	V	Jr.	Waupun, Wis.	4.00	Political Science, Government

### SECOND TEAM

Name	School	Dist.	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Matt Carr	Worcester Polytechnic	I	Jr.	Somersworth, N.H.	3.96	Chemical Engineering
Michael Labanowski	Rochester	I	Sr.	Rochester, N.Y.	3.86	Mechanical Engineering
Jared Wall	Mount Marty	VII	Sr.	Dakota Dunes, S.D.	4.00	Criminal Justice
Devon Young	Felician	II	Sr.	Monmouth, N.J.	3.70	Accounting

### THIRD TEAM

Name	School	Dist.	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
Eric Duerr (3)	Case Western Reserve	IV	Sr.	Gibsonia, Pa.	3.93	Biology (Pre-Med)
Felix Friedt	Whitworth	VIII	Jr.	Düsseldorf, Germany	3.96	International Business
Kodey Haddox	Kenyon	IV	Sr.	Zanesville, Ohio	3.65	Economics
Alex Henderson	Truman State	VII	Sr.	Willard, Mo.	3.94	Biology
Tim McCarty	Johns Hopkins	II	Jr.	Warrington, Pa.	4.00	Economics

**Capital One Academic All-America of the Year: Austin Meier, Milwaukee Engineering**

- (1) *Academic All-America first team selection in 2009-10*  
 (2) *Academic All-America second team selection in 2009-10*  
 (3) *Academic All-America third team selection in 2009-10*