

# **ESPN THE MAGAZINE ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® TEAM**

## **SELECTED BY CoSIDA**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, December 1, 2004

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### ***Utah's Smith & Eastern New Mexico's Touchstone Head 2004 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America® Football Team***

WALTHAM, Mass. – Junior quarterback Alex Smith of the University of Utah and senior defensive back Ty Touchstone of Eastern New Mexico University head the 2004 *ESPN the Magazine* Academic All-America® Football Team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Smith was named the Academic All-America of the Year for the university division while Touchstone, who is making his third appearance on the national team, received the same honor for the college division.

Smith, a candidate for the Heisman, the Davey O'Brien Award and the Walter Camp Award, led Utah to an 11-0 regular season and a number six ranking in the latest *USA Today*/ESPN coaches poll. Owner of an incredible 7-1 touchdown-interception ratio, the La Mesa, Calif. resident has thrown for 2,624 yards and 28 touchdowns, and has rushed for 563 yards and another 10 scores.

Smith, the Offensive Player of the Year in the Mountain West Conference, graduated in May after just two years of school, compiling a 3.74 grade point average as an economics major, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in economics.

Touchstone, a repeat selection on the first team after earning second-team accolades in 2002, is majoring in business administration and computer information systems. He was the only NCAA Division II player chosen as a 2004 National Scholar-Athlete by the National Football Foundation and will receive an \$18,000 post-graduate scholarship.

Touchstone, who hails from Lubbock, Texas, was third on Eastern New Mexico's team with 78 total tackles, and second with 53 unassisted stops. He blocked three field goals, all coming in the fourth quarter of Greyhound wins, and had three interceptions while earning second-team All-Conference honors.

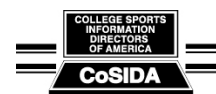
Six schools placed two athletes on the Academic All-America first team, including Utah and Pittsburgh. Smith was joined by teammate Morgan Scalley, a senior defensive back making his second straight appearance on the first team. Pitt had two defensive linemen repeat on the first team, Dan Stephens and Vince Crochunis.

Also with two first-team selections were Ole Miss (Rob Robertson, Cody Ridgeway), Northwest Missouri State (Troy Tysdahl, Josh Lamberson) and Juniata (Matt Garner, Patrick Brown).

Many of the 48 first team honorees played on teams that enjoyed great success in 2004, with six members of Division I-A top 25 teams, two that played in the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs, seven who participated in the Division II playoffs and three whose teams earned NCAA Division III playoff berths.

The nationally-ranked Division I-A teams that had athletes earn first-team Academic All-America honors were Utah, Pitt, LSU (Rudy Niswanger) and Wisconsin (Jim Leonhard) while Ben Cross of Delaware and Stephen Bono of Lafayette appeared in the Division I-AA playoffs.

Schools that participated in the NCAA Division II playoffs and had at least one Academic All-America first-team selection were Northwest Missouri, St. Cloud State (Ryan Koch), Shippensburg (John Kuhn), Michigan Tech (Joe Berger), East Stroudsburg (Matt Crispwell) and top-ranked Pittsburg State (Chris Beyer).



Mark Robinson of St. John Fisher, Eric Schneider of Mt. Saint Joseph and Mark Giesmann of Wartburg were first-team honorees who participated in the Division III playoffs.

A total of six athletes were repeat first team-selections. That list includes Touchstone, Crochunis, Stephens, Kuhn, Giesmann and Scally.

The Academic All-America Teams program honors 816 male and female student-athletes annually who have succeeded at the highest level on the playing field and in the classroom. Individuals are selected through voting by CoSIDA, the College Sports Information Directors of America; a 2,000-member organization consisted of sports public relations professionals for colleges and universities in the United States and Canada.

To be eligible, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.20 on a scale of 4.00, have reached sophomore athletic and academic standing 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 14,000 student-athletes in Division I, II, III and NAIA covering all NCAA championship sports.

*ESPN the Magazine* is in its first year as the exclusive corporate sponsor of the Academic All-America program.

For more information about the Academic All-America Teams program, please visit [www.cosida.com](http://www.cosida.com) or email [rlipe@bentley.edu](mailto:rlipe@bentley.edu).

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**2004 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America® Football Team (University Division)  
as selected by CoSIDA**

**First-Team Offense**

| NAME           | SCHOOL           | POSITION       | YR. | HOMETOWN                 | GPA  | MAJOR                      |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----|--------------------------|------|----------------------------|
| Alex Smith ••  | Utah             | Quarterback    | Jr. | La Mesa, Calif.          | 3.74 | Economics                  |
| Kevin Knutson  | Valparaiso       | Wide Receiver  | Sr. | River Falls, Wis.        | 3.75 | Chemistry/Biology          |
| Lance Moore    | Toledo           | Wide Receiver  | Sr. | Westerville, Ohio        | 3.54 | Business                   |
| Billy Bajema   | Oklahoma State   | Tight End      | Sr. | Oklahoma City, Okla.     | 3.70 | General Business (Pre-Med) |
| Evan Harney    | San Diego        | Running Back   | Jr. | Fallbrook, Calif.        | 3.90 | Business Administration    |
| Nick Hartigan  | Brown            | Running Back   | Jr. | Fairfax Station, Va.     | 3.87 | Political Science          |
| Stephen Bono   | Lafayette        | Offensive Line | Sr. | Upper Saddle River, N.J. | 3.80 | Civil Engineering          |
| Trenton Franz  | Wyoming          | Offensive Line | Sr. | Fort Collins, Colo.      | 3.81 | Civil Engineering          |
| Brandon Mason  | Elon             | Offensive Line | Gr. | Martinsville, Va.        | 3.81 | Business Administration    |
| Rudy Niswanger | LSU              | Offensive Line | Jr. | Monroe, La.              | 4.00 | Pre-Medicine               |
| Matt Tarullo   | Syracuse         | Offensive Line | Sr. | Albany, N.Y.             | 3.73 | Psychology & Speech Comm.  |
| Justin Langan  | Western Illinois | Placekicker    | Sr. | Davenport, Iowa          | 3.67 | Biological Sciences        |

**First-Team Defense**

| NAME             | SCHOOL        | POSITION       | YR. | HOMETOWN              | GPA  | MAJOR                                |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|-----|-----------------------|------|--------------------------------------|
| Luis Castillo    | Northwestern  | Defensive Line | Sr. | Garfield, N.J.        | 3.53 | Economics                            |
| Vince Crochunis  | Pittsburgh    | Defensive Line | Sr. | Schuylkill Haven, Pa. | 3.92 | Pol. Sci./Communications<br>/History |
| Ben Cross        | Delaware      | Defensive Line | Sr. | Hamilton, Va.         | 3.95 | Civil Engineering                    |
| Dan Stephens     | Pittsburgh    | Defensive Line | Sr. | Wheeling, W. Va.      | 3.77 | Urban Studies                        |
| Jonathan LeDonne | Robert Morris | Linebacker     | Sr. | Aliquippa, Pa.        | 4.00 | Manufacturing Engineering            |
| Rob Robertson    | Mississippi   | Linebacker     | Sr. | Centreville, Miss.    | 3.95 | Biology                              |
| Chad Sievers     | Nebraska      | Linebacker     | Sr. | Valley, Neb.          | 4.00 | Business Administration              |
| Jeff Backes      | Northwestern  | Defensive Back | Jr. | Columbus, Ohio        | 3.80 | Psychology (Pre-Medicine)            |
| Andrew Guman     | Penn State    | Defensive Back | Sr. | Allentown, Pa.        | 3.77 | Finance                              |
| Jim Leonhard     | Wisconsin     | Defensive Back | Sr. | Tony, Wis.            | 3.44 | Kinesiology                          |
| Morgan Scalley   | Utah          | Defensive Back | Sr. | Salt Lake City, Utah  | 3.96 | Mass Communication                   |
| Cody Ridgeway    | Mississippi   | Punter         | Sr. | Jackson, Tenn.        | 3.82 | Banking/Finance                      |

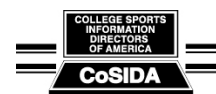
**Second-Team Offense**

| NAME            | SCHOOL             | POSITION       | YR. | HOMETOWN                | GPA  | MAJOR                        |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-----|-------------------------|------|------------------------------|
| Tony Stauss     | North Dakota State | Quarterback    | Sr. | Racine, Wis.            | 4.00 | Mathematics                  |
| Vincent Jackson | Northern Colorado  | Wide Receiver  | Sr. | Colorado Springs, Colo. | 3.32 | Business Administration      |
| Jason Wood      | Arkansas State     | Wide Receiver  | Sr. | Sheridan, Ark.          | 3.85 | Pre-Medicine                 |
| Jay Cline       | Liberty            | Tight End      | Sr. | Danville, Va.           | 3.91 | Exercise Science             |
| Nick Chourmos   | Weber State        | Running Back   | Sr. | Tremonton, Utah         | 3.73 | Criminal Science             |
| Steve Verhoff   | Dayton             | Running Back   | Sr. | Wellington, Ohio        | 3.43 | Adolescent-Youth Adult Educ. |
| John Bechdol    | Harvard            | Offensive Line | Sr. | Long Lake, Minn.        | 3.35 | Economics                    |
| Jeff Berk       | West Virginia      | Offensive Line | Gr. | Huber Heights, Ohio     | 3.60 | Special Education            |
| Perry Cox       | Western Illinois   | Offensive Line | Jr. | Carrollton, Texas       | 3.97 | Management                   |
| Greg Eslinger   | Minnesota          | Offensive Line | Jr. | Bismarck, N.D.          | 3.57 | Inter-College Program        |
| Justin Gibson   | Bucknell           | Offensive Line | Sr. | Greensburg, Pa.         | 3.77 | Accounting                   |
| Justin Zaitz    | Northern Colorado  | Place-kicker   | Jr. | Boulder, Colo.          | 4.00 | Finance/Economics            |

**Second-Team Defense**

| NAME           | SCHOOL             | POSITION       | YR. | HOMETOWN         | GPA  | MAJOR                                |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------|-----|------------------|------|--------------------------------------|
| Ryan Carter    | Air Force          | Defensive Line | Sr. | Waterloo, Wis.   | 3.55 | Astronautical Engineering            |
| Chris Jones    | UC Davis           | Defensive Line | Sr. | Stockton, Calif. | 3.95 | Biochemistry/Molecular<br>Biology    |
| Chris Mooney   | Delaware           | Defensive Line | Sr. | Huntington, N.Y. | 3.51 | Accounting                           |
| Ben Whitney    | Wofford            | Defensive Line | Sr. | Greensboro, N.C. | 3.50 | Mathematics                          |
| Joey King      | Portland State     | Linebacker     | Jr. | Spokane, Wash.   | 3.91 | Psychology                           |
| Jayd Kittelson | North Dakota State | Linebacker     | Sr. | Velva, N.D.      | 3.67 | Microbiology                         |
| Craig Unger    | Morehead State     | Linebacker     | Sr. | Greenfield, Ohio | 3.82 | Business Administration<br>(Finance) |
| Reed Doughty   | Northern Colorado  | Defensive Back | Jr. | Johnstown, Colo. | 4.00 | Sport & Exercise Science             |
| Jared Essler   | North Dakota State | Defensive Back | Sr. | Minot, N.D.      | 3.81 | Social Studies Education             |
| Kellen Huston  | Nebraska           | Defensive Back | Sr. | Ankeny, Iowa     | 3.90 | Exercise Science                     |
| Doug Jones     | Dayton             | Defensive Back | Sr. | Zanesville, Ohio | 3.48 | Accounting and Finance               |
| Adam Finley    | Michigan           | Punter         | Sr. | Greenwood, Ind.  | 3.44 | Biomedical Engineering               |

**ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® OF THE YEAR: Alex Smith, Utah**



**2004 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America® Football Team (College Division)  
as selected by CoSIDA**

**First-Team Offense**

| NAME            | SCHOOL             | POSITION       | YR. | HOMETOWN            | GPA   | MAJOR                        |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-----|---------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| Josh Lamberson  | Northwest Missouri | Quarterback    | Jr. | Wilber, Neb.        | 4.00  | Corporate Recreation         |
| Nick Cushman    | Albright           | Wide Receiver  | Sr. | Perkiomenville, Pa. | 3.70  | Spanish/Latin Amer. Stud.    |
| Ryan Koch       | St. Cloud State    | Wide Receiver  | Jr. | Madison, Wis.       | 4.00  | Computer Science             |
| Cole Drussa     | Missouri-Rolla     | Tight End      | Sr. | Springfield, Mo.    | 3.62  | Metallurgical Engineering    |
| John Kuhn       | Shippensburg       | Running Back   | Sr. | York, Pa.           | 3.293 | Chemistry                    |
| Mark Robinson   | St. John Fisher    | Running Back   | So. | Bath, N.Y.          | 3.70  | Communication/Journalism     |
| Joe Berger      | Michigan Tech      | Offensive Line | Sr. | Newaygo, Mich.      | 3.80  | Mechanical Engineering       |
| Chris Beyer     | Pittsburg State    | Offensive Line | Jr. | Moundridge, Kan.    | 4.00  | Automotive Technology        |
| Patrick Brown   | Juniata            | Offensive Line | Sr. | Ebensburg, Pa.      | 3.982 | Biology                      |
| Justin Galloway | Rochester          | Offensive Line | Sr. | Webster, N.Y.       | 3.63  | Chemical Engineering         |
| Chris Lee       | Wisc.-Platteville  | Offensive Line | Sr. | Darien, Wis.        | 3.953 | Animal Science & Mathematics |
| Mike Clark      | Augustana (Iowa)   | Kicker         | Sr. | Bettendorf, Iowa    | 3.96  | Accounting                   |

**First-Team Defense**

| NAME             | SCHOOL               | POSITION       | YR. | HOMETOWN          | GPA       | MAJOR                       |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Matt Crispell    | East Stroudsburg     | Defensive Back | Sr. | Berwick, Pa.      | 3.625     | Health & Physical Ed.       |
| Matt Garner      | Juniata              | Defensive Back | Sr. | Tyrone, Pa.       | 3.993     | Biology                     |
| Ty Touchstone    | Eastern New Mexico   | Defensive Back | Sr. | Lubbock, Texas    | 4.00      | Business Administration     |
| John Woock       | Washington (Mo.)     | Defensive Back | Sr. | Louisville, Ky.   | 4.00      | Biomedical Engineering      |
| Michael Irvin    | Buena Vista          | Linebacker     | Sr. | Bedford, Iowa     | 3.663     | Mathematics                 |
| Isaac Sieling    | Gustavus Adolphus    | Linebacker     | Sr. | Watertown, Minn.  | 3.974     | Financial Economics         |
| Troy Tysdahl     | Northwest Missouri   | Linebacker     | Sr. | Hubbard, Iowa     | 3.93      | Social Sci. Secondary Educ. |
| Neil Baumgartner | Saginaw Valley State | Defensive Line | Sr. | Iron River, Mich. | 4.00      | Education                   |
| Ben Kessler      | St. Thomas (Minn.)   | Defensive Line | Jr. | Janesville, Wis.  | 4.000     | Business / Philosophy       |
| Eric Schneider   | Mt. Saint Joseph     | Defensive Line | Sr. | Cincinnati, Ohio  | 3.867     | Rehabilitation Science      |
| Kevin Yurkewich  | Mass. Inst. of Tech. | Defensive Line | Jr. | Fairfield, Conn.  | 4.4 (5.0) | Chemistry                   |
| Mark Giesmann    | Wartburg             | Punter         | Sr. | Waverly, Iowa     | 3.910     | Math/Engineering Science    |

**Second-Team Offense**

| NAME           | SCHOOL               | POSITION       | YR. | HOMETOWN            | GPA   | MAJOR                         |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------|-----|---------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| Zachary Bruney | Mount Union          | Quarterback    | Sr. | Martins Ferry, Ohio | 3.837 | Exercise Science              |
| Dane Haskins   | Thiel                | Wide Receiver  | Jr. | Coudersport, Pa.    | 4.00  | Binary Physics                |
| Craig Winfrey  | Missouri Southern    | Wide Receiver  | Sr. | Bluejacket, Okla.   | 3.922 | Accounting                    |
| Andrew Lehman  | Wisc.-La Crosse      | Tight End      | Sr. | Onalaska, Wis.      | 3.97  | Biology                       |
| Lee Marana     | Michigan Tech        | Running Back   | So. | Ishpeming, Mich.    | 3.71  | Information Systems           |
| Travis Sleight | Olivet               | Running Back   | Jr. | Battle Creek, Mich. | 3.96  | Health, Phy. Edu., Rec., Math |
| Matt Bush      | Mary Hardin-Baylor   | Offensive Line | Sr. | Temple, Texas       | 3.81  | Psychology                    |
| Marc Hedglin   | Ithaca               | Offensive Line | Sr. | Clarks Summit, Pa.  | 3.891 | Biochemistry                  |
| Bob Jeske      | Minn. State -Mankato | Offensive Line | Sr. | Springfield, Minn.  | 3.91  | Human Biology                 |
| Patrick Regan  | St. Lawrence         | Offensive Line | Sr. | Glenfield, N.Y.     | 3.941 | Neuroscience                  |
| Josh Van Auken | Hobart               | Offensive Line | Sr. | Rochester, N.Y.     | 3.80  | English                       |
| Will Rhody     | Valdosta State       | Kicker         | Sr. | Jupiter, Fla.       | 3.44  | Finance, Accounting           |

**Second-Team Defense**

| NAME              | SCHOOL                 | POSITION       | YR. | HOMETOWN               | GPA   | MAJOR                         |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|-----|------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|
| Justin Andes      | Baldwin-Wallace        | Defensive Back | Sr. | Canal Fulton, Ohio     | 3.739 | Biology/Pre-Med               |
| Jason Dauch       | Fairmont State         | Defensive Back | Sr. | Bowling Green, Va.     | 3.82  | Civil Engineering             |
| Neil Harrison     | Rose-Hulman            | Defensive Back | Sr. | Tucson, Ariz.          | 3.90  | Mechanical Engineering        |
| Jordan Talge      | Concordia-Moorhead     | Defensive Back | Sr. | Moorhead, Minn.        | 3.735 | Economics / Political Science |
| Grant Cochran     | Rensselaer (RPI)       | Linebacker     | Jr. | Kent, Wash.            | 3.80  | Biomedical Engineering        |
| Matt Hawn         | Saint John's (Minn.)   | Linebacker     | Jr. | Eau Claire, Wis.       | 4.00  | Biology / Pre-Dentistry       |
| Lloyd Price       | California Univ. (Pa.) | Linebacker     | Jr. | Monongahela, Pa.       | 3.83  | Elementary Education          |
| David Bleitner    | Lake Forest            | Defensive Line | Sr. | St. Louis, Mo.         | 3.71  | Business                      |
| Ben Hare          | North Central          | Defensive Line | Jr. | Marengo, Ill.          | 3.857 | Social Science / History      |
| Ryan Meredith     | Pittsburg State        | Defensive Line | So. | Bartlesville, Okla.    | 3.90  | Management                    |
| Chris Purtell     | Hobart                 | Defensive Line | Sr. | Sardinia, N.Y.         | 3.588 | Economics/Political Science   |
| Daniel Eggertsson | Franklin & Marshall    | Punter         | Sr. | Royal Palm Beach, Fla. | 3.38  | Religious Studies             |

**ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® OF THE YEAR: Ty Touchstone, Eastern New Mexico**

