



## **CAPITAL ONE ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® TEAM** SELECTED BY COSIDA

**FOR RELEASE: Tuesday, May 22 – 12 noon (EDT)**

### KELSEY KITTLESON OF LUTHER LEADS CAPITAL ONE ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA® DIVISION III SOFTBALL TEAM

**TOWSON, Md.** – Senior catcher **Kelsey Kittleson** of Luther College headlines the 2012 Capital One Academic All-America® Division III Softball Team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

A biology major with a perfect 4.0 G.P.A., Kittleson has been chosen as the NCAA Division III Academic All-America® of the Year award winner for softball. Last year, she was selected as the Capital One College Division Academic All-America® of the Year.

The Capital One Division III Academic All-America® program is being financially supported by the NCAA Division III national governance structure to assist CoSIDA with handling the awards fulfillment aspects for the 2011-12 Division III Academic All-America® teams program.

One of four repeat selections on this year's Capital One Academic All-America® Division III Softball first team, Kittleson recently became the first student-athlete in NCAA history to be named the Elite 88/89 Award winner three times in the same sport. A second team National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-American, Kittleson led the Norse to three consecutive NCAA Division III Softball championship appearances. Luther finished fifth finish this season. A native of St. Ansgar, Iowa, Kittleson also earned first-team All-Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and first-team All-Midwest Region honors while batting .372 with 11 home runs and 50 RBI's.

Seniors **Sarah Budz** of Dominican (Ill.), **Marianne Specker** of Brandeis and **Casey Clarridge** of Otterbein join Kittleson as repeat Academic All-America® selections.

A nutrition & dietetics major with a 3.79 G.P.A., Budz was a second-team Academic All-American® last season. A native of Orland Park, Illinois, Budz was named to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-Great Lakes Region Team. The infielder batted .368 with four home runs, 27 RBI's, 14 doubles, 20 walks and 15 stolen bases. A three-time first-team All-Northern Athletics Conference pick, Budz led the NAC in walks.

A psychology major with a 3.92 G.P.A., Specker is a first-team Academic All-America® pick as an infielder for the second straight season. A native of South Windsor, Conn., Specker earned first team All-University Athletic Association honors, batting .401 with two home runs, 11 doubles and a UAA best-leading 41 RBI's. Specker ranks in the top five in Brandeis history in base hits and RBI's. She led the Judges to a runner-up finish at the ECAC Division III New England Championship.

A history and secondary education double major with a 3.86 G.P.A., Clarridge was a second team Academic All-America® selection last spring. A native of Marysville, Ohio, Clarridge earned second-team NFCA All-Great Lakes Region status after batting .410 with six homers, 10 doubles, 32 RBI's and 42 runs scored. A two-time all-region honoree, Clarridge also finished her career as a three-time All-Ohio Athletic Conference selection as an outfielder.

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## **Kelsey Kittleson Leads Academic All-America® Division III Softball Team – page 2**

Completing the infield for the 2012 Capital One Academic All-America® Division III softball team are senior pitcher **Stacey Hagensen** of NCAA champion Pacific Lutheran, senior pitcher **Rose Tusa** and junior infielder **Ashley Goettl** of Wisconsin-River Falls, and junior infielder **Caitlin Cromley** of Misericordia.

A mathematics and economics double-major with a 3.91 G.P.A., Hagensen was the winner of the Most Outstanding Player award at the NCAA Division III championships. She pitched a three-hit shutout against Linfield in the championship game, leading the Lutes to their first national title. She also earned Northwest Conference Pitcher of the Year and NFCA All-West Region first team honors for the second straight season. A native of Bellevue, Wash., Hagensen led the Lutes to a 45-11 record by compiling a 28-5 record, a 0.97 earned run average and 137 strikeouts. She also pitched 12 shutouts. A three-time All-Northwest Conference selection and the NCAA Tyler Regional Most Valuable Player, Hagensen has been a dual threat this season, batting .363 with five homers, 37 RBI's and 10 stolen bases.

A geography major with a 3.88 G.P.A., Tusa was named as the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Year. She was also named to the NFCA All-Great Lakes Region first team for the second consecutive year. A native of Roseville, Minn., Tusa set a school record with 27 wins as a senior with a 1.42 E.R.A. She also set school records with 245 strikeouts and 242 innings pitched. A three-time first-team All-WIAC honoree, Tusa was named to the NCAA Regional all-tournament Team in both 2011 and 2012. Tusa was selected as the Wisconsin-River Falls Female Athlete of the Year and the Geology Department's Outstanding Student.

A journalism, political science and communication studies triple major with a 3.83 G.P.A., Goettl was a first team All-WIAC honoree after batting .387 this season. A native of North Mankato, Minn., she earned second-team NFCA All-Great Lakes Region notice. She led the Falcons with 12 home runs and 48 RBI's. Goettl established Falcon single season records with her 12 homeruns and 49 games played this year and was named to the NCAA Regional all-tournament team for the second year in a row. She is also one of just a handful of students from around the nation to earn a prestigious Broadcast Education Association Scholarship.

A biology and physical therapy double major with a 3.97 G.P.A., Cromley was Misericordia's Most Valuable Player this season. She was also named second team All-Freedom Conference. A native of Jersey Shore, Pa., Cromley led the Cougars with a .417 batting average and eight home runs in addition to 30 RBI's. Cromley was the MVP of the Freedom Conference Championship Tournament as she pitched a five-hitter in the championship game, leading the Cougars to their first championship. She was also named to the NCAA Regional all-tournament team.

Senior **Jaydee Baxter** of Linfield and junior **Meghin Palmer** of Marywood round out the outfield, while junior **Kaaren Hatlen** of national champion Pacific Lutheran is the designated player.

An exercise science major with a 3.83 G.P.A., Baxter led defending national champion Linfield to a 46-7 record and the NCAA Division III finals. A native of Damascus, Ore., Baxter is batting .338 with four homers, 23 RBI's and 11 stolen bases for the Wildcats, who won the Northwest Conference championship. Baxter has earned All-NWC honors four times and is a two-time All-Region selection.

A CSD speech language pathology major with a 3.90 G.P.A., Palmer was selected to the All-Colonial States Athletic Conference first team for the third straight year. She batted .464 with 31 runs scored, 21 stolen bases and 19 RBI's. A native of Greencastle, Pa., Palmer has a career batting average of .472 with 64 stolen bases and 98 runs scored.

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## **Kelsey Kittleson Leads Academic All-America® Division III Softball Team – page 3**

A mathematics major with a 3.95 G.P.A., Hatlen joins Hagensen as Pacific Lutheran representatives on the first team. She has earned first-team All-NWC and NFCA All-West Region honors in each of the past two seasons. A native of Woodinville, Wash., Hatlen led the Lutes with a .426 batting average, 10 homers and 56 RBI's. An NCAA Regional all-tournament team pick, Hatlen also pitched 82 innings and compiled a 13-4 record and a 2.90 E.R.A. A first team All-American, she drove in the game-winning run in a 3-0 win over Linfield in the national championship game.

The 11 members of the 2012 Capital One Academic All-America® Division III Softball Team carry an average G.P.A. of 3.89.

Pacific Lutheran and Wisconsin River Falls each had two representatives on the first team.

### ***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., Capital One Bank (USA), N. A., and ING Bank, fsb, had \$216.5 billion in deposits and \$294.5 billion in total assets outstanding as of March 31, 2012. Headquartered in McLean, Virginia, Capital One and ING Direct offer a broad spectrum of financial products and services to consumers, small businesses and commercial clients through a variety of channels. 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 addition, Capital One sponsors the ABC College Football Halftime Report, Capital One All-America Mascot team, Capital One Academic All-America Program, and supports all 89 NCAA Championships including the Division I Men's and Women's Basketball Championships, and numerous other collegiate athletics programs.

### ***About Academic All-America® Program***

To be eligible for Academic All-America® consideration, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative G.P.A. 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 14,000 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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# Capital One 2012 Academic All-America® Softball Team

## NCAA Division III

### Academic All-American of the Year: Kelsey Kittleson, Luther

#### FIRST TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
P	Stacey Hagensen	Pacific Lutheran	Sr.	Bellevue, Wash.	3.91	Mathematics & Economics
P	Rose Tusa	Wisconsin-River Falls	Sr.	Roseville, Minn.	3.88	Geography
C	Kelsey Kittleson (1)	Luther	Sr.	St. Ansgar, Iowa	4.00	Biology
IF	Sarah Budz (2)	Dominican (Ill.)	Sr.	Orland Park, Ill.	3.79	Nutrition & Dietetics
IF	Caitlin Cromley	Misericordia	Jr.	Jersey Shore, Pa.	3.97	Biology & Physical Therapy
IF	Ashley Goettl	Wisconsin-River Falls	Jr.	North Mankato, Minn.	3.83	Journalism, Pol. Science, Comm. Studies
IF	Marianne Specker (1)	Brandeis	Sr.	South Windsor, Conn.	3.92	Psychology
OF	Jaydee Baxter	Linfield	Sr.	Damascus, Ore.	3.83	Exercise science
OF	Casey Clarridge (2)	Otterbein	Sr.	Marysville, Ohio	3.86	History / Secondary Education.
OF	Meghin Palmer	Marywood	Jr.	Greencastle, Pa.	3.90	CSD Speech Language Pathology
DP	Kaaren Hatlen	Pacific Lutheran	Jr.	Woodinville, Wash.	3.95	Mathematics

#### SECOND TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
P	Ashton Brey	East Texas Baptist	Sr.	Lindale, Texas	4.00	Mass Communication
P	Bridget Holloway	Emory	Sr.	Sparta, Ill.	3.63	Women's Studies / History
C	Adrienne Rahs	Gettysburg	Sr.	Bethlehem, Pa.	4.02	Mathematics
IF	Claire Bailey	Emory	So.	Henrico, Va.	3.97	Biology
IF	Lesley Guenard	Wheaton (Ill.)	Sr.	Hanover, Mass.	3.77	Business & Economics
IF	Abby Martin	SUNY Cortland	Sr.	Oswego, N.Y.	3.61	Kinesiology
IF	Gillian McCarthy	Rensselaer Polytechnic	Jr.	Worthington, Ohio	3.92	Business & Management
IF	Kayla Rutkoski	King's (Pa.)	Jr.	Shickshinny, Pa.	3.89	Biology
OF	Joey Cronin	Texas-Tyler	Jr.	Celina, Texas	3.87	Kinesiology
OF	Alison Gray	Wisconsin-Stout	Jr.	St. Cloud, Minn.	4.00	Packaging
OF	Rachel MacBeth (1)	DePauw	Sr.	Indianapolis, Ind.	3.95	Biochemistry
DP	Lauren Goldfarb	Wellesley	Jr.	Albuquerque, N.M.	3.50	Geoscience

#### THIRD TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Yr.	Hometown	GPA	Major
P	Brittany Danilov	John Carroll	Sr.	Canfield, Ohio	3.48	Accounting
P	Alexandria (Alex) Hill	Montclair State	So.	Parsippany, N.J.	3.46	Psychology
C	Nicolina Veneziano (3)	Rowan	Sr.	Bloomfield, N.J.	3.75	Health & Exercise Science
IF	Lisa Klass	Gustavus Adolphus	Sr.	Richfield, Minn.	3.63	Management
IF	Caitlin Lovend	Frostburg State	So.	Laurel, Md.	3.82	Athletic training
IF	Karleigh Prestianni	Linfield	Jr.	Grants Pass, Ore.	3.50	Finance
IF	Kelly Zaccheo	Scranton	Sr.	Scranton, Pa.	3.80	Biomathematics & Philosophy
OF	Shari Huber	Luther	Jr.	Eldridge, Iowa	3.92	Physical Education
OF	Rachel Smith	The Sage Colleges	Jr.	Valatie, N.Y.	3.80	Health Sciences
OF	Laura Tjepkema	Hope	Jr.	Dorr, Mich.	4.00	Education, Special Education Emph.
DP	Kelsey Neal	Washington (Mo.)	So.	Miami, Okla.	3.86	Economics

(1) 2011 Capital One Academic All-America® College Division first team selection

(2) 2011 Capital One Academic All-America® College Division second team selection

(3) 2011 Capital One Academic All-America® College Division third team selection