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Conference Announces Men's Basketball Academic All-Big 12 Team

DALLAS — The Big 12 Conference takes great pleasure in honoring 15 student-athletes who have been named to the 2003 Men's Basketball Academic All-Big 12 Team, the conference office announced Thursday.

Among the honorees, Kansas senior forward Brett Olson was nominated with a 4.00 grade point average.

Olson's teammate Nick Collison received a league-leading third academic all-Big 12 honor. The Iowa Falls, Iowa, senior earned a first-team selection this season, and was a member of the second team in 2001 and 2002. Two-time honorees include Baylor senior Andre White, Iowa State junior Jake Sullivan, Texas A&M senior Brian Brookhart and Oklahoma sophomore Blake Johnston.

These student-athletes and their teams will participate in the 2003 Phillips 66 Big 12 Conference Men's Basketball Tournament March 13-16 at the American Airlines Center in Dallas, Texas. Oklahoma won the 2002 Big 12 Conference Tournament title, and looks to defend its championship next week. Both Oklahoma and Kansas, the conference tournament runner-up last season, advanced to the Final Four last season.

Nominated by each institution's director of student-athlete support services and the media relations offices, the men's basketball academic all-league squad consisted of 10 first-team members combined with five others on the second team. First-team members consist of those who have maintained a 3.20 or better grade-point average, while the second team are those who have a 3.00 to 3.19 GPA.

To qualify student-athletes must maintain a 3.00 grade point average or higher either cumulative or in the two previous semesters, and must have participated in 60 percent of his team's scheduled contests. Freshmen and transfers are not eligible in their first year of academic residence. Senior student-athletes who have participated for a minimum of two years and meet all the criteria except percent of participation are eligible.

2003 MEN'S BASKETBALL ACADEMIC ALL-BIG 12 TEAM

First Team (3.20-plus grade point average; *indicates nominated with a 4.0 GPA)

<u>Name. School</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Jake Sullivan, Iowa State	Jr.	Psychology	Oakdale, Minn.
Jared Homan, Iowa State	So.	Accounting	Remsen, Iowa
Frans Steyn, Oklahoma State	So.	Undecided	Pretoria, South Africa
Will Chavis, Texas Tech	Sr.	Human Development	Philadelphia, Penn.
Nick Collison, Kansas	Sr.	Communication Studies	Iowa Falls, Iowa
*Brett Olson, Kansas	Sr.	Exercise Science	Chanute, Kan.
Ryan Kiernan, Missouri	Sr.	General Studies	St. Charles, Mo.
Josh Kroenke, Missouri	Jr.	Consumer Family Economics	Columbia, Mo.
John Turek, Nebraska	So.	Marketing	Council Bluffs, Iowa
Blake Johnston, Oklahoma	So.	Public Relations	Midland, Texas

Second Team (3.00 to 3.19 grade point average)

<u>Name. School</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Andre White, Baylor	Sr.	Business Administration - Graduate Studies	Pearland, Texas
Jason Miller, Oklahoma State	Jr.	Education	Livingston, Texas
Brian Brookhart, Texas A&M	Sr.	Agricultural Education	Crowley, Texas
Blair Wilson, Colorado	Jr.	Management	Broomfield, Colo.
Tony Wilbrand, Nebraska	RS-Fr.	Computer Science	Alliance, Neb.