

Alfred University's Bridges, Ball earn men's soccer postseason honors

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ALFRED Senior midfielder Jon Bridges (Topeka, KS/Topeka) and junior goalie Kevin Ball (Wheeling, WV/Linsly School) have earned postseason awards from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA). Bridges, an art and design major, was named to the NSCAA/Adidas Scholar Athlete All-America team. He is the first Academic All-America from the AU men's soccer team since Neil Howard was honored in 1992. Bridges leaves AU as the second-highest scorer in school history with 71 points (21G, 29A). His 29 career assists is an AU all-time record. He is a three-time selection to the All-Empire 8 First Team and is the only player ever to earn that distinction three times. Bridges will be honored with other Scholar Athlete All-Americans this Saturday, Jan. 19, in Philadelphia at a luncheon being held as part of the NSCAA National Convention. Ball was named to the NSCAA/Adidas All-Northeast Region Team. Ball's .36 goals against average was second best in the nation and, along with his nine shutouts, represent new school single-season records. Ball led an AU defense that posted the best goals against average in the country (.44 per game) as well as the best shutout percentage (80 percent: 12 of 15). The Saxons finished the 2001 season with a 12-1-2 record and were named co-champions of the Empire 8. They set new team single-season records for most goals scored (52), fewest allowed (7), most shutouts (12) and winning percentage (.867). They also set a new single-game scoring record with 17 goals at Medaille.