Several Southeastern Illinois College baseball and softball players found themselves with outstanding records as a result of their performances on the playing field at the end of the season. Roberto Sapia from Rio Grande, Puerto Rico; Logan Leverett from Harrisburg, Ill.; Ame Whitlock from Eldorado, Ill.; and Paige Mueller from Hoffman, Ill. excelled on and off the field.

Sapia was named All-Conference in the NJCAA Division I Great Rivers Athletic Conference (GRAC) and received the Mary Jo Oldham Male Student-Athlete Award. Leverett’s 11 home runs during the season tied him for 18th in the nation among NJCAA Division I schools.

Former Falcon baseball coach Nico Gregali had nothing but high praise for Sapia. “As the team’s center fielder, Roberto went from being simply a defensive replacement his freshman year to one of our most consistent players in the field and at the plate,” said Gregali. “He has so many options now in baseball. Four-year schools from Florida, Georgia, Oklahoma, and Texas have shown serious interest in recruiting him for their programs. He is going to make some coach very happy next year, not only because of his athleticism but also because of his performance in the classroom,” added Gregali.

As for Leverett, Gregali was impressed both by his command at the plate and by his strength and stamina. “Logan was one of only three on the team that played every game last season,” stated Gregali. Even though achieving a place among the top 20 home run hitters in the nation is notable, Leverett, who serves as the team’s “anchor” in the outfield, appears to have his best years ahead of him. “This kid missed All-Region honors by only a few votes,” said Gregali. “He is draft material and is only going to get better his sophomore year at Southeastern.”

On the softball side, Whitlock, an outstanding defensive player, was awarded the Mary Jo Oldham Female Student-Athlete, while Mueller received NJCAA All-Conference GRAC team honors and was 16th in the nation with a batting average of .489. She also tied for 49th place in the nation in on-base percentage at .508.

SIC’s softball coach, Ross Hill, called Whitlock the Lady Falcons’ "rock," a title she earned by providing spectacular defense at third base and a solid bat in the lineup. “She was a true leader on the team that the rest of the girls looked up to and respected. I can't begin to count how many times I relied on Ame to be a coach on the field. Her leadership, outstanding personality, and quality of play will be greatly missed next year,” said Hill.

Regarding Mueller, “She was nothing less than spectacular!” Hill said. “Being one of the top hitters in the nation is quite an achievement. She was almost automatic in the leadoff spot. Paige is a very likeable person, whose personality makes her one of the best liked players on the team,” added Hill. Hill believes if Mueller can just come close to repeating this year’s stats next season, she will be highly recruited by several schools. She is one of the main components in rebuilding the Falcon softball program, which made strides toward respectability this season.