



PRESS RELEASE

Anderson, Suhr and Walker Earn Spot on 2003 WBCA All-Star Challenge Team

ATLANTA, Ga. (March 18, 2003) --The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) has selected its final three players for the 2003 WBCA All-Star Challenge team. Crystal Walker, Washburn University, Kendra Anderson, Hardin-Simmons University and Bobbi Suhr, The University of Montana Western were the top three senior vote getters at the Division II, III and NAIA level, earning them the final three spots on the All-Star Challenge Team. On Friday, April 4 twenty of the top senior collegiate players in women's basketball will showcase "Who's Got Game?" at Georgia Tech's Alexander Memorial Coliseum.

The WBCA All-Star Challenge features 17 of the top senior NCAA Division I players, voted on by WBCA member Division I head coaches, and the NCAA Division II, III and NAIA top senior vote getters in The State Farm Player of the Year ballots, to go head to head in an action-packed game of women's basketball.

The top senior vote getter at the NCAA Division II level was Crystal Walker. Walker, a 6-foot senior guard from Osawatomie, Kansas was fifth in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) in scoring with 15.8 points a game, sixth in rebounding (6.9 rpg) and fourth in field goal percentage (49.1 percent). She also shared MIAA Most Valuable Player honors, was the Sonic MIAA Most Valuable Player and was the Sonic MIAA Tournament MVP. Walker led the Lady Blues to a 66-60 win over Emporia State to advance to tonight's championship game of the NCAA Division II South Central Regional Tournament.

Division III State Farm Player of the Year and top senior vote getter, Kendra Anderson, a 5-9 senior forward from Hardin-Simmons, has had one of the top seasons and careers ever by a Hardin-Simmons Cowgirl. She is averaging 19.6 points and 9.9 rebounds this season and has led the Cowgirls to a 27-0 record and the first No. 1 national ranking in school history. She is a three-time American Southwest Conference MVP and was named All-Conference for the third time this season. Anderson has led the Cowgirls to four Sweet 16's. Hardin-Simmons entered the Division III NCAA Tournament ranked number one, however they fell to Trinity (Texas) 67-61 on Saturday at the Sectional semi-final game.

Bobbi Suhr out of The University of Montana Western, is the top senior vote getter out of the NAIA. Suhr was the MVP of the Frontier Conference for the second straight year. She averaged 19.7 points and 8.6 rebounds per game. And, for the second straight year, she led the conference and the nation in field goal percentage. She was also top ten in the conference in free throw percentage, blocked shots and steals. Western Montana is coming off a record breaking season. The Lady Bulldogs finished the year

at 32–4, including a perfect 14–0 in the Frontier Conference. Western won both the league regular season and tournament titles to advance to the NAIA national tournament for the third straight year. At nationals, the Lady Bulldogs went 2–1 to finish in the Elite 8. This year, Suhr and the Lady Bulldogs (29–3) will make a run for the NAIA National title when they begin tournament play on March 19.

The top three senior vote getters will make their all–star appearance at the 6th Annual WBCA All–Star Challenge during "The Night of All–Stars", which will take place as part of a doubleheader prelude to the NCAA Women's Final Four in Atlanta, Georgia. Not only will fans get to watch and collect autographs from the future WNBA stars, but college hoops as well, at the WBCA High School All–America Game, presented by Nike, where things will tip–off at 6:00 p.m. (EST).

Fans can order tickets by calling the Georgia Tech Ticket Office at 888–TECH–TIX (888–832–4849) or by visiting the Georgia Tech Box Office. Tickets for the WBCA "Night of All–Stars" are \$25.00. Lower Level reserved bench seats are \$20.00 a piece or group rate of \$15.00 a piece for 10 or more. Upper level general admission seats are \$15.00 a piece or group rate of \$10.00 a piece for 10 or more tickets.

Founded in 1981, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association promotes women's basketball by unifying coaches at all levels to develop a reputable identity for the sport of women's basketball and to foster and promote the development of the game of basketball as an amateur sport for women and girls. For more information on the WBCA, visit www.wbca.org.