



PRESS RELEASE

North Carolina's Ivory Latta Named WBCA National Player of the Month

ATLANTA, Ga. (March 22, 2005) -- The University of North Carolina's Ivory Latta has been named the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) National Player of the Month for March, excluding games played in the NCAA Division I Tournament.

During the month of March, the 5-foot-6 sophomore forward averaged 25.7 points with a field goal percentage of .524 and a free throw percentage of .800. Latta, a 2005 Kodak/WBCA All-America finalist, poured in 32 points against Virginia in the semifinals and 26 points in the final games of the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Tournament to beat the reigning tournament champion Duke Blue-Devils. Latta was named the ACC Tournament MVP and the Tar Heels received the number one seed heading into the NCAA Division I National Tournament.

As a freshman, Latta was named ACC Preseason Rookie of the Year and achieved Rookie of the Week accolades three times. Latta led the Tar Heels in minutes played (32.6) and averaged 14.0 points per game, which was second on the team and sixth in the ACC. Last season, Latta was selected for the All-ACC Tournament team after averaging a team-high 17.7 points in the Tar Heels' three tournament games. In a game against NC State in the ACC Tournament semifinals, Latta scored a team-high 27 points and hit a season-high five three-pointers in eight attempts.

The WBCA National Players of the Month for the 2004-2005 season included:

Kendra Wecker, University of Kansas – February
Jessica Davenport, Ohio State University – January
Sandora Irvin, Texas Christian – December

Also nominated: Candice Dupree, Temple University (Atlantic 10); Hollie Tyler, University of Montana (Big Sky); Sophia Young, Baylor University (Big Twelve); Kate Achter, Bowling Green University (Mid-American); Zane Teilane, Western Illinois (Mid-Continent); Sherrie Tucker, Coppin State University (Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference); Jaci McCormack, Illinois State University (Missouri Valley); Beth Swink, St. Francis (PA) University (Northeast); Miranda Eckerle, Eastern Kentucky University (Ohio Valley); Candice Wiggins, Stanford (Pac-10); Jennifer Gardner, Western Carolina University (Southern).