



PRESS RELEASE

Seimone Augustus Named State Farm Wade Trophy Player of the Year

ATLANTA, Ga. (April 1, 2006) -- The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced today that Louisiana State University's senior Seimone Augustus has been named The State Farm Wade Trophy Player of the Year for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I. The WBCA presents this award annually to the top player in NCAA Division I.

"Seimone Augustus has been a prominent candidate from the start of the 2006 Wade Watch," said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "She is an exceptional representative for Lily Margaret Wade, the WBCA and The State Farm Wade Trophy and we are pleased to present her with this award once again."

Earning her second State Farm Wade Trophy honor, Augustus becomes one of two players to obtain this achievement following the 1979 and 1980 winner, Nancy Lieberman. Throughout her career, she has tallied 72 20-plus point games, including 26 this season, scored in double figures in a school record of 96 straight games and scored in double digits in 131 of 139 career games, the most in NCAA history. She is also the NCAA's active scoring leader with 2,688 points and ranks first in scoring in the NCAA as well as 16th in field goal percentage.

Augustus has started a school record of 139 games, became the fourth player in LSU history to reach the 2,000 career points milestone and currently ranks second at LSU in career points. Augustus sits second in career field goals made at LSU, second in career field goals attempted, sixth in career field goal percentage, first in career free throw percentage and fourth in career free throws made.

On top of earning national player of the year honors for the 2004-05 season, she earned Southeastern Conference (SEC) Player of the Year, Kodak/WBCA All-American honors, NCAA Regional MVP, First Team All-SEC, Louisiana Player of the Year, First Team All-Louisiana as well as a member of the United States World University Games gold medal team. In 2003-04 as a sophomore, Augustus brought home Kodak/WBCA All-American honors, named NCAA Regional MVP, First Team All-SEC, Third Team All-American, Louisiana Player of the Year and First Team All-Louisiana.

As a freshman, she was named the United States Basketball Female Athlete of the Year, MVP of the 2003 FIBA World Championship for Young Women and National Freshman of the Year. She also earned Louisiana Freshman of the Year, First Team All-Louisiana and SEC Freshman of the Year.

"Congratulations to Seimone Augustus on being selected The State Farm Wade Trophy

Player of the Year," said Mark D. Gibson, Assistant Vice President of Advertising at State Farm. "This is a wonderful honor for such an outstanding student-athlete and we concur with Beth, and look forward to seeing Seimone fulfill the rest of her basketball dreams."

The Wade Trophy, named after the late, legendary three-time national champion Delta State University head coach Lily Margaret Wade, debuted in 1978 as the first-ever women's national player of the year award in college basketball. Past winners of the Wade Trophy include several prominent WNBA executives and players: New York Liberty vice president and general manager Carol Blazejowski (1978-inaugural winner), Nancy Lieberman (1979 and 1980), Cheryl Miller (1984), former Connecticut Sun forward Rebecca Lobo (1995), Sacramento Monarchs guard Ticha Penicheiro (1998) and Seattle Storm guard Sue Bird (2002). Last year's recipient of The State Farm Wade Trophy was Seimone Augustus (Louisiana State University).

The WBCA has been in partnership with The National Association of Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS) for five years in presenting The State Farm Wade Trophy Player of the Year Award. A committee comprised of coaches, administration and media from across the United States selects the winner.

Augustus will be formally presented her award at the WBCA Awards Luncheon presented by State Farm and Jostens on Sunday, April 2 at 12:30 (ET) in the Hynes Convention Center Ballroom. The State Farm Wade Trophy Player of the Year presentation is part of the 2006 WBCA National Convention held in conjunction with the NCAA® Women's Final Four® in Boston, Mass. This year the WBCA celebrates its Silver Anniversary, marking 25 years of existence.

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The National Association of Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS) was established to develop and deliver equitable and quality sport opportunities for ALL girls and women through relevant research, advocacy, leadership development, educational strategies, and programming in a manner that promotes social justice and change.