



PRESS RELEASE

## Johannah Leedham Awarded State Farm/WBCA NCAA Division II Player of the Year Honors

ATLANTA, Ga. (March 26, 2008) -- The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced today that Franklin Pierce University sophomore Johannah Leedham has been named the State Farm/WBCA National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II Player of the Year. The WBCA presents this award annually to the top players in each of the following WBCA collegiate divisions (NCAA Divisions II, III, NAIA and JC/CC) and high school.

"Johannah's standout play this season has put her a cut above the rest for the State Farm/WBCA NCAA Division II Player of the Year Award," said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "On behalf of the WBCA, I would like to congratulate Johannah for a job well done, and wish her a very bright future."

Leedham, a sophomore forward, has led the Franklin Pierce University Ravens to their first ever NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Elite Eight this season. Against previously undefeated No. 4 Holy Family University in the Northeast Region Final, she tallied 31 points and 10 rebounds in the 88-71 victory. The Northeast 10 Conference Player of the Year, Leedham, ranks third in the nation with 22.7 points per game and 12th nationally with 3.4 steals per game while also leading her team in rebounding. She has set Franklin Pierce single-season records this year in points scored (727), steals (109) and free throws made (166). Leedham already ranks fifth among the Ravens all-time scoring leaders and third in career steals.

A native of Ellesmere Port, England, Leedham is a member of the Great Britain Under-20 National Team. She was a WBCA All-America Honorable Mention as a freshman last year.

"Congratulations to State Farm/WBCA NCAA Division II Player of the Year Johannah Leedham," said Mark D. Gibson, assistant vice president of advertising at State Farm. "Her outstanding accomplishments as a student-athlete, on and off the court, make her truly deserving of this wonderful honor. We look forward to seeing Johannah fulfill the rest of her basketball dreams."

The State Farm/WBCA Player of the Year Award is selected by the nine-member WBCA Player of the Year Committee, which consists of one WBCA-member coach from each of the eight WBCA Division II Regions and the committee chair.

Leedham will be formally presented her award at the WBCA Awards Luncheon presented by State Farm and Jostens on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, at Noon (ET) in the Marriott Waterside's Grand Ballroom. The luncheon is part of the WBCA National

Convention, held in conjunction with the NCAA® Women's Final Four® in Tampa Bay, Fla.

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