



PRESS RELEASE

## DeWanna Bonner Named WBCA January National Player of the Month

ATLANTA, Ga. (February 6, 2009) -- Auburn senior guard DeWanna Bonner has been named the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) Division I National Player of the Month for January. This is her first WBCA Player of the Month honor.

Bonner averaged 25.7 points, 8.4 rebounds, 1.7 steals, 1.4 blocks and assists in seven games in January, while averaging 34.9 minutes a game. She shot 53.2 percent from the field, which included a career-best 35-point effort in Auburn's first win over Tennessee since 1997.

In January, Bonner led the Tigers to their first SEC-opening win in eight years, posting 29 points and six rebounds at South Carolina. She picked up her fifth double-double of the season and 36th of her career against then-No. 18 Florida with 29 points and 11 rebounds. Also against the Gator's, Bonner tallied her 900th career rebound, becoming just the fourth Auburn player to ever register 900 career rebounds and 1,500 career points. Bonner was named SEC Player of the Week twice in January – weeks of Jan. 5 and Jan. 19.

Bonner currently leads the SEC and is 11th in the nation in scoring with 21.2 points a game. She also ranks in the top 10 in the SEC in rebounding (4th, 8.6), field goal percentage (3rd, 49.5), free throw percentage (3rd, 81.2), steals (8th, 2.1) and blocks (5th, 1.5). Bonner is 159 points shy of tying the Auburn scoring record as she currently ranks fourth all-time with 1,909 points. She is also ranks in the top-10 all-time at Auburn in 12 other career categories, including rebounds where she is sixth (948).

The Preseason SEC Player of the Year in the coaches and media polls, Bonner is currently one of 30 members on The State Farm Wade Trophy Watch List. In addition to her conference preseason honors, Bonner was also recognized as First-Team Preseason All-American by Athlon Sports and Second-Team Preseason All-American by Lindy's and *Sporting News*.

Players earning WBCA Division I National Player of the Month Honorable Mention for January include: Amber Bland, N.C. A&T (Mid-Eastern Athletic), Jesyka Burks-Wiley, Boston University (America East), Alysha Clark, Middle Tennessee (Sun Belt), Kristi Cirone, Illinois State (Missouri Valley), Traci Edwards, Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Horizon League), Dawn Evans, James Madison (Colonial Athletic), Megan Frazee, Liberty (Big South), Ashley Hayes, Murray State (Ohio Valley), Shanara Hollinquest, Chattanooga

(Southern), Jantel Lavender, Ohio State (Big Ten), Sade Logan, Robert Morris (Northeast), Pauline Love, Southern Miss (Conference USA), Maya Moore, Connecticut (BIG EAST), Mandy Morales, Montana (Big Sky), Kemie Nkele, UC Riverside (Big West), Ana Pares, Utah State (Western Athletic), Courtney Paris, Oklahoma (Big 12), Ta'Shia Phillips, Xavier (Atlantic 10), Lauren Prochaska, Bowling Green State (Mid-American), Erica Prosser, Lehigh (Patriot League), Brittney Smith, Dartmouth (Ivy League), Courtney Vandersloot, Gonzaga (West Coast), Ashley Walker, Cal (Pac-10), Morgan Warburton, Utah (Mountain West), Jennifer Warkenthien, South Dakota State (The Summit League), Marie Warner, Canisius College (Metro Atlantic Athletic), TaRonda Wiles, ETSU (Atlantic Sun) and Monica Wright, Virginia (ACC).

\*WBCA National Player of the Month is based on achievements during the respective month for nomination. All nominations must come from the conference office and the player's head coach must be a member of the WBCA.