



PRESS RELEASE

## Maya Moore Takes Home 2009 State Farm Wade Trophy

ATLANTA, Ga. (April 4, 2009) -- The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced that University of Connecticut sophomore Maya Moore 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, on behalf of the Wade Coalition, annually to the top player in NCAA Division I.

"The winner of The State Farm Wade Trophy must embody the ideals of its namesake, Lily Margaret Wade, and I believe this year's recipient, Maya Moore, does just that," said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "Maya has taken her game to a new level this season, while also serving as a role model to many across the nation. Congratulations on this honor."

Moore becomes just the second sophomore ever to win the award, joining Candace Parker who won in 2007 during her sophomore hardwood campaign. Moore, a 6-foot forward from Lawrenceville, Ga., was recently honored as the Most Outstanding Player of the NCAA Trenton Regional, tallying a combined 47 points and 14 rebounds in victories over Arizona State and California. In the victory over the No.6 seed Sun Devils, Moore became the UConn single-season scoring leader and now boasts 712 points in 2009.

Named the 2009 BIG EAST Player of the Year and an All-BIG East First Team unanimous selection, Moore averaged 21.0 points, 8.7 rebounds, 2.0 steals and 2.3 blocks, while shooting 62.5 percent from the field en route to also being named BIG EAST Tournament Most Outstanding Player.

This season Moore has tallied 20-plus points 15 times, registered 16 double-doubles and posted double-figure points 36 times, including her current streak of nine. Moore became the fastest player in Huskies history to reach the 1,000-point milestone, doing so in her 55th career game with 40 points vs. Syracuse on Jan. 17, 2009. Moore currently ranks 20th among UConn's career scoring leaders with 1,390 points.

Moore set the UConn and BIG EAST single-game records with 10 three-point field goals made vs. Syracuse on Jan. 17. She was named BIG EAST Player of the Week following this performance. Moore has also been recognized for her achievements in the classroom as she was named a ESPN/CoSIDA First Team Academic All-American this season.

"Moore has had an incredible year and State Farm is honored to recognize her as The 2009 State Farm Wade Trophy Player of the Year", said Pam El, Marketing Vice President for State Farm. "Moore's dedication and commitment to the game of

basketball and her outstanding accomplishments as a student-athlete make her truly deserving of this wonderful award."

The Huskies have reached the Final Four seven of the last 10 seasons and are slated to play No. 2 seed Stanford at 6 p.m. CT on Sunday, April 5, at the Scottrade Center in St. Louis, Mo. UConn's last appearance in the Final Four was last season, when the Huskies were edged out, ironically, by Stanford, 73-82. The Huskies have five National Championship titles in their collection, with the last coming in 2004 (also won in 2003, 2002, 2000 and 1995).

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: Carol Blazejowski (1978-inaugural winner), Nancy Lieberman (1979 and 1980), Cheryl Miller (1984), Rebecca Lobo (1995), Ticha Penicheiro (1998), Sue Bird (2002) and Seimone Augustus (2005 and 2006).

The WBCA has been in partnership with The National Association of Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS) for seven 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.

Moore will be formally presented her award at the WBCA Awards Luncheon presented by State Farm and Jostens on Tuesday, April 7, at Noon CT in the Hyatt Regency St. Louis Grand Ballroom. The State Farm Wade Trophy Player of the Year presentation is part of the WBCA National Convention, held in conjunction with the NCAA® Women's Final Four® in St. Louis, Mo.

#### About State Farm

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#### About the NAGWS

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.