



PRESS RELEASE

Kevin Cook Honored with WBCA's Carol Eckman Award

ATLANTA, Ga. (March 3, 2010) -- The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) has announced Kevin Cook of Gallaudet University as the 2010 winner of the Carol Eckman Award.

The Carol Eckman Award is presented annually to an active WBCA coach who exemplifies Eckman's spirit, integrity and character through sportsmanship, commitment to the student-athlete, honesty, ethical behavior, courage and dedication to purpose. The award is named in honor of the late Carol Eckman, the former West Chester State College coach who is considered the "Mother of the Women's Collegiate Basketball Championship." Eckman organized the first women's basketball championship at West Chester in 1969 and continued to garner recognition and support for the women's game until her death from cancer in 1985.

"It is a pleasure to present Kevin Cook with the Carol Eckman Award," said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "Your commitment to sportsmanship, honesty, ethical behavior and most importantly, your student-athletes has not gone unnoticed."

Cook has spent the past three seasons as the head women's basketball coach at Gallaudet, a NCAA Division III university for the deaf and hard of hearing. Cook doubled the amount of wins from his first season (2007-08) to his second season (2008-09) as the Bison went 6-19 overall last year. This year Cook's team finished with a 14-12 record, their best season in a decade and the team also made the Capital Athletic Conference Tournament.

Cook served as an assistant coach with the Houston Comets for 11 years and was a part of four WNBA championships. He also served as a coach on four different WNBA All-Star Teams. Prior to coaching in the WNBA, Cook served as an assistant coach with the University of Kansas from 1984-93. Cook was part of four Big 8 championship teams that made four trips to the NCAA Tournament.

In between his stints with Houston and Kansas, Cook coached two years at Garden City Community College where he led the program to a No. 12 national junior college ranking.

The Fremont, Ohio, native is a proud graduate of Urbana University (Ohio) where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in social science in 1983. He also runs the Kevin Cook Basketball Academy.

Cook will be formally recognized at the WBCA Awards Luncheon *presented by State Farm and Jostens* at Noon CT on Tuesday, April 6, at the Marriott Rivercenter Grand Ballroom. This event is part of the WBCA National Convention and is held in

conjunction with the NCAA® Women's Final Four® in San Antonio, Texas.

Now in its 25th year, the Carol Eckman Award has recognized the following individuals in women's basketball: Muffet McGraw, Notre Dame University (2009); Doug Bruno, DePaul University (2008); Theresa Grentz, University of Illinois (2007); Gail Goestenkors, Duke University (2006); Bonnie Henrickson, University of Kansas (2005); Deirdre Kane, West Chester University (2004); Marsha Sharp, Texas Tech University (2003); Barbara Stevens, Bentley College (2002); Juliene Simpson, East Stroudsburg University (2001); Kathy Delaney-Smith, Harvard University (2000); Susan Summons, Miami-Dade (Fla.) Community College (1999); Kay James, University of Southern Mississippi (1998); Amy Ruley, North Dakota State University (1997); Dr. Joann Rutherford, University of Missouri (1996); Ceal Barry, University of Colorado (1995); the late Sue Gunter, Louisiana State University (1994); C. Vivian Stringer, University of Iowa (1993); Dr. Jill Hutchison, Illinois State University (1992); Marian Washington, University of Kansas (1991); Maryalyce Jeremiah, Cal State Fullerton (1990); Linda Hill-MacDonald, University of Minnesota (1989); the late Kay Yow, North Carolina State University (1988); Jody Conradt, University of Texas (1987), and Laura Mapp, Bridgewater College (1986).