



PRESS RELEASE

## Dick Patrick Announced as Winner of the Mel Greenberg Media Award

ATLANTA, Ga. (March 11, 2010) -- Dick Patrick, formerly of *USA TODAY*, has been named the winner of the 2010 Women's Basketball Coaches Association's (WBCA) Mel Greenberg Media Award.

Named after Mel Greenberg, the Philadelphia Inquirer sportswriter who founded the *Associated Press* Top 25 women's basketball poll, the WBCA's Mel Greenberg Media Award is presented annually to a member of the media who has best displayed a commitment to women's basketball and to advancing the role of the media in the women's game. Selected by past recipients of the award, the candidate must have had a positive impact on the growth and national or regional exposure of the sport, been involved in the media exposure of women's basketball for a minimum of five years and should be a media ambassador for the women's game. Greenberg, the pre-eminent name in women's basketball coverage, was named the winner of the inaugural award in 1991.

Patrick spent the last 23 years with *USA TODAY* where he covered eight Olympics, concentrating on track and field. Patrick also covered college sports including football, men's basketball and women's basketball. Prior to his time at *USA TODAY*, Patrick was with the *Rochester Times-Union* (N.Y.) from 1981-86, the *Binghamton Sun-Bulletin* (N.Y.) from 1980-81 and the *Finger Lakes Times* (N.Y.) from 1975-80. A native of Baltimore, Md., Patrick became a basketball fan after moving to Louisville, Ky., as a seventh grader. He has covered women's basketball since 1976 when he saw Pat Summitt and the rest of the Olympic Team practice and remembers being greatly impressed by the players' abilities and intensity.

Patrick's wife of 24 years, Jody Lavin Patrick, was the 1982 NCAA Division III Player of the Year at Rochester and has coached at UMass, Cornell and Georgetown. Lavin Patrick is now a high school coach and television commentator.

Patrick 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.

As the 20th winner of the award, Patrick joins a distinguished list of recipients, including: Chuck Schoffner, *Associated Press* (2009), Dan Fleser, *Knoxville News-Sentinel* (2008), Debbie Antonelli, *CSTV* (2007); Bill Jauss, *Chicago Tribune* (2006); Dave Loane, *University of Illinois* (2005); Tam Flarup, *University of Wisconsin-Madison* (2004); Mechelle Voepel, *Kansas City Star/ESPN* (2003); Bob Kenney, *Courier Post*

(2002); Robin Roberts, *ABC News* (2001); Vic Dorr, *Richmond Times-Dispatch* (2000); Ann Meyers Drysdale, *ESPN* (1999); Mary Garber, *Winston-Salem Journal* (1998); the late Mitch Parkinson, Southern Illinois University (1997); Debby Jennings, University of Tennessee (1996); the late Mike Augustin, *St. Paul Pioneer Press* (1995); Mimi Griffin, MSG Promotions/ESPN (1994); Jane Burns, *Des Moines Register* (1993); Debbie Becker, *USA TODAY* (1992); and Mel Greenberg, *Philadelphia Inquirer* (1991).