



PRESS RELEASE

Andrea Smith Selected as the State Farm/WBCA JC/CC Player of the Year

ATLANTA, Ga. (March 15, 2010) -- The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced that Gulf Coast Community College's Andrea Smith has been named the State Farm/WBCA Junior College/Community College (JC/CC) 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.

"The WBCA is thrilled to present Andrea Smith with the State Farm/WBCA JC/CC Player of the Year award," said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "She has had an outstanding season, and is very deserving of this achievement."

A 5'8 sophomore guard from Lakeland, Fla., Smith is the leading scorer for the Commodores averaging 17.2 points and 4.6 rebounds a game. At 28-1, GCCC is ranked #2 in the country in the NJCAA Top 10 National Poll.

Last year, Smith was a State Farm Coaches' All-American selection and this season was an NJCAA Pre-Season All-American selection. She was recently named the Panhandle Conference Player of the Year and also made the All-Panhandle Conference's first team while leading her team to its 13th straight conference title. Smith has helped lead her team to the programs seventh overall NJCAA women's basketball tournament appearance and this year her team will try to capture a third national championship in eight years.

As a freshman, Smith was named to the All-Panhandle Conference first team and the FJCAA All-State first team. Smith's twin sister, Andrell, also plays for the Commodores and next year the sisters will both be attending and playing basketball for the University of South Florida.

The State Farm/WBCA Player of the Year Award is selected by the 10-member WBCA Player of the Year Committee, which consists of one WBCA-member coach from each of the nine WBCA JC/CC Regions and the committee chair.

Smith 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.

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