



PRESS RELEASE

## Johannah Leedham Awarded State Farm/WBCA NCAA Division II Player of the Year Honors

ATLANTA, Ga. (March 22, 2010) -- The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced that Franklin Pierce University senior Johannah Leedham has been named the State Farm/WBCA National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II 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.

"Johannah Leedham's standout play this season has put her a level above the rest for the State Farm/WBCA NCAA Division II Player of the Year award," said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "On behalf of the WBCA, I would like to congratulate Johannah for a job well done, and wish her a very bright future."

This is the second time that Leedham has been named the State Farm/WBCA Player of the Year, with the first time being in 2007-08 when Leedham was a sophomore. Leedham is just the second player to receive this honor twice; the only other NCAA Division II athlete to do so being Jenny Crouse of the University of North Dakota in 1998 and 1999.

Leedham is averaging 27.1 points, 8.0 rebounds and 4.3 steals a game this season. For the past three years, Leedham has been named the Northeast-10 Player of the Year and helped lead her team to three-straight NCAA Division II East Regional titles. To date, she has scored 3,003 career points, is the all-time NCAA Division II career scoring leader and amongst the top 10 in career scoring across all divisions. She holds 25 Franklin Pierce records and is the only player among the top 10 Division II career leaders in both scoring and steals.

Leedham was named the *Women's Division II Bulletin* Preseason National Player of the Year for the second straight year this season and was named honorable mention player of the decade by *Women's Division II Bulletin*. She was also named British Basketball's 2009 Olympic Athlete of the Year. Last season Leedham was a State Farm Coaches' All-American selection. She is majoring in sports and recreation management and is originally from Chester, England.

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

Leedham 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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