



PRESS RELEASE

Rich Castellano Named RUSSELL ATHLETIC/WBCA National High School Coach of the Year

ATLANTA – Rich Castellano of Northport High School in Northport, N.Y., is the 2011 RUSSELL ATHLETIC/WBCA High School Coach of the Year, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association announced today. This year marks the 22nd year that this accolade has been presented and selected by the WBCA since 1990. Castellano will serve as the head coach of the white team at the WBCA High School All-American Game on Saturday, April 2 at The Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis, Ind.

"I am delighted to present Rich with the RUSSELL ATHLETIC/WBCA National High School Coach of the Year award," said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "We are glad to reward the efforts of those who commit themselves professionally to the future of the women's game."

Castellano has won 545 games in 32 seasons as head coach of Northport High School, while the Tigers have won 25 league titles, 11 Suffolk championships, six Long Island titles, and have reached the state finals twice under his helm.

The Tigers went 19–1 this season, losing its first game in the quarterfinals against Copiague.

Castellano was inducted into the New York Basketball Hall of Fame two years ago.

The retired math teacher has served as President of the Suffolk County Women's Basketball Coaches Association for over 20 years and has created numerous scholarship awards for female basketball players in Suffolk County.

Castellano has worked with the American Cancer Society to establish Coaches versus Cancer basketball games in every school district in Suffolk County.

"RUSSELL ATHLETIC continues to be committed to women's sports, including a focus to develop the latest innovations for women, specifically in terms of uniforms and apparel," said Gary Barfield, Executive Vice President, RUSSELL ATHLETIC. "Through RUSSELL ATHLETIC'S dedication to women's athletics, we are proud to honor Coach Rich Castellano. Coach Castellano's accomplishments enable new vision for all student-athletes."

Castellano will be assisted by Anne Long of Spring Valley (Columbia, S.C.) High School and Kristi Toliver of the WNBA's Los Angeles Sparks will be the white team's honorary Nike co-captain.

Terri Bamford from La Jolla Country Day (San Diego, Calif.) will serve as the head coach

of the red team during the WBCA High School All-American game. He will be assisted by Tony Smith from Bolingbrook High School in Bolingbrook, Ill. Alana Beard will be the honorary captain for Bamford.

Castellano will be formally recognized during the WBCA Awards Show, which will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, April 4, in the Indiana Convention Center's Sagamore Ballroom. This event is part of the WBCA National Convention and is held in conjunction with the NCAA® Women's Final Four® in Indianapolis.

About RUSSELL ATHLETIC:

For more than 100 years, Russell Athletic, a division of Russell Brands, LLC, has supplied America's athletes and teams with the latest innovations to help them perform at their best and is a leading supplier of team uniforms at the high school, college, and professional level. Russell Athletic activewear and college licensed products are broadly distributed and marketed through department stores, sports specialty stores, retail chains, and college bookstores. For more information, please visit www.russellathletic.com. Russell Athletic® is a trademark of Russell Brands, LLC. Russell Athletic, Proven on the Field of Play.

About the WBCA:

Founded in 1981, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association promotes women's basketball by unifying coaches at all levels to develop a reputable identity for the sport and to foster and promote the development of the game as a sport for women and girls. For additional information about the WBCA, please visit wbca.org.