



PRESS RELEASE

## WBCA Names Finalists for The 2011 State Farm Wade Trophy

ATLANTA – The State Farm® Wade Trophy Committee along with the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) and the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS) announced today the 12 finalists in contention for The State Farm Wade Trophy, which is presented annually to the nation's most outstanding NCAA® Division I women's basketball player.

"March Madness, this is what we live for!" said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "I congratulate each of these 12 finalists, from which one will receive 'The Heisman of Women's Basketball.'"

The candidates were selected by a vote of committee members comprised of leading basketball coaches, journalists and basketball administrators. The committee will select the winner of The State Farm Wade Trophy from the 10-member NCAA Division I State Farm Coaches' All-America Team. The winner will be announced at 9 a.m. EDT Saturday, April 2, in Indianapolis during the WBCA National Convention, which is being held in conjunction with the 2011 NCAA® Women's Final Four®.

The State Farm Wade Trophy Finalists are as follows:

Player Name	Institution	Year	Position
Danielle Adams	Texas A&M University	Sr.	F-C
Victoria Dunlap	University of Kentucky	Sr.	F
Brittney Griner	Baylor University	So.	C
Amber Harris	Xavier University	Sr.	F
Jantel Lavender	Ohio State University	Sr.	C
Maya Moore	University Of Connecticut	Sr.	F
Nnemkadi (Nneka) Ogwumike	Stanford University	Jr.	C
Kayla Pedersen	Stanford University	Sr.	F
Jeanette Pohlen	Stanford University	Sr.	G
Danielle Robinson	University of Oklahoma	Sr.	G
Shekinna Stricklen	University of Tennessee	Jr.	F
Courtney Vandersloot	Gonzaga University	Sr.	G

"State Farm is extremely proud to recognize and congratulate these 12 outstanding athletes as finalists for The 2011 State Farm Wade Trophy," said Pam El, Marketing Vice President for State Farm. "Their dedication and commitment epitomize the true meaning of student-athlete and they are all very deserving of this great honor."

The State Farm Wade Trophy, now in its 34th year, is named after the late, legendary three-time national champion Delta State University coach, Lily Margaret Wade. This most prestigious award, regarded as “The Heisman of Women’s Basketball”, debuted in 1978 as the first-ever women’s national player of the year award in college basketball.

Last year’s State Farm Wade Trophy winner was Connecticut’s Maya Moore, who also won the award in 2009 and joined Seimone Augustus (2005 and 2006) and Nancy Lieberman (1979 and 1980) as the award’s only two-time recipients. The first recipient of the Wade Trophy was Carol Blazejowski of Montclair State in 1978. Other Wade Trophy/NCAA Division I Player of the Year recipients include many WNBA standouts such as Teresa Weatherspoon (1988), DeLisha Milton-Jones (1997), Candace Parker (2007), Ticha Penicheiro (1998), Sue Bird (2002) and Diana Taurasi (2003).

The State Farm Wade Trophy winner will be formally presented her award during the WBCA Awards Show, which will be held at 6 p.m. EDT 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 State Farm®:

State Farm insures more cars and homes than any other insurer in the U.S., is the leading insurer of watercraft and is also a leading insurer in Canada. Our 17,800 agents and more than 66,000 employees serve 81 million policies and accounts – more than 79 million auto, fire, life and health policies in the United States and Canada, and nearly 2 million bank accounts. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is the parent of the State Farm family of companies. State Farm is ranked No. 34 on the Fortune 500 list of largest companies. For more information, please visit [statefarm.com](http://statefarm.com)® or in Canada [statefarm.ca](http://statefarm.ca)®.

#### 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](http://wbca.org).