



PRESS RELEASE

Stanford's Tara VanDerveer Named RUSSELL ATHLETIC/WBCA National NCAA Division I Coach of the Year

ATLANTA – Tara VanDerveer, head coach at Stanford University, is the 2011 RUSSELL ATHLETIC/WBCA National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Coach of the Year, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association announced today. This is the 29th year of this honor, which has been selected by the WBCA since 1983.

“The WBCA is pleased to present Tara VanDerveer with the RUSSELL ATHLETIC/WBCA National Division I Coach of the Year award,” said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. “Coaches receive a lot of awards, but I can only imagine that to be chosen for an award by your peers has got to be the highest compliment.”

VanDerveer, in her 25th season at the Stanford helm, has guided the Cardinal to a 32–2 overall record, the program's 20th Pac–10 regular season title (and 11th consecutive) and eighth Pac–10 Tournament crown, and a 24th straight NCAA Tournament appearance. The Cardinal's berth in tonight's Spokane Regional Final is the program's 15th appearance in an NCAA Tournament regional final.

VanDerveer, who earlier this month was named Pac–10 Coach of the Year for the 11th time, is regarded in the profession as one of the most well–respected and dynamic coaches in the country. She has a career record of 825–197 in her 32 years as a head coach, which makes her only the fifth Division I women's basketball coach to reach the 800–win mark. She has compiled a 673–146 record in her 25 years at Stanford and has coached the Cardinal to eight NCAA Women's Final Four appearances, two national runner–up finishes (in 2008 and 2010) and two national championships (in 1990 and 1992).

Prior to her arrival at Stanford, VanDerveer led Ohio State to national prominence from 1980–85, as the Buckeyes went 110–37 (.748) overall and 55–5 (.917) in the Big Ten during her tenure. Before Ohio State, VanDerveer served as head coach at the University of Idaho. In two seasons in Moscow (1978–79, 1979–80), she brought unprecedented success to Vandal women's basketball. The Vandals went 42–14 in her two seasons and advanced to the AIAW Tournament (predecessor to the NCAA Tournament) in 1980.

VanDerveer's enormous contributions to the sport were recognized in April 2002, as she was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tenn.

VanDerveer is a 1975 graduate of Indiana University, where she was a Dean's List scholar for three years and a sociology major. While at Indiana, VanDerveer held one of the starting guard positions for three years on the women's basketball team.

An avid piano player in her spare time, VanDerveer was born June 26, 1953. A Boston native who grew up in upstate New York, she is also a published author. Her book *Shooting From The Outside*, which chronicled her 1996 Olympic and National Team experience, was released in September 1997.

“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 Tara VanDerveer. Coach VanDerveer’s accomplishments enable new vision for all student-athletes.”

The national coach of the year is selected from a list of finalists composed of the eight regional coaches of the year, who are chosen by vote of their peers in their respective WBCA membership regions.

Joining VanDerveer, the Region 8 Coach of the Year, in receiving RUSSELL ATHLETIC/WBCA Regional Division I Coach of the Year honors for 2011 are:

Region	Coach	Institution
Region 1	Geno Auriemma	University of Connecticut
Region 2	Katie Meier	University of Miami
Region 3	Pat Summitt	University of Tennessee
Region 4	Todd Buchanan	University of Houston
Region 5	Kim Mulkey	Baylor University
Region 6	Matthew Bollant	University of Wisconsin, Green Bay
Region 7	Teresa Weatherspoon	Louisiana Tech University

VanDerveer, as well as the five other RUSSELL ATHLETIC/WBCA National Coach of the Year recipients, 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 in all of its aspects as a sport for women and girls. For more information about the WBCA, please visit wbca.org.