



PRESS RELEASE

Eight Players Added to List of State Farm Wade Watch Hopefuls

ATLANTA (Feb. 7, 2012) – The State Farm® Wade Trophy Committee has added eight additional student-athletes to the 2011–12 State Farm Wade Watch list, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA), on behalf of the Wade Trophy Coalition, announced today.

Joining the preseason list of 25 "Wade Watch" hopefuls are Tayler Hill and Samantha Prahalis of Ohio State, Jordan Hooper of Nebraska, Anna Martin of DePaul, A'dia Mathies of Kentucky, Khadijah Rushdan of Rutgers, Alyssa Thomas of Maryland and Julie Wojta of Wisconsin–Green Bay.

State Farm and the Wade Trophy Coalition present The State Farm Wade Trophy to the nation's most outstanding NCAA® Division I women's basketball player each year – one who not only excels athletically but also serves as a positive role model both on and off the court. The acclaimed Wade Watch list, from which The State Farm Wade Trophy recipient is chosen, consists of players selected on the basis of game and season statistics, leadership, character, effect on their team, and overall playing ability.

The State Farm Wade Watch list will be trimmed to 12 finalists in mid-March. State Farm and the Wade Trophy Coalition will officially announce the State Farm Wade Trophy winner during the WBCA National Convention, held in conjunction with the NCAA® Women's Final Four® in Denver.

Hill, a 5-foot-10 junior guard for Ohio State, currently leads the Big Ten Conference and No. 11 Buckeyes in scoring with a 21.4 point-per-game average. She boasts a 44.4 3-point field goal percentage and has tallied 56 3-pointers this season, ranking 10th nationally. Hill had 21 points, grabbed 10 rebounds, dished out three assists, blocked two shots and made six steals in Ohio State's win over Nebraska on Jan. 19.

Prahalis, a 5-foot-7 senior guard for Ohio State, is fourth in the Big Ten Conference and second for the Buckeyes in scoring, averaging 18.7 points per game. Prahalis has amassed 1,789 points during her career, ranking sixth on Ohio State's all-time scoring list. The Jan. 24 Big Ten Player of the Week leads the conference in assists per game with seven, and has tallied 11 assists in each of three games and 10 in one game. She currently is second on the Big Ten's all-time assists leaders list with 854.

Hooper, a 6-foot-2 sophomore forward for Nebraska, leads the Big Ten Conference and No. 18 Nebraska in rebounding. She averages 9.5 rebounds per game, including

three offensive rebounds a game. Hooper also leads the Cornhuskers in scoring, tallying 19.7 points per game. In 21 games, Hooper has scored in double figures in every game and reached double figures in rebounding 10 times, for a conference-leading 10 double-doubles. The accomplishment makes her the fifth student-athlete in Nebraska history to reach double-digit double-doubles and ranks her among the nation's top 15 in 2012.

Martin, a 5-foot-9 junior guard for No. 23 DePaul, ranks second in the BIG EAST Conference in scoring with 18.6 points per game. The Jan. 16 BIG EAST Player of the Week has been named to the league's weekly honor roll five times. Martin ranks in eight national statistical categories, including scoring (18.6) and 3-point field goal percentage (.436). She leads DePaul in scoring, 3-pointers (48), free throw percentage (.784) and assists (78), and has reached double-digit scoring in 20 of DePaul's 22 games. Martin has scored more than 20 points in 10 games and has led DePaul in scoring in 13 games.

Mathies, a 5-foot-9 junior guard for Kentucky, is an All-SEC preseason first-team selection and a contender for SEC Player of the Year. She has been incremental in the Wildcats' success this season as she leads No. 5 Kentucky in scoring (15.4), steals (2.9), 3-point field goals made (38) and 3-point field goal percentage (.388). Mathies has scored in double-digits 16 times, including eight games with 20 or more points. The SEC's only three-time player of the week honoree ranks in the top 10 of five SEC statistical categories. She is also on the John R. Wooden Midseason Top 20 Watch List and Naismith Trophy Watch List.

Rushdan, a 5-foot-9 redshirt senior guard for No. 14 Rutgers, became the 30th player in Rutgers history to reach 1,000 career points earlier this season, in addition to becoming the second player in program history to accumulate 1,000 points, 500 rebounds and 400 assists during her collegiate career. The preseason All-BIG EAST honorable mention is currently second on the team in scoring with a career-high 12.7 points-per-game and averages 5.4 rebounds and 3.7 assists per contest. She has 14 double-digit scoring games and two 20-point games this season. Rushdan's season-high 24 points vs. DePaul included Rutgers' last 11 points and a game-winning bucket with 1.5 seconds remaining.

Thomas, a 6-foot-2 sophomore forward for 10th-ranked Maryland, leads the ACC in scoring with 17.2 points per game and is eighth in the league in rebounding with 7.7 per contest. Thomas has scored in double figures in 46 of 51 career games and 18 of her 20 games this season. She also has five double-doubles this season. One of the most versatile players in the ACC, Thomas is also among the ACC's top performers in assists, assist/turnover ratio, field goal percentage and free throw percentage.

Wojta, a 6-foot senior guard for No. 9 Wisconsin-Green Bay, has 10 double-doubles this season, at least 12 points in every contest, and eight double-figure rebounding performances. The four-time Horizon League Player of the Week had a standout performance Jan. 7 at Milwaukee when she posted 27 points, 12 steals and five assists, including 15 points, three 3-pointers, seven steals and two assists in just 12 minutes of play. Her 12 steals is a program and Horizon League record, and is just two steals shy of tying the NCAA record. Wojta ranks in the top 10 in five career statistical categories including points (1,352), points per game (12.3), free throws made (248), steals (234) and rebounds (700).

Here is the complete 2011–12 State Farm Wade Watch list:

Player	Year	Position	Institution
LaSondra Barrett	Senior	Forward	Louisiana State
Alex Bentley	Junior	Guard	Penn State
Cierra Bravard	Senior	Forward	Florida State
Carolyn Davis	Junior	Forward	Kansas
Elena Delle Donne	Junior	Forward	Delaware
Skylar Diggins	Junior	Guard	Notre Dame
Jasmine Dixon	Senior	Forward	UCLA
Stefanie Dolson	Sophomore	Center	Connecticut
Brittney Griner	Junior	Post	Baylor
Keisha Hampton	Senior	Forward	DePaul
Bria Hartley	Sophomore	Guard	Connecticut
Tiffany Hayes	Senior	Guard	Connecticut
Tayler Hill	Junior	Guard	Ohio State
Jordan Hooper	Sophomore	Forward	Nebraska
Glory Johnson	Senior	Forward	Tennessee
Shenise Johnson	Senior	Guard	Miami
Anna Martin	Junior	Guard	DePaul
A'dia Mathies	Junior	Guard	Kentucky
Natalie Novosel	Senior	Guard	Notre Dame
Chiney Ogwumike	Sophomore	Forward	Stanford
Nneka Ogwumike	Senior	Forward	Stanford
Devereaux Peters	Senior	Forward	Notre Dame
Samantha Prahalis	Senior	Guard	Ohio State
Jaime Printy	Junior	Guard	Iowa
Monique Reid	Senior	Forward	Louisville
Sugar Rodgers	Junior	Guard	Georgetown
Khadijah Rushdan	Senior	Guard	Rutgers
Odyssey Sims	Sophomore	Guard	Baylor
Shekinna Stricklen	Senior	Guard	Tennessee
Alyssa Thomas	Sophomore	Forward	Maryland
Tyra White	Senior	Guard	Texas A&M
Riquna Williams	Senior	Guard	Miami
Julie Wojta	Senior	Guard	Wisconsin–Green Bay

The Wade Trophy, named after the late, legendary three-time national champion Delta State University head coach Lily Margaret Wade, debuted in 1978 as the first-ever women's national player of the year award in college basketball. The Wade Trophy Coalition was established in June 2000 when the WBCA partnered with The National Association of Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS). For the past 10 years the two have worked together to present The State Farm Wade Trophy player of the year award. A committee composed of coaches, administrators and media from across the U.S. selects the winner.

About State Farm®:

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About the NAGWS:

The National Association for Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS) was established to develop and deliver equitable and quality sport opportunities for ALL girls and women through relevant research, advocacy, leadership development, educational strategies, and programming in a manner that promotes social justice and change. For additional information about the NAGWS, visit www.aahperd.org/nagws/

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.