



PRESS RELEASE

Connecticut, Notre Dame Both Place 3 Players On 2011–12 Preseason 'Wade Watch' List

ATLANTA (August 23, 2011) – Connecticut and Notre Dame both have three players on the 2011–12 preseason "Wade Watch" list for the State Farm® Wade Trophy the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced today.

Now in its 35th year, the State Farm Wade Trophy is named after the late, legendary three-time national champion Delta State University coach, Lily Margaret Wade. The prestigious award, regarded as "The Heisman of Women's Basketball," is presented annually to the NCAA® Division I Player of the Year by the National Association of Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS) and the WBCA.

The 25-member preseason list is composed of top NCAA Division I student-athletes from 17 institutions and seven conferences who best embody Wade's spirit. A committee of coaches, administrators and media from across the United States compiled the list using the following criteria: game and season statistics, leadership, character, effect on their team and overall playing ability.

Representing Connecticut on the 2011–12 "Wade Watch" list are Stefanie Dolson, Bria Hartley and Tiffany Hayes. Notre Dame is represented by Skylar Diggins, Natalie Novosel and Devereaux Peters.

Placing two players on the list are Baylor (Brittney Griner and Odyssey Sims), Miami (Shenise Johnson and Riquna Williams), Stanford (sisters Chiney Ogwumike and Nneka Ogwumike) and Tennessee (Glory Johnson and Shekinna Stricklen).

Hayes, Nneka Ogwumike and Stricklen appear on the "Wade Watch" list for the third straight year. Delaware's Elena Della Donne, DePaul's Keisha Hampton and Georgetown's Sugar Rodgers join Diggins, Griner, Shenise Johnson and Williams are on the list for the second straight year.

The BIG EAST Conference dominates the list with nine players, followed by the Big 12 Conference with four, the Atlantic Coast, Pac-12 and Southeastern conferences with three each, the Big Ten Conference with two, and the Colonial Athletic Association with one.

Here is the complete list of preseason candidates for the 2012 State Farm Wade Trophy in alphabetical order:

Player	Institution	Position	Year
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LaSondra Barrett	Louisiana State	Forward	Senior
Alex Bentley	Penn State	Guard	Junior
Cierra Bravard	Florida State	Forward	Senior
Carolyn Davis	Kansas	Forward	Junior
Elena Delle Donne	Delaware	Forward	Junior
Skylar Diggins	Notre Dame	Guard	Junior
Jasmine Dixon	UCLA	Forward	Senior
Stefanie Dolson	Connecticut	Center	Sophomore
Brittney Griner	Baylor	Post	Junior
Keisha Hampton	DePaul	Forward	Senior
Bria Hartley	Connecticut	Guard	Sophomore
Tiffany Hayes	Connecticut	Guard	Senior
Glory Johnson	Tennessee	Forward	Senior
Shenise Johnson	Miami	Guard	Senior
Natalie Novosel	Notre Dame	Guard	Senior
Chiney Ogwumike	Stanford	Forward	Sophomore
Nneka Ogwumike	Stanford	Forward	Senior
Devereaux Peters	Notre Dame	Forward	Senior
Jaime Printy	Iowa	Guard	Junior
Monique Reid	Louisville	Forward	Senior
Sugar Rodgers	Georgetown	Guard	Junior
Odyssey Sims	Baylor	Guard	Sophomore
Shekinna Stricklen	Tennessee	Guard	Senior
Tyra White	Texas A&M	Guard	Senior
Riquna Williams	Miami	Guard	Senior

The 2012 State Farm Wade Trophy winner will be announced during the WBCA National Convention, which will be held in conjunction with the 2012 NCAA® Women's Final Four® in Denver.

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.

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.