



PRESS RELEASE

2013 State Farm/WBCA NCAA Division III Player of the Year finalists named

ATLANTA (March 14, 2013) – The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced today the finalists for the 2013 State Farm®/WBCA NCAA Division III Player of the Year award.

They are:

- Samantha Barber, 5–9, Senior, Guard, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point
- Carissa Verkaik, 6–2, Senior, Center, Calvin College
- Kate Nielsen, 5–11, Senior, Forward, Simpson College

State Farm and the WBCA present the player of the year award annually to the top player in each of five WBCA membership divisions (NCAA Divisions II, III, NAIA, junior/community college and high school), while the State Farm Wade Trophy is presented annually to the NCAA Division I player of the year. The winner will be announced during the third annual WBCA Awards Show on Monday, April 8, in New Orleans. This event is part of the WBCA National Convention and is held in conjunction with the NCAA® Women's Final Four®.

"The WBCA is pleased to name Samantha, Carissa and Kate as the finalists for the State Farm/WBCA Division III Player of the Year award," said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. "These players have had an exceptional year and have been role models for the other members on their teams, as well as in their conferences. I wish these young women good luck at the WBCA Awards Show in New Orleans."

"State Farm is proud of the achievement of these amazing women," said Pam El, marketing vice president for State Farm. "We are happy to support this outstanding program that celebrates their hard work and dedication."

The State Farm/WBCA Player of the Year is selected by the nine–member WBCA Player of the Year Committee, which consists of one WBCA–member coach from each of the eight WBCA NCAA Division III Regions and the committee chair.

About State Farm®:

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along with coverage for renters, business owners, boats and motorcycles, is also available. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is the parent of the State Farm family of companies. State Farm is ranked No. 43 on the Fortune 500 list of largest companies. For more information, please visit <http://www.statefarm.com> or in Canada <http://www.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 more information on the WBCA, please visit wbca.org.