



PRESS RELEASE

Five players added to list of 'Wade Watch' hopefuls

ATLANTA (Feb. 24, 2015) – The Wade Trophy Committee has added five additional student-athletes to the 2014–15 “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 Ameryst Alston of Ohio State, Chastity Gooch of Western Kentucky, Niya Johnson of Baylor, Courtney Williams of South Florida and Amanda Zahui B. of Minnesota.

The Wade Trophy Coalition presents The 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 Wade Trophy recipient is chosen, consists of players selected on the basis of game and season statistics, leadership, character, overall playing ability and the positive impact on her respective team.

The Wade Watch list will be trimmed to 12 finalists in mid–March. The Wade Trophy Coalition will officially announce The Wade Trophy winner during the WBCA National Convention, held in conjunction with the NCAA® Women’s Final Four® in Tampa Bay.

Here is the complete 2014–15 Wade Watch list:

Player	Institution	Position	Year
Jillian Alleyne	Oregon	Forward	Junior
Ameryst Alston	Ohio State	Guard	Junior
Rachel Banham	Minnesota	Guard	Senior
Brittany Boyd	California	Guard	Senior
Crystal Bradford	Central Michigan	Guard	Senior
Nina Davis	Baylor	Forward	Sophomore
Nneka Enemkpali	Texas	Forward	Senior
Chastity Gooch	Western Kentucky	Forward	Senior
Bashaara Graves	Tennessee	Forward	Junior
Allisha Gray	North Carolina	Guard	Sophomore
Reshanda Gray	California	Forward	Senior
Dearica Hamby	Wake Forest	Forward	Senior
Sara Hammond	Louisville	Forward	Senior
Isabelle Harrison	Tennessee	Center	Senior
Bria Holmes	West Virginia	Guard	Junior
Brittany Hrynko	DePaul	Guard	Senior

Niya Johnson	Baylor	Guard	Junior
Samantha Logic	Iowa	Guard	Senior
Jewell Loyd	Notre Dame	Guard	Junior
Tiffany Mitchell	South Carolina	Guard	Junior
Kaleena Mosqueda- Lewis	Connecticut	Forward	Senior
Amber Orrange	Stanford	Guard	Senior
Kelsey Plum	Washington	Guard	Sophomore
Breanna Stewart	Connecticut	Forward	Junior
Rachel Theriot	Nebraska	Guard	Junior
Courtney Walker	Texas A&M	Guard	Junior
Aleighsa Welch	South Carolina	Forward	Senior
Courtney Williams	South Florida	Guard	Junior
Elizabeth Williams	Duke	Center	Senior
Amanda Zahui B.	Minnesota	Center	Sophomore

The Wade Trophy, named after the late, legendary head coach Lilly Margaret Wade, a three-time national champion at Delta State University, 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), an association of SHAPE America – the Society of Health and Physical Educators. For the past 12 years the two have worked together to present The Wade Trophy player of the year award. A committee composed of coaches, administrators and media from across the U.S. selects the winner.

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About SHAPE America:

SHAPE America – Society of Health and Physical Educators is committed to ensuring all children have the opportunity to lead healthy, physically active lives. As the nation's largest membership organization of health and physical education professionals, SHAPE America works with its 50 state affiliates and national partners to support the Presidential Youth Fitness Program, Let's Move! Active Schools and the Jump Rope For Heart/Hoops For Heart programs. Since its founding in 1885, the organization has defined excellence in physical education, and our resources provide the leadership, professional development and advocacy that support health and physical educators at every level — from pre-school to university graduate programs. For more information, visit www.shapeamerica.org.

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.

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