



PRESS RELEASE

## Duke University's Elizabeth Williams named WBCA Division I Defensive Player of the Year

TAMPA BAY, Florida (April 6, 2015) – Elizabeth Williams of Duke University is the 2015 WBCA Division I Defensive Player of the Year, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced during the Fifth Annual WBCA Awards Show on Monday night. The event is part of the WBCA National Convention held in conjunction with the NCAA® Women's Final Four®.

The Defensive Player of the Year award honors the best defensive collegiate Division I women's basketball player. All Division I conference defensive players of the year are eligible to be nominated for the award. A selection committee makes the final decision on the winner. If a conference does not select a defensive player of the year, the conference representative can nominate one player to be considered.

Rutgers Syessence Davis, Texas A&M's Jordan Jones, Western Kentucky's Kendall Noble, Seton Hall's Daisha Simmons and Connecticut's Kiah Stokes were also finalists for the award.

Williams leads the Atlantic Coast Conference in blocks (3.0 avg./g.), while she ranks 12th nationally in blocks, and was fourth in offensive rebounds (3.9 avg./g.). The first four-time All-American at Duke helped the Blue Devils lead the conference in rebounding offense (45.7 avg./g.), while Duke was second in rebounding margin (+12.2). The four-time Atlantic Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Year is ninth in the NCAA record book for career blocks with 426. Williams recorded 10 double-doubles on the season.

The Virginia Beach, Va. native joined former Blue Devil Alana Beard as the only four-time All-ACC First Team selections in conference history. She is the second Duke player to be named Defensive Player of the Year, as Lindsey Harding collected the honor in 2007.

Williams helped guide Duke to the Sweet 16 and a 23-11 season.

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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](http://wbca.org).

