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WBCA Recognizes Top Classroom Performance with 2010 Academic Top 25

ATLANTA - The Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced its winners for the 2009-10 Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll. This award, given in NCAA Division I, NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III, NAIA and Junior College/Community College, awards teams throughout the nation that carry the highest grade point averages (GPA) for the entire season based on the nomination submitted by WBCA-member head coaches.

"Congratulations to these teams who have excelled academically during the 2009-10 school year," WBCA CEO Beth Bass said. "Each of these coaches set an extraordinary example for their peers to follow by holding academics in such high esteem with their student-athletes."

Division	Institution	2009-10 Head Coach	Team GPA
NCAA I	Utah Valley University	Cathy Nixon	3.630
NCAA II	Michigan Technological University	John Barnes	3.732
NCAA III	Carnegie Mellon University	Geraldine Seidl	3.616
NAIA	Dana College	M. Shane Larson	3.727
JC/CC	Sheridan College	Frank McCarthy	3.575

Four of the five institutions are at the top spot for their division on the WBCA Academic Top 25 Honor Roll for the first time. Dana College claimed the top spot in NAIA for the second year in a row and fourth time overall for their division. In Division I, Utah Valley University is making its fourth Top 25, while Michigan Tech University (Division II) has appeared six times prior. Carnegie Mellon University (Division III) and Sheridan College (JC/CC) are both appearing in the Top 25 for the first time.

GPA's are calculated by dividing the total number of quality points earned by each student-athlete on an institution's roster in the given academic terms by the total number of hours earned by the team. The GPA's are rounded to the nearest thousandth of a point. Per a motion passed by the WBCA Board of Directors in 2007, teams making the list of Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll must obtain at least a 3.000 overall GPA.

NCAA Division I

Utah Valley University is appearing on the WBCA Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll for the fourth time. 2009-10 marks the first year that the Wolverines secured the top spot amongst NCAA Division I institutions. Aside from its classroom successes, Utah Valley University finished the season with a record of 10-22 and were the Great West Tournament champions.

The WBCA Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll for NCAA Division I is as follows:

Rank	School	2009-10 Head Coach	Team GPA
1	Utah Valley University	Cathy Nixon	3.630
2	South Dakota State University	Aaron Johnston	3.622

3	Univ. of Maryland, Baltimore County	Phil Stern	3.578
4	Indiana State University	Teri Moren	3.508
5	Creighton University	Jim Flanery	3.506
6	Bowling Green State University	Curt Miller	3.500
7	University of Northern Iowa	Tanya Warren	3.464
8	DePaul University	Douglas Bruno	3.455
9	Lipscomb University	Frank Bennett	3.452
10	University of North Dakota	Gene Roebuck	3.442
11	University of New Mexico	Don Flanagan	3.433
12	North Dakota State University	Carolyn DeHoff	3.427
13	Northern Arizona University	Laurie Kelly	3.425
14	Bucknell University	Kathy Fedorjaka	3.422
15	Monmouth University	Stephanie Gaitley	3.412
16	University of South Dakota	Ryun Williams	3.368
17	Saint Bonaventure University	Jim Crowley	3.354
18	University of Northern Colorado	Jaime White	3.351
19	University of Denver	Erik Johnson	3.342
20	Seattle University	Joan Bonvicini	3.341
21	University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	Sandy Botham	3.340
22	Eastern Washington University	Wendy Schuller	3.328
23	University of Hartford	Jennifer Rizzotti	3.321
24	Oakland University	Beckie Francis	3.318
25	Cornell University	Dayna Smith	3.308

NCAA Division II

Michigan Tech caps off an already impressive 2009-10 season with its seventh WBCA Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll appearance and first at the top of the ranks. Head coach John Barnes' team also claims the top overall team GPA amongst all divisions. The Huskies enjoyed a record-breaking season that included an NCAA Midwest Regional Championship, GLIAC North Division Regular Season and Tournament Championships, a school-record 31 wins and a school-record 18 home wins.

The WBCA Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll for NCAA Division II is as follows:

	School	2009-10 Head Coach	Team GPA
1	Michigan Technological University	John Barnes	3.732
2	Chadron State College	Tim Connealy	3.641
3	Rockhurst University	Larry Park	3.635
4	Saint Martin's University	Timothy Healy	3.591
5	Ashland University	Sue Ramsey	3.551
6	Holy Family University	Mark Miller	3.548
7	Regis University	Linda Raunig	3.534
8	Saint Thomas Aquinas	Kim Lusk	3.524
9	Missouri Western State	Lynn Plett	3.521
10	Maryville University-St Louis	Chris Ellis	3.517
11	University of Findlay	Kate Cummings	3.506
12	Gannon University	Cleve Wright	3.491
13	Adelphi University	Heather Jacobs	3.474
T14	Seton Hill University	Ferne Labati	3.473
T14	Fort Hays State University	Tony Hobson	3.473
16	Northwood University	Jeff Curtis	3.466
17	Saint Michael's College	Jennifer Niebling	3.464
18	Wayne State College	Chris Kielsmeier	3.454
19	Montana State University - Billings	Kevin Woodin	3.451

20	Winona State University	Scott Ballard	3.446
21	West Chester University of Pennsylvania	Deirdre Kane	3.443
22	University of South Carolina - Aiken	Michael Brandt	3.442
23	Fort Lewis College	Mark Kellogg	3.428
24	West Liberty University	Lynn Ullom	3.408
25	University of Nebraska - Omaha	Patricia Shearer	3.403

NCAA Division III

Carnegie Mellon University is making its debut in the WBCA Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll in fashion by claiming the No. 1 position. The Tartans ended their season with a 9-16 overall mark.

The WBCA Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll for NCAA Division III is as follows:

	School	2009-10 Head Coach	Team GPA
1	Carnegie Mellon University	Geraldine Seidl	3.616
2	Centenary College	Lorie Khalil	3.613
T3	University of Redlands	Rich Murphy	3.566
T3	Emerson College	Bill Gould	3.566
5	William Smith College	Lindsay Drury	3.547
6	University of The South	Dickie McCarthy	3.537
7	Simpson College	Brian Niemuth	3.535
8	Luther College	Jane Hildebrand	3.520
9	Finlandia University	Curtis Wittenberg	3.508
10	University of Wisconsin - La Crosse	Lois Heeren	3.495
11	Gustavus Adolphus College	Mickey Haller	3.494
12	Emory University	Christy Thomaskutty	3.481
13	McDaniel College	Becky Martin	3.478
14	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Sonia Raman	3.463
15	Concordia University (WI)	Stacey Brunner	3.461
16	Northland College	Bill Wilson	3.455
17	Elms College	Laura Habacker	3.443
18	Hope College	Brian Morehouse	3.437
19	Immaculata University	Patricia Canterino	3.435
20	Washington & Lee University	Mandy King	3.434
21	Yeshiva University	Karen Green	3.410
22	Case Western Reserve University	Jennifer Reimer	3.405
23	Chapman University	Carol Jue	3.403
24	Westminster College	Tracey Braden	3.394
25	Elmhurst College	Tethnie Werner	3.392

NAIA

Making an impressive second straight appearance in the top spot, and fourth time overall, Dana College leads the NAIA division.

The WBCA Academic Top 25 Team Honor Roll for NAIA is as follows:

	School	2009-10 Head Coach	Team GPA
1	Dana College	M. Shane Larson	3.727
2	Valley City State University	Jill DeVries	3.688
3	Blue Mountain College	Lavon Driskell	3.620
4	Davenport University	Mark Youngs	3.593
5	Ohio Dominican University	Nathan Bellman	3.575
6	Concordia University (NE)	Drew Olson	3.532
7	Northwestern College	Earl Woudstra	3.506

8	Carroll College	Shawn Nelson	3.461
9	Shorter College	Vic Mitchell	3.450
T10	Mount Vernon Nazarene University	Steve Gregory	3.443
T10	Bethel College (KS)	Mark Fox	3.443
12	Eastern Oregon University	Anji Weissenfluh	3.432
13	University of Saint Francis	Ryan Haun	3.420
14	Corban College	Terry Williams	3.415
15	South Dakota Tech	Barbara Felderman	3.407
16	Ottawa University	Bruce Tate	3.402
17	Saint Xavier University	Robert Hallberg	3.397
18	Midland Lutheran College	Joanne Bracker	3.391
19	Lee University	Marty Rowe	3.369
20	Mount Marty College	Tom Schlimgen	3.365
21	Grand View University	Garey Smith	3.360
22	Freed-Hardeman University	Dale Neal	3.320
23	Lewis-Clark State College	Brian Orr	3.283
24	Cornerstone University	Carla Fles	3.274
25	Siena Heights University	Susan Syljebeck	3.268

JC/CC

As with Carnegie Mellon, Sheridan is making its first appearance in the WBCA Academic Top 25 Honor Roll and rises to the top of the list in the JC/CC division. This past season, the Lady Generals went 20-11 and won the National Junior College North Sub-Region.

The WBCA Academic Top 16* Team Honor Roll for JC/CC is as follows:

	School	2009-10 Head Coach	Team GPA
1	Sheridan College	Frank McCarthy	3.575
2	Eastern Arizona College	Dan Dersam	3.558
3	Phoenix College	Samantha Ezell	3.500
4	Minnesota West Comm. & Tech College	Michael Fury	3.345
5	Panola Junior College	Tracy Stellato	3.321
6	John Wood Community College	Norman Rodriguez	3.228
7	Ventura College	Ned Mircetic	3.196
8	Northwest College	Janis Beal	3.174
9	Columbia Basin Community College	Cheryl Holden	3.115
10	Western Texas College	Tammy Davis	3.109
11	Lincoln College	Carol Wilson	3.106
12	Seward County Community College	Toby Wynn	3.096
13	Hill College	Aaron Kallhoff	3.091
14	Johnson County Community College	Benjamin Conrad	3.090
15	Fort Scott Community College	Diana Couch	3.055
16	Lon Morris College	Rosalyn Floyd Tindel	3.016

**Due to the limited number of nominations for junior college and community college, and the GPA requirements, the WBCA has ranked the Top 16 schools.*

About the WBCA

Founded in 1981, the WBCA 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.

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