



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The CIAA Announces 20 Finalists for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award – CIAA Division**  
*Winners to be Announced during the CIAA Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament in February*

**HAMPTON, VA (December 10, 2009)** – The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) announces the finalists for the second annual CIAA Division of the highly recognized Lowe's Senior CLASS Award program. An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School™*, the award program focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages those leaders to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact on their circle of influence.

“The CIAA is excited to have such an outstanding program in place to recognize our student-athletes,” said Leon Kerry, CIAA Commissioner. “It’s important to highlight their contributions in the community and the leadership skills they display in the classroom and on the court.”

This will mark the second year that the award has recognized outstanding senior basketball student-athletes within the CIAA.

The 2009-10 women's finalists are: **Bianca Lee** (Bowie State University), **Tameka Christopher** (Chowan University), **Ashley Anderson** (Elizabeth City State University), **Tressa Aughtburns** (Fayetteville State University), **Demetria Bell** (Johnson C. Smith University), **Elizer Iceson** (Saint Augustine's College), **Shayln Graves** (Saint Paul's College), **Tanisha McGaughey** (Shaw University), **Angela Brown** (Virginia State University) and **Tonaye Smith** (Virginia Union University).

The 2009-10 men's finalists are: **Delmar Carey** (Bowie State University), **Lando Morrison** (Chowan University), **Wallace Sam** (Elizabeth City State University), **Davon Hood** (Fayetteville State University), **Brian Mobley** (Johnson C. Smith University), **Aaron Caruthers** (Livingstone College), **Brandon Hickson** (Saint Augustine's College), **Adrian Bascom** (Shaw University), **Trey Mines** (Virginia State University) and **Brandon Byerson** (Virginia Union University).

“At Lowe's, we enjoy our affiliation with the CIAA and it's fantastic post-season basketball tournament,” said Tom Lamb, Lowe's senior vice president of marketing. “This is a tremendous opportunity to recognize the outstanding student-athletes at the CIAA's member schools.”

Of the 20 candidates, the male and female winner will be determined through a voting process that runs concurrent with the basketball season and is divided into three categories: 1) on-line fan voting, 2) coaches, and 3) media. Each category accounts for one-third of the total vote.

Lowe's, a sponsor of the CIAA Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament, will recognize the men's and women's basketball winners on *Lowe's Day at the CIAA* on Thursday, February 25, 2010, between the 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. games.

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**ABOUT THE AWARD:**

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*<sup>™</sup>, the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award honors the attributes of senior student-athletes in four areas: classroom, community, character and competition. The award program is designed exclusively for college seniors who are utilizing their complete athletic eligibility, remaining committed to their university and pursuing the many rewards that a senior season can bring. For more information, visit [www.seniorCLASSaward.com](http://www.seniorCLASSaward.com).

**ABOUT LOWE'S**

With fiscal year 2008 sales of \$48.2 billion, Lowe's Companies, Inc. is a FORTUNE® 50 company that serves approximately 14 million customers a week at more than 1,675 home improvement stores in the United States and Canada. Founded in 1946 and based in Mooresville, N.C., Lowe's is the second-largest home improvement retailer in the world. For more information, visit [Lowe.com](http://Lowe.com).

**ABOUT THE CIAA**

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) was founded in 1912 and is based in Hampton, Virginia. The CIAA is America's oldest historically black college and university conference and is made up of 11 HBCUs situated along the Eastern Seaboard. For conference news and updates, visit [www.theciaa.com](http://www.theciaa.com), and for information about the CIAA Basketball Tournament, visit [www.ciaatournament.org](http://www.ciaatournament.org).

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