



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nebraska's Kelsey Griffin Selected by Nationwide Vote of Media, Fans and Coaches as Lowe's Senior CLASS Award Winner in Women's Basketball

April 3, 2010 (San Antonio) – University of Nebraska forward Kelsey Griffin has been selected as the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award winner for women's basketball.

The award, chosen by a nationwide vote of Division I women's coaches, national basketball media and fans, is awarded annually to the most outstanding senior student-athlete in NCAA[®] Division I women's basketball. The announcement and trophy presentation were made today by Lowe's, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA, during the 2010 NCAA[®] Women's Final Four[®] in San Antonio.

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*[™], the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities. The award identifies personal qualities that define a complete student-athlete, with criteria including **community** service, excellence in the **classroom**, outstanding **character** and **competition** on the court.

"It is an honor to be named the winner of the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award. I know some people might see this as an individual award, but I think this award represents all the great people who have had major influences on my life, especially my family, friends, teachers, coaches and teammates growing up, and especially Coach Yori and my teammates here at Nebraska," Griffin said. "I feel blessed that I have been able to take the lessons I have learned on and off the court and apply them to my life, while maybe also having an impact on the lives of others. I'd like to thank Lowe's for sponsoring this prestigious award, and I'd like to thank all of the fans around the country who showed their support by voting for me."

Griffin has overcome injuries and an illness in her family during her career at Nebraska, but she never let those challenges stop her from contributing to the athletics department and the Lincoln community. She represented the women's basketball team on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and was named to the Big 12 Good Works team. She has been part of Nebraska's School is Cool Jam, which reaches out to thousands of middle school students in the community and she volunteers on a regular basis at a local elementary school.

"Kelsey is the best player I have ever coached, but even more importantly, she is a great person," head coach Connie Yori said. "Kelsey understands that there is more to life than basketball. She is an outstanding student and she has spent countless hours giving back to the community. She has also set the tone as the leader of our team this year. Kelsey is truly deserving of this prestigious award."

Griffin's team finished the season with a 32-2 record and advanced to the regional semifinals of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship. Griffin averaged 20 points and 10 rebounds and led the Huskers to the Big 12 Conference regular-season championship, going undefeated in the process. She was the conference player of the year and is a first-team all-American.

"Kelsey has fought through obstacles her entire college career and has always managed to come back stronger as a person and a player. Her determination on the court matches her commitment to her adopted community of Lincoln," said Tom Lamb, Lowe's senior vice president of marketing. "She has taken advantage of her

opportunities as an athlete to make a difference to people in the community, and we congratulate her on a successful senior year.”

2010 Lowe’s Senior CLASS Award Senior All-America First Team

Name	Position	School
Jayne Appel	Center	Stanford University
Alysha Clark	Forward	Middle Tennessee State University
Kelsey Griffin	Forward	University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Ashley Houts	Guard	University of Georgia
Ashley Sweat	Forward	Kansas State University

Senior All-America Second Team

Name	Position	School
Amy Beggin	Guard	University of New Mexico
Joy Cheek	Forward/Guard	Duke University
Tyra Grant	Guard	Pennsylvania State University
Allison Hightower	Guard	Louisiana State University
Bianca Thomas	Guard	University of Mississippi

ABOUT THE AWARD

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*[™], 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. Sportscaster **Dick Enberg**, Honorary Chairman of the Lowe’s Senior CLASS Award, first conceived the idea of an award for seniors in 2001 in response to the growing trend of men’s basketball players leaving school early for the NBA. The award program has expanded the past two years to include a total of nine NCAA[®] Division I sports – football, men’s and women’s soccer, men’s ice hockey, men’s lacrosse, baseball and softball in addition to men’s and women’s basketball. The award is sponsored by Lowe’s, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA[®], and managed by Premier Sports Management. For more information, visit www.seniorCLASSaward.com.

ABOUT LOWE’S

With fiscal year 2009 sales of \$47.2 billion, Lowe’s Companies, Inc. is a FORTUNE[®] 50 company that serves approximately 15 million customers a week at more than 1,700 home improvement stores in the United States, Canada and Mexico. 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.

ABOUT THE NCAA

The NCAA is a membership-led nonprofit association of colleges and universities committed to supporting academic and athletics opportunities for more than 400,000 student-athletes at more than 1,000 member colleges and universities. Each year, more than 54,000 student-athletes compete in NCAA championships in Divisions I, II and III sports. Visit www.NCAA.org and www.NCAA.com for more details about the Association, its goals and members and corporate partnerships that help support programs for student-athletes.