

BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

ANNOUNCES BOB COUSY AWARD

FINAL SIX

Winner Announced April 1, Presentation at Final Four

SPRINGFIELD, MASS. - MARCH 5, 2010 – The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame today announced the final six candidates in consideration for the **2010 Bob Cousy Award** presented by *The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.* This annual award is given to college basketball's top point guard and is named after Hall of Famer and former Boston Celtics guard Bob Cousy. An original list of 73 candidates made up of players from Division I, II and III schools was trimmed by a Hall of Fame appointed, nationally based committee to 20, down to 11 and now six candidates remain in consideration for one of college basketball's most prestigious awards.

"These final six players have truly separated themselves from the rest of the pack in college basketball," said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Basketball Hall of Fame. "Our committee has worked hard to narrow the field down and we look forward to recognizing a winner that represents Bob Cousy's passion and skill for the game."

"We are so proud at The Hartford to play a part in this important program and offer congratulations to the six finalists," said Kevin Connor, executive vice president and director of Hartford Life Distributors. "To make it to the final six in what is already a highly qualified slate of candidates is an extraordinary achievement."

Each of the final six candidates will be reviewed by the Hall of Fame's Blue Ribbon Selection Committee, chaired by former NABC President and Hall of Fame Trustee Ken Kaufman. The Blue Ribbon Selection Committee is made up of top college basketball personnel including media members, head coaches, Sports Information Directors and Hall of Famers. The winner of the 2010 Bob Cousy Award presented by *The Hartford* will be announced on April 1 with the award presentation coming at the Final Four on Monday April 5 as part of the Bob Cousy Award Breakfast and Basketball Hall of Fame Class Announcement.

2010 Bob Cousy Award Final Six

Sherron Collins - Kansas

Scottie Reynolds - Villanova

Jon Scheyer - Duke

Evan Turner – Ohio State

Greivis Vasquez - Maryland

John Wall - Kentucky

About The Hartford:

Celebrating nearly 200 years, The Hartford (NYSE: HIG) is an insurance-based financial services company that serves households, businesses and employees by helping to protect their assets and income from risks, and by managing wealth and retirement needs. A Fortune 500 company, The Hartford is recognized widely for its service expertise and as one of the world's most ethical companies. More information on the company and its financial performance is available at www.thehartford.com.

About the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame:

Located in Springfield, Massachusetts, the birthplace of basketball, the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame promotes and preserves the game of basketball at every level – professional, collegiate, men and women. For more information on these and other upcoming events, please visit our website at www.hoophall.com or call 1-877-4-HOOPLA

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