P.O. Box 16679
Cleveland, OH 44116
Phone (440) 871-8100
Fax (440) 871-4221
ncac@northcoast.org
www.northcoast.org

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE ★ DENISON UNIVERSITY ★ EARLHAM COLLEGE ★ HIRAM COLLEGE ★ KENYON COLLEGE ★ OBERLIN COLLEGE ★ OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY ★ WABASH COLLEGE ★ WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY ★ COLLEGE OF WOOSTER

# 2010 NCAC SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIP NOTES

**Dates:** Thursday, Feb. 11 - Saturday, Feb. 13

**Location:** The meet will be held at an off-campus site for the 11th straight year.
The championships, hosted by Allegheny College, return to **C.T. Branin Natatorium**, 1715 Harrison Ave. NW, Canton, OH 4470

**Tickets:**

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| Three-day pass (adults): $45 | Three-day pass (children, students with college ID): $20 |
| Two-day pass (adults): $30 | Two-day pass (children, students with college ID): $15 |
| One-day pass (adults): $15 | One-day pass (children, students with college ID): $8 |
| One session pass - finals (adults): $10 | One-session pass - finals (children, students with college ID): $5 |
| One session pass - prelims (adults): $5 | One session pass - prelims (children, students with college ID): $3 |

**Video:** The NCAC Championships will once again be streamed online, through Teamline. Links are available on the NCAC Championship site (http://www.northcoast.org/mw/swimchampionships.html) An all-session meet pass is $30, while a single-day pass is $10.

For additional information
NCAC Office - 440-871-8100
Branin Natatorium - 330-438-2738
Allegheny Sports Information - 814-332-5952
www.northcoast.org

The North Coast Athletic Conference has sponsored a Swimming and Diving Championship each year since 1985. Kenyon has captured 23 men's and 23 women's events, yet Denison is the defending champion as the Big Red took both the men's and women's 2009 titles. Denison also claimed the 1997 men's title and the 2004 women's title. The NCAC features some of most talented swimmers and divers in the country today. Led by Kenyon and Denison, NCAC swimmers have assaulted college swimming's record books.

❇ Last winter, 25 conference records were set at the NCAC championship meet. Denison came away with a whopping 21 of those new marks. The Big Red men set the standard in 10 events with then senior **John Geissinger** knocking down seven. The Denison women established 11 conference-best times; current senior **Olivia Zaleski (Corry, PA/Corry Area)** was involved in seven new records. Ohio Wesleyan's **David Gatz (Delaware, OH/Hayes)** set a new mark in the 200 breaststroke (2:01.23); other marks set: Kenyon's men in the 200 medley relay (1:31.61), Kenyon's **Kellyn Caldwell (Gambier, OH/Mt. Vernon)** in the women's 400 IM (4:27.73) and Kenyon's **Alisa Verashchagin (Solon, OH/Solon)** in the 200 breaststroke (2:19.46).

❇ The Kenyon men have had 12 swimmers combine to win 14 North Coast Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Year awards (list). **Carlos Vega** and **Josh Mitchell** of Kenyon and **Aaron Cole** of Denison are the only two-time winners of the men's award. There have been six repeat NCAC Divers of the Year. Dension has claimed that honor four of the past five years.

❇ Six swimmers have been repeat winners of the North Coast Athletic Conference Woman's Swimmer of the Year award (list). Denison senior **Olivia Zaleski** has won the honor the past two seasons and should she repeat, would become the first three-time winner. Six divers have been repeat winners of the NCAC Women's Diver of the Year award. An Allegheny diver has been honored eight times, including the league's only four-time winner, **Kelly Anderson** (2001-2004).

❇ NCAC swimmers represent 40 states and 12 countries. The countries represented are Brazil, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Jamaica, Lebanon, Mexico, New Zealand, Pakistan, Singapore and the United States.

❇ The NCAC 's domination of Division III swimming continued last year as the Kenyon Lords claimed their 30th consecutive national championship. No other men's or women's teams in NCAA history -- any sport, any division -- have won as many consecutive titles.

❇ The Ladies are also a national power, every bit as dominating a force as the Lords. Although they have not been winning quite as long--the women won "only" 23 Division III titles, the first from 1984 through 2000, 2002-2004 and 2007-2009 -- they have often won by even more commanding margins.

❇ Kenyon swimming was featured on National Public Radio (NPR) program *Only A Game* on Dec. 12, 2009. Head coach **Jim Steen** and Denison head coach **Gregg Parini** were among those interviewed in the seven-minute piece (link)

❇ Ohio Wesleyan senior **David Gatz** was a semifinalist to become a 2009 Rhodes Scholar. (story) Last summer, Gatz and teammate **Usman Javaid (Lahore, Pakistan/Aitchison)** had planned to relay-swim the English Channel to raise money for the Pakistani relief efforts of Doctors Without Borders, an international medical humanitarian organization. Ultimately, the venture did not happen due to difficulties obtaining visas. (link)

❇ Wooster has a set of triplets as a key part of their lineup. Sophomores **Rebecca, Melissa and Priscilla Haug (Lexington, KY)** are all pre-med students who have posted two school records and four top 10 finishes at last winter's North Coast Athletic Conference Championships (video).

❇ Wittenberg's swim teams participated in an Hour of Power cancer research fundraiser on Nov. 9, 2009. The event was organized by Tiger seniors **Neil Anderson (Lakewood, OH/Lakewood)** and **Amy Prugh (Indianapolis, IN/North Central)**. (story)

❇ C.T. Branin Natatorium, named for McKinley High School's longtime successful swim coach, was built and donated to the Canton Board of Education and City Recreation Department by the Timken Foundation of Canton. The building was dedicated June 2, 1974.