



DENNIS M. COLLINS
Executive Director

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

NCAC Football Special
**WITTENBERG PRESEASON FAVORITE AS NORTH
COAST PREPS FOR 19TH FOOTBALL CAMPAIGN**

For Immediate Release
August 8, 2002

DELAWARE, Ohio -- Defending champion Wittenberg University emerged as the preseason favorite in balloting by coaches and media at the North Coast Athletic Conference's 19th annual Football Media Luncheon, held today at Oakhaven Golf Club in Delaware, OH.

Wittenberg, which rolled to a 9-1 regular season and earned its fourth consecutive trip to the NCAA playoffs last season, earned eight of ten first-place votes from the coaches and 18 of 23 from the media to edge Wabash and Ohio Wesleyan in both polls. Allegheny and Wooster were picked fourth and fifth, respectively, by both groups.

Wittenberg is 63-7 (.900) during the six-year tenure of head coach **Joe Fincham**. The Tigers return 39 letterwinners and will field a roster without a single player who has ever lost a conference game, including 17 starters from last year's squad.

-NCAC--

2002 NCAC Football Polls

North Coast Athletic Conference 2002 preseason football polls (first-place votes in parentheses, followed by total points):

COACHES	MEDIA
1. Wittenberg (8) 97	1. Wittenberg (18) 226
2. Wabash (2) 91	2. Wabash (4) 205
3. Ohio Wesleyan 76	3. Ohio Wesleyan (1) 180
4. Allegheny 73	4. Allegheny 163
5. Wooster 59	5. Wooster 139
6. Earlham 43	6. Earlham 120
7. Oberlin 33	7. Oberlin 82
8. Denison 31	8. Denison 66
9. Hiram 30	9. Kenyon 42
10. Kenyon 17	Hiram 42