



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 Men's Soccer Special

**OHIO WESLEYAN UNANIMOUS PICK AS PRESEASON FAVORITE
IN 19TH NORTH COAST MEN'S SOCCER SEASON**

**For Immediate Release
August 22, 2002**

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Defending champion Ohio Wesleyan University emerged as the unanimous preseason favorite in balloting by North Coast Athletic Conference men's soccer coaches conducted via email.

The Bishops, who rolled to an 8-1 conference record, earned their fourth consecutive NCAC championship and won their second straight league tournament last fall, earned all 10 first-place votes from league coaches for a perfect 100 points. Denison, second-place finishers last season, was unanimously chosen to repeat its runner-up performance. Allegheny and Wittenberg were tabbed third and fourth, respectively. Kenyon and Wooster, tied for fifth, round out the top five.

Ohio Wesleyan is 429-87-32 (.812) during the 25-year tenure of head coach **Jay Martin**. The Bishops return 20 letterwinners and six starters from last year's squad which reached the NCAA Division III National Semifinals, before falling to eventual champion Richard Stockton, 0-0 (3-1 in penalty kicks).

Founded in 1983, the North Coast Athletic Conference consists of 10 academically selective colleges and universities - Allegheny College, Denison University, Earlham College, Hiram College, Kenyon College, Oberlin College, Ohio Wesleyan University, Wabash College, Wittenberg University and the College of Wooster. The NCAC sponsors 22 championship sports, 11 for men and 11 for women.

-NCAC-

2002 NCAC Preseason Men's Soccer Poll

First-place votes in parentheses, followed by total points:

- 1. Ohio Wesleyan (10) 100
- 2. Denison 90
- 3. Allegheny 78
- 4. Wittenberg 67
- 5. Kenyon 52
- Wooster 52
- 7. Earlham 42
- 8. Wabash 36
- 9. Hiram 18
- 10. Oberlin 15