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

NCAC Field Hockey Special

**WOOSTER PICKED AS PRESEASON FAVORITE AS
20TH NORTH COAST FIELD HOCKEY START NEARS**

For Immediate Release

August 18, 2003

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- 2002 North Coast Athletic Conference runner-up Wooster has emerged as the favorite in preseason balloting by NCAC field hockey coaches.

The Fighting Scots paced all teams in the poll with six of seven first-place votes for 48 points to edge defending champion Wittenberg. The Tigers picked up the final first-place vote to total 41 points, finishing just four points above Denison (37). Oberlin (27) was predicted to finish fourth, followed by Earlham (19) in fifth. Kenyon (16) and Ohio Wesleyan (8) round out the seven-team standing.

Wooster is 137-84-4 (.617) during 12 years of tutelage under head coach **Brenda Meese**. The Scots return 13 letterwinners and nine starters from last year's squad, including six of last fall's seven Wooster all-conference honorees. Wooster won the NCAC championship outright in 2001 and shared titles with Denison in 1984 and '86. Wooster opens the 2003 schedule on August 30 with non-conference action at Virginia Wesleyan. The Tigers' first NCAC matchup comes Sept. 9 at Kenyon.

The North Coast Athletic Conference is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Founded in 1983, the NCAC 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.

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2003 NCAC Preseason Field Hockey Poll

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

1. Wooster (6) 48
2. Wittenberg (1) 41
3. Denison 37
4. Oberlin 27
5. Earlham 19
6. Kenyon 16
7. Ohio Wesleyan 8