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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 Women's Soccer Special**

**For Immediate Release**

**OHIO WESLEYAN PRESEASON FAVORITE AS NORTH  
COAST PREPS FOR 20TH WOMEN'S SOCCER CAMPAIGN**

**August 20, 2003**

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

The Bishops, who capped their 2002 campaign with their second straight perfect run through the NCAA Division III Women's Soccer Championships, and won their fourth straight conference championship, earned all nine first-place votes from league coaches to compile 81 points. The Bishops topped Denison (67), Wooster (63), Allegheny (59) and Kenyon (41), which were tabbed second through fifth, respectively.

Ohio Wesleyan is 110-17-1 (.863) during the six-year tenure of head coach **Bob Barnes**. The Bishops expect to return 19 letterwinners and five starters from last year's national championship squad. Last fall, Ohio Wesleyan ran up a perfect 8-0 record in conference play and were perfect overall as well, finishing 24-0.

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.

**-NCAC-**

**2003 NCAC Preseason Women's Soccer Poll**

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

- 1. Ohio Wesleyan (9) ..... 81
- 2. Denison ..... 67
- 3. Wooster ..... 63
- 4. Allegheny ..... 59
- 5. Kenyon ..... 41
- 6. Wittenberg ..... 39
- 7. Oberlin ..... 24
- 8. Earlham ..... 20
- 9. Hiram ..... 11