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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 Cross Country Special

**ALLEGHENY TOPS MEN'S AND WOMEN'S PRESEASON PICKS
AS NORTH COAST READIES FOR RUNNING OF 20TH SEASON**

**For Immediate Release
August 21, 2003**

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Allegheny swept the top spots in the annual preseason balloting by North Coast Athletic Conference men's and women's cross country coaches, conducted via email.

The Gator women, last fall's NCAC Champions, earned eight first-place votes for 80 points from the coaches to edge Denison, which claimed the last first-place nod and 71 points. Kenyon (63) and Oberlin (56) were picked third and fourth, respectively. In total, the Allegheny women have claimed 10 NCAC crowns: 1985, '86, 1988-'94 and 2002. Wooster has won four and Denison has earned three.

The Gator men, the defending NCAC Champions, earned nine of 10 first-place votes and 99 points from the coaches to top Kenyon (80) and Denison (79). The Big Red claimed the remaining first-place vote. Wabash (70) and Wooster (69) were picked fourth and fifth, respectively. Allegheny earned its third NCAC crown last fall. Denison tops current NCAC teams^ with four men's championships. Kenyon has claimed three men's titles.

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2003 NCAC Cross Country Polls

North Coast Athletic Conference 2003 preseason cross country polls (first-place votes in parentheses, followed by total points):

| WOMEN | MEN |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Allegheny (8) 80 | 1. Allegheny (9) 99 |
| 2. Denison (1) 71 | 2. Kenyon 80 |
| 3. Kenyon 63 | 3. Denison (1) 79 |
| 4. Oberlin 56 | 4. Wabash 70 |
| 5. Wooster 44 | 5. Wooster 69 |
| 6. Earlham 34 | 6. Oberlin 48 |
| 7. Ohio Wesleyan 28 | 7. Earlham 36 |
| 8. Wittenberg 18 | 8. Ohio Wesleyan 26 |
| 9. Hiram 11 | 9. Hiram 24 |
| | 10. Wittenberg 19 |

^ Former NCAC member Case Western Reserve University holds five men's titles.