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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 Men's Lacrosse Special

For Immediate Release

**OHIO WESLEYAN TABBED PRESEASON FAVORITE IN 21ST
NORTH COAST MEN'S LACROSSE SEASON**

March 10, 2005

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Defending North Coast Athletic Conference tri-champion Ohio Wesleyan emerged as the preseason favorite in balloting by NCAC men's lacrosse coaches in their annual preseason poll.

The Battling Bishops, who posted a 4-1 league mark and a 8-6 overall record last spring, earned four of six available first-place votes from league coaches to total 34 points. Denison, another defending tri-champ, finished second with 28 points and one first-place vote. Wooster (27), the final tri-champion, was picked third and claimed the remaining first-place vote, while Wittenberg (18), Kenyon (12) and Oberlin (7) fill places four through six, respectively.

Ohio Wesleyan is 50-22 (.694) with four NCAC titles during the five-year tenure of head coach **Sean Ryan**. Leading the Bishop attack once again is senior **John Schlegel (Chevy Chase, MD/Gonzaga)**, who amassed 29 goals and 19 assists last spring. The 2004 NCAC Player of the Year and an honorable mention All-America, Schlegel is a three-time All-NCAC selection, earning first-team honors for the first time last year. Senior **Paul McCommons (Smyrna, DE/Dover)** returns in goal after receiving All-NCAC honors the past two seasons.

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.

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2005 NCAC Preseason Men's Lacrosse Poll

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

- 1. Ohio Wesleyan (4) 34
- 2. Denison (1) 28
- 3. Wooster (1) 27
- 4. Wittenberg 18
- 5. Kenyon 12
- 6. Oberlin 7