



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 Baseball Special

**For Immediate Release
March 8, 2006**

**WOOSTER TABBED PRESEASON FAVORITE
IN 22ND NORTH COAST BASEBALL SEASON**

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Defending champion Wooster has emerged as the preseason favorite in balloting by North Coast Athletic Conference baseball coaches in their annual preseason poll.

The Fighting Scots, who rolled to a 15-1 conference record and earned their 10th NCAC championship last spring, earned all 10 first-place votes from league coaches for a perfect 100 points. Denison, the NCAC tournament runner-up the past three seasons, totalled 86 points to finish second in the balloting. Ohio Wesleyan was picked third (77), while Wittenberg (62) was tabbed fourth and Kenyon (56) and Allegheny (56) tied for fifth. Wabash (45), Hiram (33), Oberlin (18) and Earlham (17) follow in positions seven through 10.

Wooster is 762-294-6 (.720) during the 24-year tenure of head coach **Tim Pettorini**, the 2002 and 2004 NCAC Coach of the Year. The Scots, who are the top-ranked team in the Collegiate Baseball preseason Div. III poll, return two ABCA All-Americans, and last year's North Coast Newcomer and Pitcher of the Year. In addition to All-America honors, sophomore outfielder **Pat Christensen (Cincinnati, OH/Sycamore)** earned first-team All-NCAC honors and was selected Newcomer of the Year as a freshman in 2005. Senior pitcher **Jon Oliver (West Chester, OH/Lakota West)**, the Scots' other returning All-America, was also a first-team All-NCAC choice and was voted NCAC Pitcher of the Year last spring.

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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2006 NCAC Preseason Baseball Poll

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

- 1. Wooster (10).....100
- 2. Denison86
- 3. Ohio Wesleyan77
- 4. Wittenberg62
- 5. Allegheny56
- Kenyon56
- 7. Wabash45
- 8. Hiram.....33
- 9. Oberlin.....18
- 10. Earlham.....17