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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 Basketball Special**  
**WOOSTER TO HOST NCAC MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT;**  
**TOP THREE SEEDS, EARLHAM ADVANCE TO SEMIFINALS**

**For Immediate Release**  
**February 22, 2006**

**CLEVELAND** -- North Coast Athletic Conference men's basketball champion Wooster (24-2) will host the semifinals and finals of this year's NCAC Tournament on Friday and Saturday. The top-seeded Fighting Scots will entertain fifth-seeded Earlham (13-13) on Friday at 7:45 p.m. Immediately preceding that game, second-seeded Wittenberg (23-3) will square off against third-seeded Ohio Wesleyan (18-8) at 5:30 p.m. Saturday's championship match will begin at 7:00 p.m. Video broadcasts of all three games of the NCAC men's basketball tournament will be provided, free of charge, via Teamline. Links to the broadcasts will be available from the North Coast website at [www.northcoast.org](http://www.northcoast.org) as well as from each participating school's websites.

The top three seeds advanced through the quarterfinals on Feb. 21. Wooster defeated eighth-seeded Kenyon (7-19), 96-44. The Fighting Scots had five Wooster players reach double figures, paced by **Brandon Johnson (Columbus, OH/Groveport Madison)** with 17 points coming on 6-of-7 (.857) field goals and 4-of-4 free throws. Fellow guards **James Cooper (Springfield, OH/Springfield South)** and **Andy Van Horn (Loudonville, OH/Loudonville)** scored 14 and 13 points, respectively, while combining for 5-of-8 (.625) three-pointers. The 44 points from Kenyon was the lowest total allowed by Wooster this season.

Wittenberg defeated seventh-seeded Denison (10-16), 83-61. The matchup featured 12 lead changes in the first 14 minutes of the game, before the Tigers pulled away for the victory. Denison out-rebounded Wittenberg in the game, collecting 27 boards to the Tigers' 26, and the Big Red became just the third team all season to reach the 60-point plateau against the Tigers, one of the top defensive teams in all of NCAA Division III. The Tigers were led by the senior post tandem of **Daniel Russ (Louisville, KY/Trinity)** and **Dane Borchers (Russia, OH/Russia)**. Russ scored a game-high 27 points to go along with five rebounds, two steals and two blocked shots. Borchers hit 7-of-8 (.875) shots from the field and finished with 16 points.

Ohio Wesleyan defeated sixth-seeded Allegheny (11-14), 106-67. Battling Bishops' senior wing **Andy Warnock (Delaware, OH/Hayes)** scored 13 points, sophomore post **Dustin Rudegear (Yellow Springs, OH/Yellow Springs)** had 12 points and junior post **Ben Chojnacki (Medina, OH/Medina)** added 10 points during the first half as Ohio Wesleyan raced to a 65-34 halftime lead and never looked back in the victory. Warnock finished with 18 points to lead the Bishops, while Rudegear had 16 points and Chojnacki finished with 12 points and a team-high six rebounds. Ohio Wesleyan hit 17 three-pointers, breaking the Branch Rickey Arena record of 16 set against Hiram earlier this season.

Earlham upset fourth-seeded Wabash (16-10), 78-69. The Quakers advance to the tournament semifinals for the second straight season, and for just the fourth time overall since joining the conference play in the 1989-90 season. The victory also marks the second time since Earlham joined the NCAC that the Quakers have won an opening-round game on the road in the conference tournament. Last year, the Quakers won 92-72 at Denison. Wabash led the entire first half until Earlham sophomore **Neil Collins (Ft. Wayne, IN/North)** hit a pair of free throws at the 1:11 mark for the final points of the period knotting the contest at 24-24 at the half. In the second half, the Quakers were able to put together a 10-point lead twice before the Little Giants rallied to tie the contest at 55-55 with 7:24 minutes left. Earlham would then take a seven-point lead and hold on for the win. Junior **Markous Jewett (Richmond, IN/Richmond)** led the Quakers with 23 points, while grabbing five rebounds and handing out four assists. Senior **Brandon Miller (Richmond, IN/Richmond)** tossed in 12 points, adding 11 rebounds, three assists, three steals and three blocks. Miller, who is seventh on Earlham's all-time scoring list, now has 1,449 points.

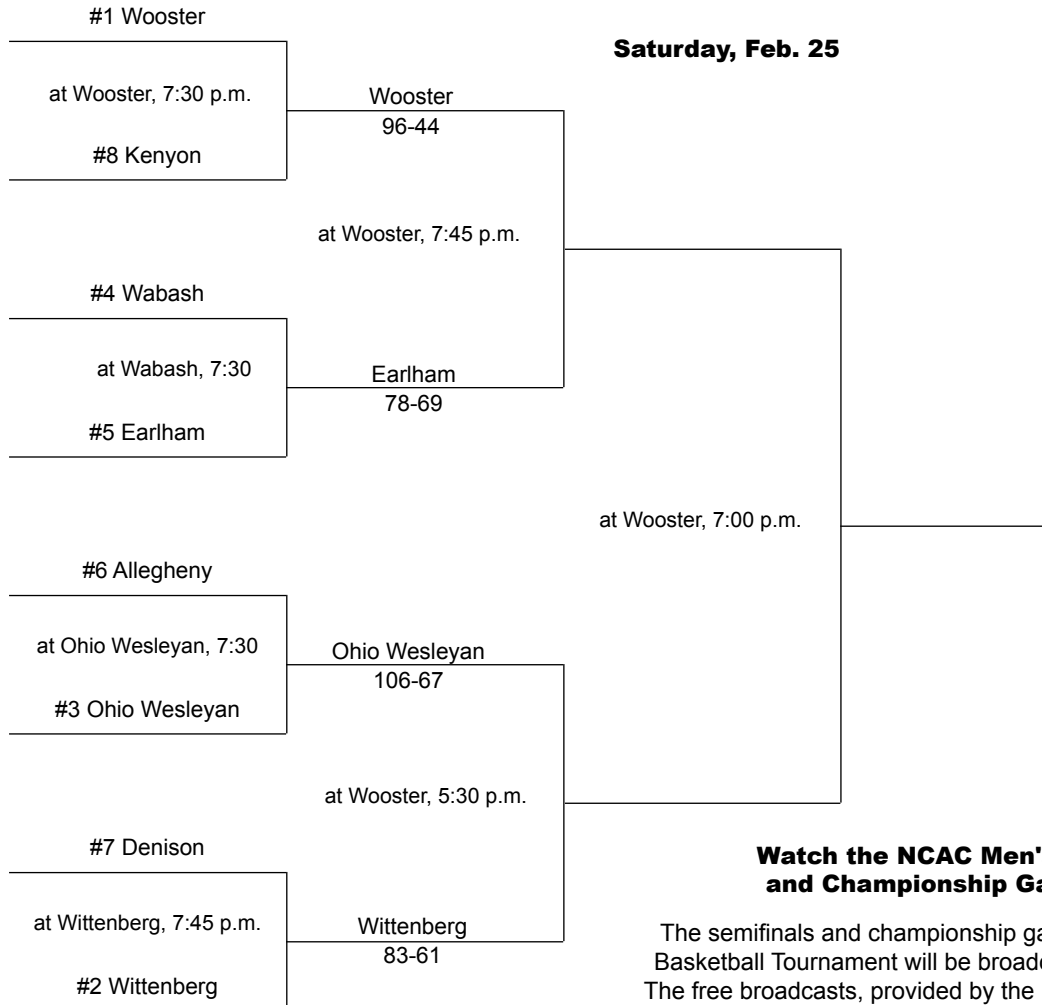
**Tourney Talk:** Wooster, which last won the tournament in 2004, leads the way with nine men's tournament titles. Only four of those wins (1995, '99, '00, and '03) came as a #1 seed. The Fighting Scots entered the 2005 tourney as the top seed, and fell in the final round to Wittenberg, 61-59. Wittenberg has five titles. The Fighting Scots and Tigers have combined to win every tournament since the 1999 event. Allegheny and Ohio Wesleyan (3 each) and Kenyon (1) round out the list of past men's tournament champions ... Wooster has appeared in the finals 14 times, while Wittenberg has made 11 championship game appearances, followed by Allegheny (8), Ohio Wesleyan (5), Kenyon (3) and Wabash (1) ... Wabash, this year's fourth seed, did not advance to the semifinals for the first time since joining the NCAC ... Earlham, this year's fifth seed, has advanced beyond the quarterfinals four times (2000, 2001, 2005, 2006) ... Wooster leads all teams with an overall .769 winning percentage in NCAC Tournament games (40-12). Wittenberg follows at .750 (33-11). Allegheny has a 22-18 tourney record (.550), Ohio Wesleyan is 18-19 (.486) and Wabash is 6-7 (.462). Earlham is 4-14 (.222) ... How semifinal teams fared against each other this season: Wooster took both games from Earlham, winning 83-81 in overtime in Richmond and winning 99-63 at home. Wittenberg took both games from Ohio Wesleyan, winning 77-60 at home and 66-54 on the road.

# NCAC Men's Basketball Tournament

**Tuesday, Feb. 21**

**Friday, Feb. 24**

**Saturday, Feb. 25**



**Watch the NCAC Men's Semifinals and Championship Game Online!**

The semifinals and championship game of the NCAC Men's Basketball Tournament will be broadcast online via Teamline. The free broadcasts, provided by the NCAC and the College of Wooster, will be available from [www.northcoast.org](http://www.northcoast.org), as well as from the sites of the four teams.

## 2005-06 NCAC MEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

STANDINGS	W-L	Pct	W-L	Pct
1. Wooster.....	15-1	.938	24-2	.923
2. Wittenberg.....	13-3	.813	23-3	.885
3. Ohio Wesleyan.....	12-4	.750	18-8	.692
4. Wabash.....	10-6	.625	16-10	.615
5. Earlham.....	9-7	.563	13-13	.500
6. Allegheny.....	7-9	.438	11-14	.440
7. Denison.....	6-10	.375	10-16	.385
8. Kenyon.....	4-12	.250	7-19	.269
9. Oberlin.....	2-14	.125	2-22	.083
Hiram.....	2-14	.125	4-21	.160

Ties are not broken for standings purposes.



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**NCAC Women's Basketball Special**  
**WITTENBERG TO HOST NCAC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT;**  
**TOP FOUR SEEDS ADVANCE TO SEMIFINALS**

**For Immediate Release**  
**February 22, 2006**

**CLEVELAND** -- North Coast Athletic Conference women's basketball champion Wittenberg (19-7) will host the semifinals and finals of this year's NCAC Tournament on Friday and Saturday. The top-seeded Tigers will entertain fourth-seeded Kenyon (20-6) on Friday at 7:45 p.m. Immediately preceding that game, second-seeded Allegheny (18-8) will square off against third-seeded Denison (20-6) at 5:30 p.m. Saturday's championship match will begin at 3:00 p.m. Audio broadcasts of all three games of the NCAC women's basketball tournament will be provided, free of charge, via the internet. Links to the broadcasts will be available from the NCAC website at [www.northcoast.org](http://www.northcoast.org) as well as from each participating school's websites.

The top four seeds advanced through the quarterfinals on Feb. 21. Wittenberg defeated eighth-seeded Hiram (8-17), 81-36. The Tigers jumped out to an early 9-2 lead, which they never relinquished. The balanced Wittenberg attack, which got points from 15 players, was led by sophomore post **Katie Gregorevich (Northfield, OH/Walsh Jesuit)** who scored 17 points and added seven rebounds. The Tigers advance to the semifinals for the 17th straight year.

Allegheny defeated seventh-seeded Earlham (5-21), 89-72. The Quakers took an early 7-6 lead, but Allegheny went on to an 11-2 run to take the lead. The Gators never looked back as **Katie Kestler (Pittsburgh, PA/Mt. Lebanon)** led five Gators in double figures with 16 points, while **Valery Medwid (Pittsburgh, PA/Montour)**, **Caitlin Murtagh (Bethel Park, PA/Seton-La Salle)** and **Jennifer Latronica (Gibsonia, PA/Deer Lakes)** each scored 15 points in the win. Latronica also had a career-high 15 rebounds. The win snapped a two-game NCAC Tourney losing skid for Allegheny.

Denison defeated sixth-seeded Wooster (7-19), 64-51. Denison jumped out to a 36-20 halftime lead and opened the second half on a 10-2 run. **Kristen Sheffield (Dublin, OH/Scioto)** dropped in a game-high 23 points and had 11 rebounds. Over the last three games, Sheffield is averaging 19.7 ppg and 8.0 rpg. The junior needs just 46 points to become the eighth player in school history to score 1,000 points in her career. The Big Red, the defending NCAC Tournament champions, are advancing to the semifinals for the fourth consecutive season.

Kenyon defeated fifth-seeded Ohio Wesleyan (14-12), 66-58. The Battling Bishops were the story of the first half, torching the nets to the tune of 61.9 percent (13-of-21), and an amazing 66.7 percent (8-of-12) from beyond the three-point arc. The Bishops held a 40-33 at the break. The second half belonged to the Kenyon defense - a strong point for the Ladies the past two seasons. Kenyon held Ohio Wesleyan to just 25 percent shooting (6-of-24) from the field, and only 15.4 percent (2-of-13) from beyond the arc. Offensively, the Ladies connected on 9-of-19 action shots, two from behind the arc, and connected on 13-of-17 (76.5 percent) at the free throw line. Kenyon featured a balanced scoring attack, placing four players in double figures led by sophomore **Eva George (Lincoln, MA/Lincoln Sudbury)** with 16 points. She also added seven rebounds. Senior **Katy Zeanah (New Orleans, LA/Metairie Park)** wasn't far behind scoring 15 points and also grabbing seven caroms.

**Tourney Talk:** Allegheny (5) and Wittenberg (7) have combined to win 12 of 21 women's tournament titles. Ohio Wesleyan has four tourney titles, including three in the past seven years. Denison and Kenyon have each earned two crowns, while Wooster has one ... This is the second straight season that the defending tournament champion entered the event as the third seed. Wittenberg, the 2004 champion, entered the 2005 field seeded third ... Hiram, this year's eighth seed, made its second tournament appearance since joining the NCAC for the 1999-2000 season. The Terriers made their first appearance last winter ... Ohio Wesleyan and Wittenberg have each made 12 trips to the finals. Allegheny has been to the finals six times, winning a championship in all but one try. Kenyon and Wooster have each made four championship game appearances, followed by Denison (3) and Earlham (1) ... Wittenberg leads the way with a .795 overall winning percentage in NCAC Tournament games (35-9). Ohio Wesleyan has gone 35-18 in the tourney (.660), followed by Allegheny at 21-16 (.568). Kenyon (19-19, .500), Denison (14-18, .438) and Wooster (13-21, .382) are the next closest teams ... How semifinal teams fared against each other this season: Wittenberg and Kenyon split their regular season series. Each team won at home, The Tigers 54-46 in Springfield, and the Ladies 72-58 in Gambier. Allegheny swept both games against Denison, winning 61-51 at home and 61-57 on the road.

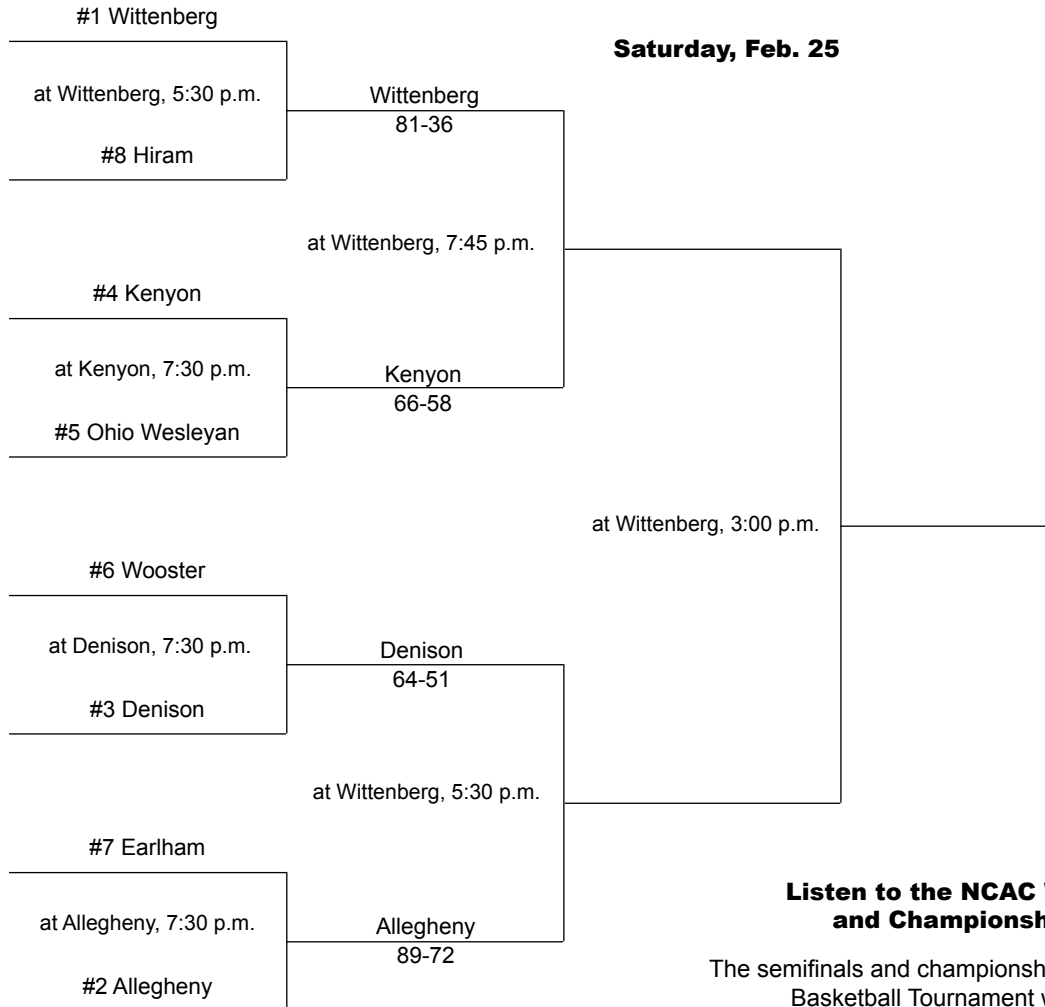
**-NCAC-**

# NCAC Women's Basketball Tournament

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## 2005-06 NCAC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

STANDINGS	W-L	Pct	W-L	Pct
1. Wittenberg.....	14-2	.875	19-7	.731
2. Allegheny.....	13-3	.813	18-8	.692
3. Denison.....	11-5	.688	20-6	.769
Kenyon.....	11-5	.688	20-6	.769
5. Ohio Wesleyan.....	10-6	.625	14-12	.538
6. Wooster.....	4-12	.250	7-19	.269
Earlham.....	4-12	.250	5-21	.192
8. Hiram.....	3-13	.188	8-17	.320
9. Oberlin.....	2-14	.125	4-20	.167

*Denison wins the third seed in a tiebreaker over Kenyon. Wooster wins the sixth seed in a tiebreaker over Earlham. Ties are not broken for standings purposes.*