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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 Baseball Special

For Immediate Release
March 6, 2007

**WOOSTER TABBED PRESEASON FAVORITE
IN 23RD NORTH COAST BASEBALL SEASON**

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Defending champion Wooster has once again 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 third straight and league-leading 11th overall NCAC championship last spring, earned all 10 first-place votes from league coaches for a perfect 100 points. Ohio Wesleyan, the NCAC tournament runner-up in 2006, totalled 82 points to finish second in the balloting. Denison was picked third (80), while Wittenberg (71) was tabbed fourth followed by Kenyon (62) in fifth. Allegheny (47), Wabash (41), Hiram (34), Oberlin (19) and Earlham (14) round out the poll in positions six through 10.

Wooster is 800-303-6 (.724) during the 25-year tenure of head coach **Tim Pettorini**, last spring's co-NCAC Coach of the Year. The Scots, ranked 13th in the Collegiate Baseball preseason Div. III poll, return 20 letterwinners, including seniors **Brandon Boesiger (Cuyahoga Falls, OH/Cuyahoga Falls)** and **Shaun Swearingen (Hilliard, OH/Bishop Watterson)**. Boesiger shattered the Wooster record for on-base percentage (.596), batting .427 with a team-leading 17 doubles in addition to a conference-record 30 hit by pitches. Swearingen, who will start in centerfield for the third consecutive season, hit a Wooster-best .435 with 16 doubles and 46 RBI and also led the team in stolen bases (20). The pitching staff will be led by junior left-hander **Adam Samson (Orrville, OH/Orrville)**, who went 8-3 with a 3.07 ERA (2.25 against Div. III opponents) and struck out 62 during a team-high 70.2 innings.

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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2007 NCAC Preseason Baseball Poll

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

- 1. Wooster (10).....100
- 2. Ohio Wesleyan82
- 3. Denison80
- 4. Wittenberg.....71
- 5. Kenyon62
- 6. Allegheny47
- 7. Wabash41
- 8. Hiram.....34
- 9. Oberlin.....19
- 10. Earlham.....14