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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 Women's Soccer Special

**For Immediate Release
August 23, 2007**

**WITTENBERG PREDICTED TO FINISH FIRST AS NCAC
PREPARES FOR 24TH WOMEN'S SOCCER SEASON**

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Wittenberg University was tabbed the preseason favorite in balloting by North Coast Athletic Conference women's soccer coaches conducted via email.

The Tigers, who won their first NCAC tournament title last fall, earned four of nine first-place votes from league coaches to compile 75 points, edging second-place Denison (73) by two points. The Big Red, who advanced to the round of 16 in the NCAA tournament in each of the past two seasons, claimed three of the first-place votes cast. Kenyon (64), the defending NCAC champion, claimed the remaining two first-place votes to finish third in the poll. Ohio Wesleyan (50) and Wooster (50) tied for fourth, while Allegheny (36), Earlham (28), Hiram (16) and Oberlin (13) rounded out places six through nine.

Wittenberg is 54-34-10 (.602) during the five-year tenure of head coach **Norm Riker**. The Tigers return 27 letterwinners and 10 starters from last year's 15-3-4 squad that won its first NCAC tournament title and earned its first-ever NCAA tournament bid. Wittenberg will be led by a pair of two-time All-NCAC performers, junior midfielder **Suzanne Medwid (Columbus, OH/Upper Arlington)**, and senior goalkeeper **Meghan O'Rourke (Columbus, OH/Worthington Kilbourne)**, as well as senior midfielder **Amanda Farrell (Loveland, OH/Loveland)**, who made her All-NCAC debut last fall as amember of the first team.

Founded in 1983, the NCAC 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 Women's Soccer Poll

North Coast Athletic Conference 2007 preseason women's soccer poll
(first-place votes in parentheses, followed by total points):

- 1. Wittenberg (4)75
- 2. Denison (3).....73
- 3. Kenyon (2).....64
- 4. Ohio Wesleyan.....50
- Wooster.....50
- 6. Allegheny36
- 7. Earlham.....28
- 8. Hiram.....16
- 9. Oberlin.....13