



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 Softball Special

**For Immediate Release
May 10, 2006**

**ALL-NCAC SOFTBALL SQUAD ANNOUNCED;
DOWNS SELECTED TOP PLAYER; COCCARO EARNS TOP PITCHER HONOR**

CLEVELAND -- Ohio Wesleyan senior **Sarah Downs (Canton, CT/Avon)** has been named Player of the Year and Allegheny senior **Giannina Coccaro (Miami, FL/Palmetto)** takes Pitcher of the Year honors to highlight the 2006 All-North Coast Athletic Conference softball selections.

Downs is a two-time All-NCAC honoree, and is making her first-team debut after earning a second-team nod last spring. Downs led NCAC infielders in batting (.457) and home runs (3) in leading her squad to a 23-19 record and a tie for third in the North Coast. Coccaro threw five complete games in seven starts in conference play, and posted an earned-run average of 1.24 with 63 strikeouts in 45.1 innings. The Gators finished 19-21 and tied for third in the NCAC.

Wittenberg junior **Stephanie Zorn (Grapevine, TX/Colleyville)** and Denison sophomore **Claire Kopko (Washington, PA/Trinity)** are repeat first-team selections. Wooster junior **Maria Gonzalez (Millersburg, OH/West Holmes)**, Kenyon senior **Jenny Glaeser (Houston, TX/Katy Taylor)** and Coccaro all move up to the first team after earning second-team recognition in 2005. Denison junior **Andrea Carella (North York, ONT/Michael Power)** and Kenyon sophomore **Stephanie Hemmingson (Beaverton, OR/Woodrow Wilson)** both earned honorable mention honors last season and jump to the first team for this year.

Denison sophomore **Erin Porter (Middlefield, OH/Cardinal)** and Allegheny freshman **Rachel Ryan (West Salem, OH/Northwestern)**, both of whom make their all-conference debuts on the first team are co-Newcomers of the Year. Porter, a catcher, was perfect in the field with 78 putouts and 10 assists in 14 NCAC games, and hit .395 with seven runs batted in. Ryan, a shortstop, hit .419 with eight RBI, and posted a .902 fielding percentage in 14 conference contests.

Rounding out the first team are two players who make their first appearance on the All-NCAC squad: Kenyon junior **Annie Brobst (Columbus, OH/Columbus Alternative)** and Allegheny freshman **Brittany Rehtin (Spring City, PA/St. Pius X)**.

Denison's **Holly Bruder** earns Coach of the Year recognition for the first time after she led the Big Red to a school-record tying 32 wins against 11 losses, and their fourth NCAC regular season crown. Bruder is 114-88 (.564) in five seasons with the Big Red.

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2006 ALL-NCAC -- SOFTBALL

CLEVELAND -- The following performers have earned All-NCAC honors for the 2006 season through balloting by the North Coast Athletic Conference softball coaches.

FIRST TEAM

Pos	Name	School	Yr.	HR	RBI	AVE	Hometown/High School
C	Erin Porter	Denison	So.	0	7	.395	Middlefield, OH/Cardinal
IF	Annie Brobst	Kenyon	Jr.	2	6	.442	Columbus, OH/Columbus Alternative
IF	Sarah Downs &	O. Wesleyan	Sr.	3	17	.457	Canton, CT/Avon
IF	Rachel Ryan	Allegheny	Fr.	0	8	.419	West Salem, OH/Northwestern
IF	Stephanie Zorn +	Wittenberg	Jr.	0	14	.419	Grapevine, TX/Colleyville
OF	Jenny Glaeser #&	Kenyon	Sr.	0	5	.391	Houston, TX/Katy Taylor
OF	Maria Gonzalez &	Wooster	Jr.	2	12	.351	Millersburg, OH/West Holmes
OF	Claire Kopko +	Denison	So.	0	20	.432	Washington, PA/Trinity
UT	Brittany Rehtin	Allegheny	Fr.	0	7	.175	Spring City, PA/St. Pius X
DP	Andrea Carella ~	Denison	Jr.	0	9	.476	North York, ONT/Michael Power
				W	L	ERA	
P	Giannina Coccaro*%&	Allegheny	Sr.	4	3	1.24	Miami, FL/Palmetto
P	Stephanie Hemmingson~	Kenyon	So.	7	3	1.42	Beaverton, OR/Woodrow Wilson

Player of the Year: Sarah Downs, Ohio Wesleyan

Pitcher of the Year: Giannina Coccaro, Allegheny

Co-Newcomers of the Year: Erin Porter, Denison and Rachel Ryan, Allegheny

Coach of the Year: Holly Bruder, Denison

SECOND TEAM

Pos	Name	School	Yr.	HR	RBI	AVE	Hometown/High School
C	Crystal Ptacek	Allegheny	So.	0	10	.463	Allison Park, PA/North Allegheny
IF	Sarah Fetters &	Wittenberg	So.	0	6	.391	Maumee, OH/Maumee
IF	Linsey Longstreth *\$+	O. Wesleyan	Sr.	0	4	.356	Akron, OH/Archbishop Hoban
IF	Amy Mazur *+\$	O. Wesleyan	Sr.	2	13	.327	Elyria, OH/Elyria
IF	Emily Sack @~	Denison	Jr.	0	6	.372	Toledo, OH/Sylvania Southview
OF	Britt Born	O. Wesleyan	Sr.	0	7	.367	Caledonia, OH/Marion Harding
OF	Nicole Ottavi	Wittenberg	So.	0	6	.350	Columbus, OH/Whetstone
OF	Kim Skully	Wooster	Fr.	1	3	.343	Brooklyn Hts., OH/Cuyahoga Hts.
UT	Heidi Gipson	Hiram	So.	1	7	.442	Canal Fulton, OH/Northwest
DP	Angie Triplett	Wooster	Sr.	0	1	.292	Sunbury, OH/Big Walnut
				W	L	ERA	
P	Rachael Hatcher	Wittenberg	Fr.	6	3	1.11	West Carrollton, OH/West Carrollton
P	Bri Scrofano &	Denison	So.	4	1	0.95	Erie, PA/McDowell

Note: Based upon NCAC stats

Key: + 1st team 2005; & 2nd team 2005; ~ honorable mention 2005; * 1st team 2004; # 2nd team 2004; @ Honorable mention 2004; \$ 1st team 2003; % 2nd team 2003

HONORABLE MENTION

Pos	Name	School	Yr.	HR	RBI	AVE	Hometown/High School
C	Miranda Simmons	O. Wesleyan	So.	0	4	.351	Norwalk, OH/Norwalk
IF	Abby Bodenlos &	Allegheny	So.	1	8	.261	Pittsburgh, PA/Shady Side Academy
IF	Katie Dover-Taylor	Oberlin	Sr.	0	2	.273	Detroit, MI/Renaissance
IF	Lucy Huelsman	Wittenberg	Jr.	0	3	.375	Wellington, OH/Wellington
IF	Alie Plotsky	Oberlin	Jr.	0	1	.306	Washington, DC/Maret School
IF	Kelly Robinson @%	Wooster	Sr.	1	10	.341	North Olmsted, OH/North Olmsted
IF	Chastine Romanello	Hiram	Fr.	0	8	.333	Phoenix, AZ/Barry Goldwater
IF	Lauren Schreur	Wooster	Jr.	0	7	.316	Grand Rapids, MI/E. Grand Rapids
OF	Sarah Piranian	Allegheny	Fr.	1	5	.250	Mars, PA/North Allegheny
				W	L	ERA	
P	Claire Martin #+	O. Wesleyan	Jr.	6	3	2.48	Jefferson, OH/Jefferson
P	Rachel Thomas ~	Denison	Jr.	4	2	2.14	Gahanna, OH/Lincoln

Note: Based upon NCAC stats

Key: + 1st team 2005; & 2nd team 2005; ~ honorable mention 2005; * 1st team 2004; # 2nd team 2004; @ Honorable mention 2004;
 \$ 1st team 2003; % 2nd team 2003