



NORTH COAST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE * CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY * DENISON UNIVERSITY * EARLHAM COLLEGE
KENYON COLLEGE * OBERLIN COLLEGE * OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY * WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY * COLLEGE OF WOOSTER

NCAC Basketball Special

NORTH COAST ANNOUNCES POST-SEASON AWARDS;
WITTENBERG'S CROCI, DENISON'S CLAY TOP PLAYERS

For Immediate Release
March 3, 1994

CLEVELAND -- Wittenberg University senior **Matt Croci** (Toledo, OH/St. John's) and Denison University senior **Christi Clay** (Coal Grove, OH/Dawson-Bryant) have been named North Coast Athletic Conference men's and women's basketball Players of the Year through balloting by the NCAC basketball coaches. Wittenberg's **Bill Brown** and Kenyon College's **Ann Osborne** have earned Coach of the Year honors.

Croci, a 6-2 guard, averages a team-high 18.7 points to go with 3.9 rebounds, 3.2 assists and 1.8 steals per game for Wittenberg. The 26-1 Tigers claimed their fifth consecutive NCAC championship during the regular season and have received their 16th NCAA Tournament bid in 20 years. Croci is fourth in the conference in scoring, second in three-point field goals (78) and sixth in three-point accuracy (41.5). He has had eight 20-point games this season, highlighted by a 29-point performance against Ohio Wesleyan on Jan. 26. Croci, a two-time, first-team All-NCAC performer, stands 21st on the North Coast's career scoring list with 1190 points.

Clay, a 5-7 guard, had team-high averages of 21.3 points, 6.6 rebounds and 3.0 steals per game as Denison posted an 18-9 record and claimed its first NCAC Tournament title. She was named Most Outstanding Performer at the conference tournament after scoring 84 points over three games, including a school-record 41 as the second-seeded Big Red upset top-seeded Wittenberg in the championship. The tournament title gave Denison its first NCAA Tournament bid. Clay leads the NCAC in scoring and ranks among the top five in seven of nine statistical categories, including thirds in assists (4.2) and three-point field goals (39). She is the North Coast's career leader with 345 steals and stands third on the all-time scoring list with 1645 points.

Brown is the men's Coach of the Year in his first season at Wittenberg. The Tigers are 26-1 and claimed their fifth straight (third outright) NCAC championship during the regular season. They also earned an NCAA Division III Tournament berth for the 16th time in the 20-year history of the event. Brown's career record is 86-100 and includes one year at Wooster (1981-82) and five at Kenyon (1983-88). He also was the NCAC's Coach of the Year while at Kenyon in the 1985-86 season.

Osborne is the women's Coach of the Year after orchestrating one of the most dramatic turn-arounds in North Coast history. Kenyon compiled a 10-14 record this year after winning only six games over the last three seasons combined. The Ladies' sixth-place NCAC finish was its best since the conference expanded to nine teams in 1989-90. Osborne, an Ohio Wesleyan graduate and a member of the NCAC 10th Anniversary basketball squad, is 13-33 in two years at Kenyon.

-NCAC-

1994 ALL-NCAC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

CLEVELAND -- The following performers have earned All-North Coast Athletic Conference honors for the 1993-94 season through balloting by the NCAC women's basketball coaches.

FIRST TEAM	School	Yr.	Pos.	Ht.	PPG	RPG	APG	Hometown/High School
Jody Chattin	CWRU	So.	F	5-7	16.1	8.9	1.6	Hinckley, OH/Highland
Christi Clay#	Denison	Sr.	G	5-7	20.9	6.9	4.3	Coal Grove, OH/Dawson-Bryant
Shannon Ferguson*†	Earlham	Sr.	G	5-6	19.5	4.9	1.7	Coatesville, IN/Cascade
Beth Green*%	Wittenberg	Sr.	F	5-10	17.3	8.0	2.4	Wooster, OH/Wooster
Kim Huber#	Allegheny	Jr.	F	5-8	20.5	8.0	2.2	Canfield, OH/Canfield
SECOND TEAM								
Bettina Adams	Earlham	So.	F	5-6	10.8	8.1	1.1	Richmond, IN/Richmond
Kim Graf	Kenyon	Fr.	G	5-7	17.3	4.9	2.1	Poland, OH/Poland Seminary
Allison McCombe	Denison	So.	G	5-5	18.5	4.8	1.9	Columbus, OH/Upper Arlington
Erin McQuillan	Allegheny	Jr.	F	5-8	15.3	6.8	2.8	Pittsburgh, PA/Allderdice
Jennifer Parsons	Wittenberg	Sr.	C	6-0	7.6	7.3	1.1	Pemberville, OH/Eastwood
HONORABLE MENTION								
Christy Antle	Wooster	Jr.	P	5-10	12.2	8.1	0.3	Thornville, OH/Sheridan
Sarah Bennett	Denison	Jr.	F	5-9	4.0	4.7	1.0	Providence, RI/Lincoln
Bridget Colleran	Denison	So.	G	5-4	6.5	3.3	5.8	Chicago, IL/Regina Dominican
Emily Donovan	Kenyon	Fr.	F	5-10	10.0	9.8	1.5	Cincinnati, OH/St. Ursula
Kierstan Grunow	O. Wesleyan	Sr.	P	6-0	8.3	4.6	0.5	Kent, WA/Kentwood
Teri Hamlin	O. Wesleyan	Jr.	P	5-9	12.7	6.7	1.3	Plain City, OH/Alder
Jodi Helm	Allegheny	Sr.	G	5-5	8.1	2.2	2.4	Medina, OH/Medina
Shannon Kelly	Earlham	Sr.	G	5-7	4.8	4.0	5.8	English, IN/Crawford County
Teresa Page	Earlham	Sr.	G	5-6	9.9	2.7	2.1	Clarksville, IN/Clarksville
Meg Sheehan	O. Wesleyan	Jr.	W	5-7	4.0	2.5	1.1	Westlake, OH/Laurel
Dee Wells	Oberlin	Jr.	F	5-10	6.7	9.4	0.5	Bay Springs, MS/Math Science
Jill Wilson	O. Wesleyan	So.	G	5-3	7.8	2.5	3.7	Rushsylvania, OH/Logan

Key: *1st team 1993; #2nd team 1993; %1st team 1992; †2nd team 1992