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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
**WOOSTER TABBED PRESEASON FAVORITE
IN 19TH NORTH COAST BASEBALL SEASON**

For Immediate Release
March 12, 2003

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Defending champion Wooster 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 11-1 conference record and earned their eighth NCAC championship last spring, earned six first-place votes from league coaches for 95.5 points. Ohio Wesleyan, last year's league runner-up, picked up four first-place votes and for 94 points from the coaches. Allegheny, who finished tied with Wittenberg for third in last spring's standings, was picked third (76.5), while Wittenberg (70) and Denison (58) were tabbed fourth and fifth, respectively. Wabash (53), Hiram (37), Kenyon (32), Oberlin (18) and Earlham (16) follow in positions six through 10.

Wooster is 655-262-6(.713) during the 21-year tenure of head coach **Tim Pettorini**, the 2002 NCAC Coach of the Year. The Scots return 15 letterwinners and seven starters (five position players/two pitchers) from last year's squad, including 2002 North Coast Newcomer of the Year, sophomore third baseman **Jake Frank (Wooster, OH/Northwestern)** and two-time All-NCAC first-teamer **Brian Stevens (Canton, OH/Jackson)**.

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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2003 NCAC Preseason Baseball Poll

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

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| 1. Wooster (6) | 95.5 |
| 2. Ohio Wesleyan (4) | 94 |
| 3. Allegheny | 76.5 |
| 4. Wittenberg | 70 |
| 5. Denison | 58 |
| 6. Wabash | 53 |
| 7. Hiram | 37 |
| 8. Kenyon | 32 |
| 9. Oberlin | 18 |
| 10. Earlham | 16 |