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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 8, 2005

**WOOSTER TABBED PRESEASON FAVORITE
IN 21ST NORTH COAST BASEBALL SEASON**

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Defending champion Wooster has emerged as the preseason favorite in balloting by North Coast Athletic Conference baseball coaches in their annual preseason poll.

The Scots, who rolled to a 13-3 conference record and earned their ninth NCAC championship last spring, earned nine of 10 first-place votes from league coaches for 99 points. Denison, the NCAC tournament runner-up the past two seasons, picked up the remaining first-place vote and totalled 85 points to finish second in the balloting. Allegheny was picked third (74), while Ohio Wesleyan (69) and Wittenberg (60) were tabbed fourth and fifth, respectively. Wabash (54), Hiram (45), Kenyon (26), Earlham (22) and Oberlin (16) follow in positions six through 10.

Wooster is 723-285-6 (.716) during the 23-year tenure of head coach **Tim Pettorini**, the 2002 and 2004 NCAC Coach of the Year. The Scots, who are ranked 12 the in the Collegiate Baseball preseason Div. III poll, return three all-region infielders from last season, and their top three pitchers. Third baseman **Jake Frank (Wooster, OH/Northwestern)**, NCAC Player of the Year in 2003, leads a potent lineup with a .417 career batting average entering his senior campaign.

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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2005 NCAC Preseason Baseball Poll	
First-place votes in parentheses, followed by total points:	
1. Wooster (9)	99
2. Denison (1)	85
3. Allegheny	74
4. Ohio Wesleyan	69
5. Wittenberg	60
6. Wabash	54
7. Hiram	45
8. Kenyon	26
9. Earlham	22
10. Oberlin	16