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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 Lacrosse Special

**For Immediate Release
March 8, 2006**

**DENISON VOTED PRESEASON FAVORITE IN
22ND NORTH COAST WOMEN'S LACROSSE SEASON**

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Denison edged defending champion Ohio Wesleyan as the preseason favorite in balloting by North Coast Athletic Conference women's lacrosse coaches in their preseason poll.

The Big Red, who last season finished with a 6-0 regular season league record and a 9-4 overall mark, earned six of seven first place votes to total 48 points. Ohio Wesleyan was selected second with 42 points and received the other first-place vote. Wooster, last season's third-place team, was predicted to finish third again with 33 points. Allegheny (29) was picked to finish fourth, followed by Wittenberg (18), Kenyon (17) and Oberlin (9) in places five through seven.

The Big Red return 21 letterwinners and all but one starter from last year's team that reached the championship game of the North Coast tournament. Among their top returnees are 2005 NCAC Defensive Player of the Year **Molly Lambdin (Darien, CT/Darien)** and 2005 first team All-NCAC goalie **Carolyn Hicks (Gates Mills, OH/Hawken)**.

In 21 years of North Coast women's lacrosse competition, four schools have claimed championships: Denison, Oberlin, Ohio Wesleyan and Wooster. The Big Red have won the most titles (14), followed by Wooster and Oberlin with three each. The Scots won their titles from 2002-04, while the Yeowomen claimed theirs in 1995 and 1997-98. The Bishops won their first ever women's lacrosse title last spring.

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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2006 NCAC Preseason Women's Lacrosse Poll

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

- 1. Denison (6).....48
- 2. Ohio Wesleyan (1).....42
- 3. Wooster.....33
- 4. Allegheny29
- 5. Wittenberg.....18
- 6. Kenyon.....17
- 7. Oberlin.....9