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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 Soccer Special**

**For Immediate Release**

**OHIO WESLEYAN PRESEASON FAVORITE AS NORTH  
COAST PREPS FOR 22ND WOMEN'S SOCCER CAMPAIGN**

**August 24, 2005**

**CLEVELAND, Ohio** -- Ohio Wesleyan University is the preseason favorite in balloting by North Coast Athletic Conference women's soccer coaches conducted via email.

The Bishops, NCAC regular season and tournament champions last season, earned four first-place votes from league coaches to compile 68 points, edging second-place Denison by one point. The Bishops topped the Big Red (67), who claimed the other four first-place votes cast. Wittenberg (53) and Wooster (47) followed in third and fourth place, respectively.

Ohio Wesleyan is 143-22-3 (.860) during the eight-year tenure of head coach **Bob Barnes**. The Bishops expect to return 20 letterwinners and 10 starters from last year's squad that reached the NCAA III sectional semifinals before being eliminated on penalty kicks. The Bishops have earned berths to the NCAA tournament in six of the past seven seasons, and won NCAA III titles in 2001 and 2002.

Three-time NCAC scoring champion **Sarah Wall (Columbus, OH/Upper Arlington)**, a senior who has twice been selected the NCAC's Offensive Player of the Year, heads the list of returnees. She finished with 20 goals and 13 assists for a conference-best 53 points last season.

Founded in 1983, the NCAC 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.

-NCAC-

**2005 NCAC Preseason Women's Soccer Poll**

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

- |    |                   |    |
|----|-------------------|----|
| 1. | Ohio Wesleyan (4) | 68 |
| 2. | Denison (4)       | 67 |
| 3. | Wittenberg        | 53 |
| 4. | Wooster           | 47 |
| 5. | Allegheny         | 38 |
|    | Kenyon            | 38 |
| 7. | Earlham           | 23 |
| 8. | Oberlin           | 15 |
| 9. | Hiram             | 11 |

Note: Eight of nine NCAC coaches participated in the poll.