



NORTH COAST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

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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 Men's Soccer Special

**For Immediate Release
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OHIO WESLEYAN FAVORED AS NORTH COAST PREPS FOR 25TH MEN'S SOCCER SEASON

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

The Battling Bishops, who won their sixth NCAC Tournament crown last fall, earned seven of 10 first-place votes cast from league coaches for 94 points. Kenyon, the defending conference champion, was second with 91 points and two first-place picks. Wittenberg (76) followed closely in third and claimed the remaining first-place nod. Allegheny (67) and Denison (48) finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

Ohio Wesleyan is 530-104-44 (.796) during the 31-year tenure of head coach **Jay Martin**. The Bishops expect to return 20 letterwinners and eight starters from last year's squad which finished with a 15-1-6 mark. Top returners for Ohio Wesleyan include Battling Bishop sophomore **Tyler Wall (Columbus, OH/Upper Arlington)**, who led OWU and ranked in the top five in the conference in scoring (eight goals, four assists, 20 points for 0.91 points per game) and was named to the All-NCAC first team as a freshman.

Founded in 1983, the North Coast Athletic Conference is celebrating 25 years of equity, broad-based athletic programs and excellence in academics over the 2008-09 academic year. Made up 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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2008 NCAC Men's Soccer Poll

North Coast Athletic Conference 2008 preseason men's soccer poll
(first-place votes in parentheses, followed by total points):

1. Ohio Wesleyan (7)	94
2. Kenyon (2).....	91
3. Wittenberg (1)	76
4. Allegheny.....	67
5. Denison	48
6. Oberlin.....	47
7. Hiram.....	44
8. Earlham.....	40
9. Wooster.....	26
10. Wabash	17