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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 Softball Special***

**ALL-NCAC SOFTBALL SQUAD ANNOUNCED;  
DOWNS, ZOLLARS RECEIVE TOP HONORS**

**For Immediate Release  
May 7, 2002**

**CLEVELAND** -- Denison senior **Courtney Zollars (Westerville, OH/Westerville South)** has been named Pitcher of the Year and Allegheny senior **Erika Downs (Aliquippa, PA/Hopewell)** was named Player of the Year to highlight the 2002 All-North Coast Athletic Conference softball selections.

Zollars, a three-time, First-Team All-NCAC honoree, topped the North Coast pitching statistics this spring with a 15-7 record, and fanned 193 batters in over 142.1 innings of work (9.49/seven innings pitched). She led the conference in ERA for the second straight year (1.48). Downs led the NCAC in hits (48), was second in runs scored (28) and total bases (57), and third in batting average (.384). She makes her second appearance on the all-conference team and first on the First Team.

Kenyon senior infielder **Erin O'Neill (Maumee, OH/St. Ursula)** is the NCAC's second four-time all-NCAC selection in softball, and is the third player to earn first-team honors three consecutive seasons. She earned first-team recognition the past three seasons and a second-team nod in 1999.

All of the remaining players on the First Team make their first appearance on the squad, and four of them move up after earning second-team honors in previous seasons. Allegheny senior catcher **Jill Fuduric (Huntsburg, OH/Cardinal)** was a second-team selection in 1998. Her teammate, senior infielder **Erika Downs (Aliquippa, PA/Hopewell)** was a second-team choice in 2000, as was Ohio Wesleyan junior pitcher **Emily Thorton (Columbus, OH/Watterson)**. Thorton and Denison senior outfielder **Kelly Robbins (Franklin, OH/Franklin)** were both second-team choices in 2001.

Wittenberg utility player **Norah Gillam (Canfield, OH/Canfield)** was voted Newcomer of the Year honors as the only freshman named to the First Team. Gillam posted a .314 batting average with 33 hits and 16 runs batted in this season.

Allegheny head coach **Renee Hicks** is Coach of the Year after guiding her team to a 22-15 record and a tie for second place. In her third season at the helm, she has a 53-61 (.465) record. The Gators showed a nine-game improvement over the 2001 campaign.

**-NCAC-**

## 2002 ALL-NCAC -- SOFTBALL

**CLEVELAND** -- The following performers have earned All-NCAC honors for the 2002 season through balloting by the North Coast Athletic Conference softball coaches.

### FIRST TEAM

Pos	Name	School	Yr.	HR	RBI	AVE	Hometown/High School
C	Jill Fuduric %	Allegheny	Sr.	2	21	.307	Huntsburg, OH/Cardinal
IF	Erin O'Neill # ✓ @	Kenyon	Sr.	0	12	.352	Maumee, OH/St. Ursula
IF	Erika Downs \$	Allegheny	Sr.	0	11	.384	Aliquippa, PA/Hopewell
IF	Shawn Gledhill	Allegheny	So.	0	11	.330	Erie, PA/McDowell
IF	Kim Dubovec	O. Wesleyan	Sr.	2	16	.287	Chagrin Falls, OH/Kenston
OF	Beth Walters	Wittenberg	Jr.	3	21	.356	Columbus, OH/St. Francis DeSales
OF	Kelly Robbins*	Denison	Sr.	0	22	.432	Franklin, OH/Franklin
OF	Sandra Mowery	O. Wesleyan	So.	1	11	.288	Euclid, OH/Euclid
UT	Norah Gillam	Wittenberg	Fr.	1	16	.314	Canfield, OH/Canfield
				<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>ERA</b>	
P	Courtney Zollars #@	Denison	Sr.	15	7	1.48	Westerville, OH/Westerville South
P	Emily Thorton *\$	O. Wesleyan	Jr.	9	6	1.89	Columbus, OH/Watterson

**Player of the Year:** Erika Downs, Allegheny

**Pitcher of the Year:** Courtney Zollars, Denison

**Newcomer of the Year:** Norah Gillam, Wittenberg

**Coach of the Year:** Renee Hicks, Allegheny

### SECOND TEAM

Pos	Name	School	Yr.	HR	RBI	AVE	Hometown/High School
C	Julia Daher	Oberlin	Fr.	0	19	.295	Grosse Pointe, MI/Grosse Pointe
IF	Christy Schneider @^	Wittenberg	Sr.	0	9	.265	Fairfield, OH/Fairfield
IF	Kris Rainey	Kenyon	Sr.	1	10	.355	Cleveland Hts., OH/Beaumont
IF	Kady Krivos *\$	Wooster	Sr.	1	17	.292	Hinckley, OH/Highland
IF	Abby Petrullo	Wooster	Jr.	0	13	.253	New Philadelphia, OH/New Phila.
OF	Jamie Hanson	Hiram	Fr.	2	16	.353	Leslie, MI/Leslie
OF	Kerri Horst #\$	Wooster	Sr.	1	13	.346	West Salem, OH/Northwestern
OF	Kate Henley	Wooster	Fr.	0	3	.323	Wooster, OH/Wooster
UT	Jessica Monti	Allegheny	So.	0	19	.319	Pittsburgh, PA/Upper St. Clair
				<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>ERA</b>	
P	Angie Barone#	Wooster	So.	12	6	1.52	Akron, OH/St. Thomas Aquinas
P	Tracie Gaydos	Allegheny	So.	8	5	1.49	Sarver, PA/Freeport

**HONORABLE MENTION**

<b>Pos</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>HR</b>	<b>RBI</b>	<b>AVE</b>	<b>Hometown/High School</b>
C	Jessie Blanton	O. Wesleyan	Sr.	1	12	.293	Marion, OH/Harding
IF	Megan Hogue	Wooster	Sr.	0	9	.315	Oxford, OH/Talawanda
IF	Maria Balducci*	Oberlin	Sr.	0	7	.222	New Carrollton, MD/Georgetown
IF	Carrie Robertson	Kenyon	Jr.	8	22	.391	Newton, MA/North
IF	Jess Young	Allegheny	Sr.	0	14	.193	Cortland, OH/Maplewood
OF	Carmen Montgomery	Wittenberg	So.	0	9	.236	Springfield, OH/Southeastern
OF	Amanda Weigand	Hiram	Fr.	0	4	.326	Newton Falls, OH/Labrae
OF	Cory Roberts \$	Denison	Jr.	0	19	.295	Johnstown, OH/Northridge View
UT	Janelle Thompson	O. Wesleyan	Fr.	0	10	.290	Delaware, OH/Hayes
				<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>ERA</b>	
P	Denise Darlage ✓	Kenyon	Sr.	7	8	3.23	Powell, OH/Olentangy

**Key:** #1st team 2001; \*2nd team 2001; @ 1st team 2000; \$ 2nd team 2000; ^ 1st team 1999; ✓ 2nd team 1999; % 2nd team 1998