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ALLEGHENY COLLEGE ★ DENISON UNIVERSITY ★ DEPAUW UNIVERSITY ★ HIRAM COLLEGE ★ KENYON COLLEGE
OBERLIN COLLEGE ★ OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY ★ WABASH COLLEGE ★ WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY ★ COLLEGE OF WOOSTER

NCAC Women's Soccer

DENISON TOPS NCAC

WOMEN'S SOCCER PRESEASON POLL

For Immediate Release

August 20, 2019

CLEVELAND, OH – The Denison Big Red were picked as the preseason favorite to win the 2019 North Coast Athletic Conference women's soccer title. As the defending NCAC champions, the Big Red collected eight of the possible nine first-place votes and 80 total points in balloting by league coaches.

Wooster was slotted second, picking up the final first-place vote and 67 points overall. Kenyon was tabbed third, just one point behind the Fighting Scots, while Wittenberg (56) was selected fourth and Ohio Wesleyan rounded out the top five with 39 points. DePauw and Oberlin tied for sixth, each receiving 29 points, followed by Allegheny (21) in eighth and Hiram (18) in ninth.

Denison enters competition this fall under the guidance of veteran head coach, **Gail Murphy**. In 22 seasons at the helm of the Big Red women's soccer program, Murphy has accumulated a 291-112-40 record, including seven NCAC championships and 14 NCAA tournament appearances. The 2019 squad will feature six All-NCAC selections from a year ago. Sophomore **Liz Gilbert (Chippewa Lake, OH/Archbishop Hoban)** returns after being named a first-team forward in her freshman season, scoring six goals and dishing out another four assists. Four second-team selections are back in senior forward **Claire Kolff (Draper, UT/Juan Diego Catholic)**, junior defenders **Kate Dannemiller (Bay Village, OH/Bay)** and **Kelly O'Neill (Torrence, CA/Rolling Hills Prep)**, along with sophomore goalkeeper **Patil Tcholakian (Farmington Hills, MI/North Farmington)**. Sophomore defender **Katie Livingston (Pittsburgh, PA/Fox Chapel Area)** also returns for her second season after earning All-NCAC honorable mention accolades in 2018.

The 2019 NCAC women's soccer season begins Friday, Aug. 30, with six NCAC teams playing in non-conference action. The first day of conference play is scheduled for Sept. 28.

Founded in 1983, the North Coast Athletic Conference is made up of ten academically selective colleges and universities - Allegheny College, Denison University, DePauw University, Hiram College, Kenyon College, Oberlin College, Ohio Wesleyan University, Wabash College, Wittenberg University and the College of Wooster, along with affiliate member, Earlham College (field hockey). The NCAC sponsors 23 championship sports, 11 for men and 12 for women.

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WOMEN'S SOCCER

North Coast Athletic Conference 2019 Women's Soccer Preseason Coaches' Poll
(first-place votes in parentheses, followed by total points)

1. Denison (8).....	80
2. Wooster (1)	67
3. Kenyon	66
4. Wittenberg	56
5. Ohio Wesleyan	39
6. DePauw.....	29
Oberlin.....	29
8. Allegheny	21
9. Hiram.....	18