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COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Shepherd 3, Bluefield State 0

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. — Meg Kenny had 10 kills to lead Shepherd University to a 25-11, 25-13, 25-9 sweep over Bluefield State (1-25, 0-10) in the WVIAC.

Kayla Walker and Kasey Mercier had seven kills each and Virginia Rogus had 23 assists and three aces for the Rams (10-15, 8-3).



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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Rams ranked first in region

INDIANAPOLIS — Shepherd University is the top team in the initial 2010 Super Region I poll, released by the NCAA Division II Football Committee on Monday.

Shepherd (9-0, 7-0 WVIAC) has already wrapped up the conference title. The Rams aim for an unbeaten regular season when they host Glenville State on Nov. 13.



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WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Wilmington 3, Shepherd 1

NEW CASTLE, Delaware — Kasey Mercier had 12 kills and 13 digs for Shepherd University in a 25-23, 25-22, 24-26, 25-20 loss to Wilmington (20-11).

Kayla Walker had 10 kills and 10 digs, Theresa McElroy had 26 digs and Lauren Jeschelnik had 31 assists for the Rams (12-16).

Rams remain 11th in AFCA D-II poll

WACO, Texas — The Shepherd University football team remains ranked 11th in the latest American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Division II Coaches' Poll for Nov. 1. The Rams are coming off a 56-19 win over West Virginia State Saturday.

Rams top Super Region I

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA Division II Football Committee has released their first poll of the 2010 season, and unbeaten Shepherd is the top team in Super Region I.

Ninth-ranked West Virginia Wesleyan (7-2) is the other regionally ranked squad from the West Virginia Conference.

Shepherd has already wrapped up the 2010 WVC football title. The 9-0 Rams shoot for an unbeaten regular season when Glenville State pays a visit on Nov. 13.

Concord (7-2) ranked among teams receiving votes in the coaches poll. The AFCA Top 25 has no bearing upon the official NCAA regional rankings.

INLINE HOCKEY LEAGUE

Playoffs

On Oct. 24 in the first round of the Berkeley County-Martinsburg Inline Hockey League, the Thrashers defeated the Blackhawks 14-4 and the Kings defeated the Hurricanes 6-3.

In the Minor Division, the Sharks topped the Panthers 7-3, and the Capitals defeated the Islanders 9-3.

In the Squirt Division, the Bruins defeated the Maple Leafs 5-2.

— Staff reports

Wesleyan stuns Rams in WVC

By BEN GIBSON
FOR THE JOURNAL

CHARLES TOWN — Rain misted over the Shepherd men's soccer team as the players sat silently after a 3-2 loss to the West Virginia Wesleyan Bobcats in the West Virginia Conference semifinals on Thursday.

In what was Shepherd's best season in several years — the Rams exceeded expectations after being voted eighth in the conference's preseason coaches' poll — the Rams certainly weren't settling to just prove the rest of the WVC wrong.

"We had played all year long above other team's expectation and we were getting better game after game throughout the season," Shepherd coach Jonathan Thayil said.

Shepherd entered play as the second seed and Wesleyan as the No. 3 squad.

COLLEGE SOCCER

WESLEYAN 3

BOBCATS 14-4-2

SHEPHERD 2

RAMS 12-6

The game was moved from Shepherd's soccer field to Washington High School after WVC referees deemed muddy and wet conditions in Shepherdstown dangerous despite both team's eagerness to get the game under way.

Both teams started off the game slowly as they tried to get used to the artificial turf at Washington. Neither team seemed to be comfortable in the early going.

Once Wesleyan controlled the ball after 15 minutes, the Bobcats quickly applied pressure to the Rams' defense.

See RAMS C3



Journal photo by Chris Jackson

Shepherd fullback Matt D'Amico, left, avoids a tackle by West Virginia Wesleyan's Michael Scruggs during their West Virginia Conference soccer match Thursday at Washington High School.

Rams

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Wesleyan took advantage of a corner kick in the 25th minute as freshman midfielder Matt Brown placed the ball in the center of the box for freshman defender Richard Sho-Silva, who headed the ball to give the Bobcats the lead.

Wesleyan struck again in the 32nd minute, again on a corner and once again with Brown starting the set piece off with his kick from the right-hand side.

Brown's kick sailed into the box and found freshman midfielder Jacob Maitland. He deflected the ball out to senior midfielder Kurt Donaldson, who buried it in the back of the net to give the Bobcats a 2-0 lead at the half.

"They put a hell of a lot of pressure on us, and we didn't deal with it well in the first half," Thayil said. "They forced us into some things we didn't want to do."

Despite the two-goal lead, Wesleyan

coach Gavin Donaldson said he knew his team wasn't out of the woods yet.

"We knew they'd do that, we knew they were a team that would battle back," Donaldson said. "We knew our two-goal lead meant nothing in the final outcome. They scored a couple of good goals."

The Rams cut the Bobcat lead in half in the 57th minute with senior midfielder Alex Jones crossing the corner kick in to Tyler Huff, who drove the ball into the back of the net.

Shepherd tied the game in the 68th minute after Alex Jones was taken down by Wesleyan's Ryan McDougall in the box, sending sophomore defender Robel Desta to the penalty spot.

Desta lined up kick and placed the ball out of the goalkeeper's reach to the left side of the goal to even the game

at 2-2.

But Wesleyan was able to beat the Shepherd defense one final time in the 74th minute as sophomore midfielder Joe Ferraracci scored the game-winning goal.

"We came back and tied it up under difficult circumstances and situation at halftime," Thayil said. "At the end, I thought it could go either way, but they were able to get the last goal."

Though the Rams preferred to play at home instead of what was more of a neutral site, they made no excuses for the loss.

"You can't blame the loss on venues, the referees, the ball," Thayil said. "A championship team can play anytime under any circumstance, and that's what we're trying to be. We just fell a little short this year."



Dates: November 9, 2010

Publication: Daily Press

Bruton High basketball standout Chauncey Burgazli to sign with Shepherd

Bruton High basketball center Chauncey Burgazli will sign a scholarship on Wednesday to play for Shepherd University, a Division II school in Shepherdstown, W.Va. Scott Joyner, Burgazli's coach at Bruton, said the 6-foot-9 senior will sign for a scholarship that will pay for nearly all of his expenses.

Burgazli has improved rapidly in the past year. After playing sparingly prior to last season, he averaged 9.5 points and 8.0 rebounds as a junior for a Bruton team that came within a game of reaching the Division 3 state tournament.

"I'm happy for Chauncey," Joyner said. "I think Shepherd is a good fit for him, athletically and academically, and they are looking for him to contribute immediately."



Dates: November 11, 2010

Publication: The Herald-Mail

Six Rams named All-WVIAC

Six members of the Shepherd University soccer team were selected to the 2010 All-WVIAC squad.

Sophomore defender Robel Desta gained first team honors, senior forward Jeffers Frazier, senior midfielder Bobby Doyle, and junior goalkeeper Edgar Lopez Zuniga earned second team accolades, while senior defender Lucas Medina and sophomore midfielder Shane Lowery of Boonsboro were honorable mention selections.

Lowery had three goals and one assist on the season.