Norse roll past Rams

January 4, 2012 0 Comments

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, Ky. — The unbeaten and 13th-ranked (in the NCAA Division II ranks) Northern Kentucky Norse ran their overall record to 10-0 when they defeated visiting Shepherd, 84-57, on Friday before an announced crowd of 1,189.
Shepherd was losing for the third straight time and was 5-4 overall.

The Norse already had a 39-24 lead by halftime. A quick-start 18-2 lead with 13:50 remaining in the opening half proved enough for the Norse.

Northern Kentucky led, 29-11, with 8:06 left in the first half.

When the Norse scored the first six points of the second half, they had taken a 45-24 lead. Northern Kentucky’s second-longest lead was at 65-35 with 8:38 to play. The longest lead was at 73-41 with just 5:48 showing on the scoreboard clock.

The Norse shot 56.4 percent (31-for-55) from the field. The unbeatens were 14-for-23 (60.9 percent) from three-point range. Shepherd was 20-for-45 (44.4 percent) from the field, 3-for-16 (18.8 percent) from three-point range, and made 14 of its 18 foul shots.

Northern Kentucky’s Ernest Watson scored 18 points as did Jon Van Hoose. Those two combined to make 13 of their 24 field goal attempts. Tony Rack added 12 points and Eshaunte Jones finished with 11 points.

Shepherd got 20 points from Chad Moore, who also had seven rebounds and made 8-of-9 free throws. Brantley Osborne posted 10 points.
Battlers sizzle; deal Rams fourth straight loss, 80-66

January 4, 2012  0 Comments

Alderson-Broaddus hadn’t played in 16 days. Shepherd had just played three nights before, albeit on the road against the nation’s 13th-ranked team. There was no rust associated with the Battler offense . . . no holiday break ennui . . . no get-the-kinks-out warmup needed.

Alderson-Broaddus missed four shots in the first half, making a stunning 81 percent of its field goal tries in moving crisply to a commanding lead that carried the Battlers to an 80-66 win over the suddenly struggling Rams at the Butcher Center in Shepherdstown.

The WVIAC loss was Shepherd’s fourth straight overall and left it with a 5-5 overall record and 3-3 conference mark. The Battlers were winning for the sixth straight time and improved to 7-2 overall and 5-1 in league games.

During the on-fire first half, the Battlers once outscored Shepherd, 10-0, and later had a 12-2 string of points. But shooting 81 percent from the field (including 3-of-3 from three-point range) will usually leave any opponent in disarray.

From a 16-16 tie at the 12:43 mark, the Battlers sprinted to a 26-16 lead with 9:48 remaining in the half. With 3:58 left in the opening half, Alderson-Broaddus had jetted away to a 36-18 advantage.

It was a 45-28 game at the half . . . a half where Shepherd had shot 34.6 percent (9-for-26) from the field.

Even though it was able to outscore the Battlers, 38-35, in the second half, the Rams didn’t make much progress after falling behind, 64-44, with 11:47 to play.

The Battlers did not relent much, making 12-of-21 (57 percent) of their second-half shots to finish the win with a 29-of-42 (69 percent) shooting norm.

Kirkland Bohanon scored 24 points, mainly on his 9-for-13 from the floor. Nate Barnes was 6-for-8 from the field and had 19 points. Reserve Adam Kline was 6-for-7 and added 13 points. Roy Brown and Casey Ainslie combined to shoot 6-for-8 and total 18 points between them.

Shepherd’s Brantley Osborne had his best game in a month and scored 20 points, making 4-of-7 three-point attempts and all six of his free throws. Chad Moore totaled 18 points and was 8-for-11 from the free throw line. Sidney McCray bounced back from a barren game against Northern Kentucky and scored 13 points.

Not playing since December 17 was no hinderance to the Battlers. And neither was the Shepherd defense.
NACWAA Members Finish Strong in 2011

posted by NACWAA Blog: Inspiring Perspectives
Friday, January 6, 2012 at 1:18am EST

The National Association of Collegiate Women Athletic Administrators (NACWAA) empowers, develops, assists, celebrates, affirms, involves and honors women in the field and takes a pro-active role in advancing them into positions of influence. NACWAA.org was built to inform, connect and inspire women in college athletics.

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NACWAA members finished 2011 strong, advancing into new and exciting positions and collecting distinguished honors. In addition, 23 women recently joined NACWAA and are now equipped to be empowered, develop and advance to their greatest potential in 2012. Cheers to each of you and to even greater success in the New Year!

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) appointed Peggy Davis as interim commissioner. Davis has been a part of the CIAA family since 1987 where she held the titles of Head Women’s Basketball Coach, Associate Athletic Director, Senior Woman Administrator and Athletic Director at Virginia State University in Petersburg, Va.

Sue Donohoe, former NCAA vice president for women’s basketball, was hired as the executive director of the Kay Yow Cancer Fund. Donohoe, who has served on the board of directors since the fund’s inception in 2007, began her new role on January 1.

2011 NACWAA/NCAA Executive Institute graduate Portia Hoeg was named director of athletics and recreation at Allegheny College. She joins Allegheny from Lake Forest College where she served as associate athletic director and senior woman administrator.

United States Sports Academy named Queens College Assistant Vice President of Athletics China Jude the Academy’s 2011 Alumnus of the Year.

The University of Portland has named Karen Peters interim athletic director. Peters has served as the senior associate athletic director and senior woman administrator at Portland for the last three years after joining the department as an associate athletic director in 2006. Peters follows outgoing A.D., Larry Williams, who accepted a position at Marquette University on December 5.

Former NCAA and NACWAA President Judy Sweet has been selected as the recipient of the Saint Leo University Women in Sports Achievement Award and will be honored at the school’s Girls and Women in Sports Day celebration on February 2. A 2011 NACWAA Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient, Sweet was also a long-time director of athletics at the University of California, San Diego.

The Oral Roberts University Athletic Department announced that Debbie Yow, former women’s basketball coach and current director of athletics at North Carolina State, will be one of four individuals inducted into the school’s Athletic Hall of Fame.

A warm welcome to our newest NACWAA members:

Becky Ahlgren-Bedics, Director of Leadership Education, Janssen Sport Leadership Center
Megan Appell, Sales Coordinator Special Events, University of Minnesota
Elizabeth Bookwalter, Eligibility Certification Officer, New Jersey Institute of Technology
Courtney Caden, Athletic Assistant, New York Institute of Technology
Chelsey Canavan, Video and new Media Intern, Americas East Conference
Leslie Casey, Associate Director for Communications/Public Relations, Americas East Conference
Christine Clark, Women’s Soccer Student-Athlete, Baylor University
Susan Cohen, Rowing Coach/Administrator, UCF
Deborah Diamond, Women’s Basketball Administrator, University of Minnesota
Lacy Gillotti, Director of Strength and Conditioning, Wellesley College
Kerry Howe, Sports Information Director, Emerson College
Julia Kaufman, Women’s Basketball Coach, Shepherd University
Meghan Keelan, Head Women’s Lacrosse Coach, Shepherd University
Jill Jokser-Hartar, Athletic Director, St. Louis College of Pharmacy
Allison Lathim, Sport Drug-Testing Collector, National Center for Drug Free Sport
Wenda Noel-Lane, Athletic Administrative Assistant, New Jersey Institute of Technology
Ann Oatman, Associate Athletic Director, University of Nebraska Omaha
Nancy Olisma, Sports Receptionist/Internship Coordinator, CBS SPORTS
Valerie Richardson, Associate Athletic Director, University of Virginia
Zackie Sanderson, Associate Athletic Director, Business Operations, Middle Tennessee State University
Diane Turham, Associate Athletic Director, Middle Tennessee State University
Tanisha Wade, Director of Premium Seating and Events, University of Minnesota
Toyinda Wilson-Long, Supervisor of Operations, Men’s and Women’s Cross Country/Track and Field, Purdue University
Shepherd holds off Wesleyan

January 10, 2012
By Ben Sillers - For The Journal, journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Sidney McCray's hardy attempt to step inside the 3-point line, and why would he when he shoots so well from 3-point range.

McCray found his stroke Monday night as he hit eight 3-pointers in the Rams' 70-65 victory over the West Virginia Wesleyan Bobcats.

Shepherd shrugged off a slow start and rallied behind the play of McCray as he went 8 of 11 from beyond the arc to give the Rams their third straight victory.

"It felt good because I'd been in a slump my last five or six games, but I came out with more confidence after putting up a few extra shots (in practice). It just happened to be my night," McCray said.

After a stretch of games where McCray wasn't shooting his best, Nabilek said to see McCray playing better and enjoying the game.

"He's got a pretty sweet stroke," Nabilek said. "When he came here as a freshman, I always thought he was so hard on himself. He's really grown so this year, even when things go bad. He fights through it."

McCray had a game-high 26 points and pulled down seven rebounds as Shepherd rallied from a 10-point deficit in the first half only to fall behind again before the Rams took the lead for good with under 10 minutes to go in the second.

While McCray's performance helped Shepherd take a second half lead, Marcus Pilgrim's only 3-pointer iced the game for the Rams with 36 seconds left.

"I love the pressure, that's the time for me, but Sid hit so many 3s, I know I had to hit one," Pilgrim said.

It isn't the first time Shepherd has turned to Pilgrim in a pressure situation, and Nabilek has plenty of faith in his sophomore guard.

"He's big shoes in his career already, and he's just halfway through his sophomore year," Nabilek said. "It is in his blood, that's why he's in there."

Shepherd may have defended its home court and earned the victory, but it had to overcome a double-digit deficit in the first half as Wesleyan jumped out to a 25-15 lead.

McCray knocked down five in the first half to bring Shepherd within striking range of the Bobcats before Chad Moore gave the Rams their lead, 50-48, with 3.2 seconds left in the half.

Moore was unable to connect on his two shots from the line, but an offensive rebound by Pilgrim and a quick pass back to Moore allowed the junior forward to make up for the missed chances to give the Rams a 28-27 lead.

But Wesleyan had the last laugh in the first half with Reggie Chambers and Raymont McElroy combining for a quick 5-0 run to give the Bobcats a 34-32 halftime lead.

Turnovers and fouls slowed Shepherd to begin the second half, but the Bobcats only converted seven of their 14 free throw attempts in the second half and left the door open for the Rams to rally.

To no one's surprise, it was McCray with a 3-pointer to tie the game at 48-48 and then followed it with two more critical 3-pointers when they fell behind, the third giving the Rams the lead for good at 54-52 with 8:17 remaining in the game.

The Bobcats cut the lead to down to one with 2:01 remaining before McCray's final 3-pointer gave them some breathing room, but the Bobcats were not going down easily.

Wesleyan again cut the lead to one with a under a min left, but this time it was Pilgrim who stepped up and delivered a dagger to Wesleyan's chances with his only 3-pointer with 37.2 remaining.

"I thought, 'He better make it or I'm going to go to him an earful,'" McCray said with a laugh.

McCray led the Rams with 26, with only one of his nine field goals coming inside the arc, followed by Moore with 15 and Osborne with 11. Wesleyan was led by Raymont McElroy and Kelsey Williams, both with 21.
A tale of two halves as Shepherd loses

January 11, 2012 0 Comments

BOB MADISON Spirit Staff

SHEPHERDSTOWN—Ol’ Charles Dickens never had his defense shredded at the Butcher Center, but he would have recognized the 90-82 loss the Shepherd women absorbed at the layup-making hands of conference rival West Virginia Wesleyan as a “tale of two different halves.”

When it once led 18-4 in the first half, Shepherd was sailing blissfully along toward a 48-point opening half. But when it ceded a staggering 16 straight points in the middle of the second half, the Lady Rams were reeling backwards in the face of the constant spree of layup after layup and free throw after free throw that the Bobcats showed them en route to a 51-point second half themselves.

Not only did the literally endless parade of West Virginia Wesleyan layups and made free throws (14-of-15 in the second half) damage Shepherd, but all that scoring was abetted by the 12 turnovers the Lady Rams showed against the suddenly bristled Bobcat halfcourt defense.

Shepherd’s 48-39 halftime lead was increased to 54-39 just minutes into the second half. But then the slowly rising tide of misfortune began to erode the walls of the Shepherd dam made from its starters and sand.

Fouls to starters Jenn Prine and Katie Biggs were the first arrows that breached Shepherd’s cardboard armor. Both those players were removed with three fouls with fully 18:06 left to play. Both had been recalled with two fouls in the first half.

The Bobcats hurriedly scored six straight points . . . but that surge was only a ripple of a precursor to the tidal wave that was just over the horizon.

Turnovers came to visit the Lady Ram halfcourt offense. And like a grouchy, never-pleased in-law they never left.

West Virginia Wesleyan decided Shepherd wouldn’t risk further foul damage when it threw the ball inside to Jamie Kaufman or had Lydia Bridenbaugh or Brittany Maxey drive through the lane to within two-feet of the basket.

The Bobcats were careful not to deviate from the points-scoring formula for 18 consecutive possessions. Were the visitors successful? Shepherd held a 63-54 lead with 12:28 to play. With 7:55 remaining, West Virginia Wesleyan held a 70-63 lead . . . and had scored 16 consecutive points behind its turnover-causing halfcourt defense and its wagon train of successful layups and successful free throws.

The Bobcats were not about to deviate from the formula of “layups + free throws = points and more points” and went on to score 90 total points after a 51-point second half.

Shepherd had expanded the necessary energy . . . but it had been overrun despite the statistically fine efforts of Emily Daniel and Katie Biggs and the sweat-soaked, grim-faced efforts of Prine, Hannah Safren, and Rachel Johnson.

“A Tale of Two Halves” had been won by West Virginia Wesleyan and its turnover-causing, layup-making workers.
First half carries Lady Rams past Ohio Valley

January 11, 2012 0 Comments

BOB MADISON Spirit Staff

SHEPHERDSTOWN — Emily Daniel provided the Shepherd women’s basketball team with a definitive run of inside scoring through a first half where the Lady Rams overwhelmed Ohio Valley with quality shooting and rebounding and enough defense to craft a 25-point lead.

The Lady Rams literally coasted through the second half — even being outscored by the Fighting Scots — before closing out a 75-57 win against their WVIAC rival located in Vienna on the Ohio River.

Daniel was 6-for-9 from the field in the opening half and scored 14 of her game-high 22 points as Shepherd quickly moved from a 13-9 lead to one of 41-15 with only two minutes left in the half. Katie Biggs made four of his game-total five field goals in the opening half in scoring 14 of her 17 points.

Shepherd was 16-for-29 (55 percent) from the field in vaulting to its wide-open lead. By contrast, Ohio Valley was shooting just 5-for-30 (16.7 percent) in the first half in falling irreversibly behind by 25 points.

So frustrated was Ohio Valley Coach David Wadlington that he brought on en masse three previously unused reserves for the final three minutes of the troubled half.

Wadlington let his team file toward its dressing room at the half before joining them after about five minutes. The second half did not resemble the first.

Ohio Valley troubled Shepherd with a 1-3-1 fullcourt press that exacted turnovers and missed perimeter shots from many of the Lady Ram guards. After outscoring Shepherd, 10-5, in the first minutes of the half, Ohio Valley found itself trailing only 61-50 with fully 8:14 remaining.

But by the 3:31 mark, Shepherd had warded off the Ohio Valley move and gone back to a 67-53 lead.

Over the final two minutes, Shepherd outscored the visitors, 8-4, to ease back to a more comfortable zone.

In winning for only the second time in its past six games, Shepherd was able to even its overall record at 7-7 and make its conference record read 4-4.

Ohio Valley was also 7-7 overall, but had a 3-5 conference mark.

Daniel had completed her night with a 10-for-13 showing from the field, making 2-of-3 free throws, taking a team-high nine rebounds, and being credited with four assists.

Shepherd’s messy second half ballhandling and work against the fullcourt press padded its turnover total to 21 . . . and slowed its scoring considerably.

But Ohio Valley did not have the resources to completely whittle away all of its deficit, especially when it missed all its three-point attempts and had nine turnovers itself.
Shepherd edges Glenville on Dauda free throws

January 11, 2012  0 Comments

GLENVILLE— Shepher snapped a four-game losing streak on the road at Glenville when Malik Dauda made two free throws with one second remaining in its 75-73 WVIAC win over the Pioneers last Wednesday.

Glenville had made a comeback in the last minutes and moved to within a point (71-70) of the Shepherd lead on a Kevin Gray three-pointer with only 17 seconds left. Shepherd guard Marcus Pilgrim answered with his two free throws to restore the Rams’ lead to three points with 14 seconds showing on the clock.

Gray made another three-pointer with just seven seconds to play to bring a 73-73 tie. Dauda was fouled with only a second remaining. And he made both free throws to move Shepherd’s overall record to 6-5 and its WVIAC record to 4-3.

Glenville sunk to 1-8 overall and to 0-5 in the WVIAC.

Brantley Osborne scored 24 Shepherd points on a 10-for-17 showing from the field. Osborne was 4-for-8 on his three-point efforts. Chad Moore scored 15 points for the Rams and claimed 10 rebounds for his fifth double-double of the 11-game season. Pilgrim was able to total 16 points and Sidney McCray added another 10 points to the Shepherd cause.

Jamel Morris led Glenville with 20 points and Gray finished with 17 points.

Shepherd made 27-of-52 (52 percent) of its field goal attempts and 14-of-17 (82.4 percent) of its free throw tries. Glenville was 26-for-52 (50 percent) from the field and went 8-for-12 (66.7 percent) from the foul line.
McCray rallies Rams with his three-pointers

BOB MADISON Spirit Staff

When a single player can score 26 points and make eight of his 11 three-point attempts in his team’s 70-65 win over a conference rival, that player has stood above the rest like Gulliver in a field of Lilliputians.

Shepherd’s “giant” was 6-foot-7 Sidney McCray. McCray scored 24 of his game-total 26 points on his eight three-point successes — five of them coming in the second half where Shepherd worked its way past the visiting Bobcats.

McCray also had seven rebounds and helped Shepherd’s 41-27 rebounding advantage slay the Bobcats. Kirk Hairston had nine rebounds, Chad Moore eight, and Brantley Osborne seven for the Rams.

If ever there were a game when the teams merely played the first half to reach the second half, Shepherd’s five-point win on Monday at the Butcher Center was it.

After the first 20 minutes, West Virginia Wesleyan had a 34-32 lead. Only Shepherd’s Chauncey Burgazli had as many as three fouls. The Rams had established a 10-rebound advantage, but neither side had any other claims that could lead to victory.

McCray had 11 points as his team’s lone double-figure scorer, but Chad Moore had been as quiet as he had been in some time. And the Bobcats’ Kelsey Williams (12 points) and Raymont McElroy (11 points) were active inside but showed no traits that could not be handled with some adjustments.

Even when the Bobcats towed their lead to 46-40 with 13:05 to play, McCray had not scored since the first half.

McCray had two assists as Shepherd got within 48-45 of the Bobcat lead. And then McCray began to bring the game Shepherd’s way. His first three-pointer (of five) in the half made it 48-48 with 11:40 to play.

The teams stayed wrapped in a one- or two-point game before McCray received scoring help from Moore and Burgazli to boost Shepherd a bit higher . . . and into a 63-59 lead with just 2:01 remaining.

Though the Bobcats would actually come within a point of the ever-present Shepherd lead, Moore and Marcus Pilgrim had points enough to keep the Bobcats chasing instead of catching or overtaking the Rams. Osborne’s two free throws finalized the five-point verdict with just four seconds showing.

The Rams (8-5 overall and 6-3 in the WVIAC) had converted 17 of their 20 free throws to gain a distinct edge over the wasteful Bobcats (6-5 overall and 2-5 in conference games), who were just 11-for-23 from the foul line.

McCray had been an unerring shooter. And his slender shoulders had lifted the Rams to a sixth WVIAC win in nine games.
Three members of the Shepherd University football team have been selected to play in the Don Hansen Bowl. Senior cornerback Elijah Davis (Silver Spring, Md./Wheaton), senior offensive lineman Steve Jackson (Madison Heights, Va./Amherst County) and senior wide receiver Neal Hardie (Alexandria, Va./West Potomac) will participate in the Hansen Bowl on Jan. 16.

Outstanding seniors from small colleges will be evaluated under professional football conditions at the Hansen Bowl at the Virginia Sportsplex at 1:15 p.m. on Monday Jan. 16. The game will be televised nationally through Cox Sports Network.

Davis led the Rams with six interceptions and tied an NCAA II record with four touchdowns on interception returns. His 283 interception return yards also set a new Shepherd single season record. Davis also had 35 tackles (26 solo), a team-high eight pass breakups, and a fumble recovery.

Jackson keyed an offensive line that helped Shepherd rank third nationally in scoring offense.

Hardie hauled in 29 receptions for 278 yards and two touchdowns. He rushed 13 times for 38 yards. Hardie also had five kickoff returns for a 24.4 average.
Roundup: Shepherd women rally past A-B

January 13, 2012
From staff reports, journal-news.net

PHILIPPI - Junior forward Emily Daniel scored 17 points and Shepherd rallied from a 13-point deficit in the second half to claim a 59-55 win over Alderson-Broaddus in West Virginia Conference women’s basketball on Thursday night.

Daniel was 8 of 9 from the floor.

Freshman guard Rachel Johnson tossed in nine points and dished out a game-high five assists. Sophomore forward Jimyse Brown and senior guard Katie Biggs each contributed eight points.

Amanda Peoples led the Battlers with 17 points. Zipporah Tidwell added 11 points and eight rebounds.

A-B led by as many as 13 points in the second half. Shepherd went ahead for good at 49-48 on a free throw by Daniel with 5:09 remaining.

It was a matter of holding on.

A layup by Natalie Smith with 1:10 left got the Battlers to within two points at 57-55. After a missed layup by Sirshawna Dowdy, senior guard Hannah Safren drained a pair of free throws with one second remaining to seal the win.

Shepherd shot 51 percent (25 for 49) from the floor, while limiting Alderson-Broaddus to a 37.3-percent (19 fopr 51) performance. The Battlers were 9 of 19 (47.4 percent) from beyond the arc, while Shepherd was 3 of 6 (50 percent).

Shepherd evened its mark to 8-8 overall, 5-5 in the WVC.