Rams defeat FSU

November 18, 2011
Shepherdstown Chronicle

FAIRMONT - Junior quarterback Bobby Cooper (Davidsonville, Md./South River) completed 12-of-23 passes for 160 yards and a pair of scores while senior running back Tommy Addison (Germantown, Md./Quince Orchard) rushed for a game-high 114 yards on 22 carries to lead Shepherd University to a 38-21 win over Fairmont State in WVIAC football action at Duvall-Rosier Stadium on Saturday.

Shepherd took a 3-0 lead with 22 seconds left in the first quarter when senior kicker Eric Dobratz (Woodbridge, Va./Potomac) connected on a 22-yard field goal.

The Rams increased their lead to 10-0 when sophomore running back Kenny Williams (Elgin, Ill./Eastern Illinois) scored on a one-yard plunge with 12:28 left in the second quarter.

Fairmont State cut the lead to 10-7 minutes later when Logan Moore connected with Chris St. Hilaire on a nine-yard scoring strike.

Ryland Newman returned a punt 72 yards for a score with 7:51 left in the second quarter to give the Falcons a 14-10 lead at the break.

Shepherd took a 17-14 lead with 9:18 left in the third quarter when junior quarterback Bobby Cooper (Davidsonville, Md./South River) teamed with senior wide receiver Neal Hardie (Alexandria, Va./West Potomac) on a 22-yard score.

The Rams increased their lead to 24-14 when Kenny Williams scored on a two-yard run with 23 seconds left in the third quarter.

Senior cornerback Elijah Davis (Silver Spring, Md./Wheaton) picked off a pass and raced 80 yards for a score with 13:30 remaining in the fourth quarter to give the Rams a 31-14 advantage.

Cooper tossed a two-yard scoring pass to Hardie with 10:44 left in the fourth quarter to up the lead to 38-14.

Moore scored on a four-yard run with 7:50 remaining in the fourth quarter for the Falcons to complete the scoring.

Moore connected on 16-of-30 passes for 171 yards for the Falcons.

Williams added 14 carries for 54 yards for the Rams. Moore rushed 18 times for 30 yards to lead the Falcons.

Senior wide receiver Nikkolai Norrell (Richmond, Va./Hermitage) had four catches for 48 yards and Hardie added four grabs for 40 yards. St. Hilaire had seven catches for 86 yards for Fairmont.

Shepherd totaled 321 yards of total offense while Fairmont State had 214 with just 43 coming on the ground.

Sophomore defensive lineman Mike Franklin (Elkridge, Md./Long Reach) recorded nine tackles and sophomore defensive end Howard Jones (Woodbridge, Va./Freedom) totaled four tackles-for-loss with three sacks to pace the Shepherd defense. Dewey McDonald had 12 tackles to lead the Pioneers.

Shepherd improves to 9-2, 6-2 in WVIAC action, while Fairmont State drops to 7-4, 4-4.
Shepherd women's basketball falls to Holy Family

November 28, 2011
Shepherdstown Chronicle

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. - Erin Mann scored 26 points and grabbed 13 rebounds to lead #25 Holy Family to a 75-62 win over Shepherd University in women’s basketball action at Holy Family on Sunday.

Senior guard Jenn Prine (Fairless Hills, PA/Pennsbury) and junior guard Alex Tamez (Berkeley Springs, WV/The Miller School [Va.]) each had 11 points to lead the Rams.

Junior guard Emily Daniel (Beaver, WV/Shady Spring) and senior guard Katie Biggs (Sykesville, MD/Glenelg) tossed in 10 points each, while sophomore forward Jhymyse Brown (Rankin, PA/Winchester Thurston) had eight points and 11 rebounds. Daniel also added seven boards and a team-high four assists.

Holy Family opened the game on a 14-1 run en route to a 42-18 lead in at the break.

Sarah Pawlak added 11 points for the Tigers.

Holy Family shot 45.3 percent (29-64) from the floor while Shepherd hit at a 32.4 percent (24-74) clip.

The Rams had a 51-45 rebounding advantage.

Shepherd falls to 2-3, while Holy Family improves to 3-2. The Rams return to action on Tuesday when they host Davis & Elkins for a 6 p.m. contest.
Shepherd men sink Shippsburg

November 28, 2011
Shepherdstown Chronicle

SHIPPENSBURG, Pa. - Junior forward Sid McCray (Milton, Fl/St. Pauls (MD) School) scored 20 points and junior forward Chad Moore (Winchester, VA/John Handley) added 17 points and a team-high eight rebounds to lead Shepherd University to a 77-73 win over Shippsburg in men's basketball action at Shippensburg on Sunday.

McCray was 8-14 from the floor with a 4-of-8 performance from three-point range. His 20-point effort established a new career-high.

Sophomore guard Brantley Osborne (Sunbury, PA/Shikellamy) added 13 points, while junior guard Aeron Spencer (Fredericksburg, VA/Stafford) had 12 points, five rebounds, and a game-high six assists.

Will Royal scored 20 points and hauled down nine rebounds to lead the Red Raiders. Craig Van Scyoc added 17 points and eight boards.

The Rams took the lead for good with on a three-pointer by McCray at 18:17 with 11:01 left in the first half.

The Red Raiders rallied to within two points at 73-71 after a three-point play by Royal with 23 seconds left in the contest, but Osborne drained 4-of-4 free throws down the stretch to seal the win.

Shepherd hit on 49 percent (25-51) of its shots from the floor and Shippsburg hit at 47.3 percent (25-53). The Rams drained 7-of-19 three-pointers (36.8 percent) while limiting the Red Raiders to a 3-of-14 (21.4 percent) effort.

Shippensburg had a 37-26 edge on the boards.

Shepherd improves to 3-1, while Shippsburg falls to 1-5. The Rams return to action on Tuesday when they host Davis & Elkins for an 8 p.m. contest.
Area Roundup: McCray lifts Rams to win

November 28, 2011
journal-news.net

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WOMEN'S
COLLEGE
BASKETBALL
Holy Family 75,
Shepherd 62

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Guards Jenn Prine and Alex Tamez each had 11 points to lead the Rams.

Guards Emily Daniel and Katie Biggs tossed in 10 points each, while forward Jimyse Brown had eight points and 11 rebounds. Daniel also added seven boards and a team-high four assists.

Holy Family opened the game on a 14-1 run en route to a 42-18 lead at the break.

Sarah Pawlak added 11 points for the Tigers.
Holy Family shot 45.3 percent (29 of 64) from the floor while Shepherd hit at a 32.4 percent (24 of 74) clip.

The Rams had a 51-45 rebounding advantage.

Shepherd fell to 2-3, while Holy Family improved to 3-2. The Rams return to action on Tuesday when they host Davis & Elkins for a 6 p.m. contest.

-Staff reports
Shepherd comes up 'Biggs' against Senators

November 30, 2011
By Spencer Leatherman - For The Journal

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd had its back against the wall, trailing by 21 points with 17:35 remaining, when Katie Biggs got hot and rallied the Rams enough that they went into overtime against Davis & Elkins Tuesday in West Virginia Conference action at the Butcher Center.

In the two overtime periods, the Rams outscored the Senators 13-9 to give Shepherd a 76-72 victory.

"In the second half, we found the discipline we needed and the desire," Rams coach Melanie Ford said. "In those periods, we stuck to the plan of getting the ball to the hole by our post players or driving it in."

The Senators controlled the game through the first half, sinking nine 3-pointers to take a 19-point lead into halftime.

Shepherd took a 4-0 lead with a Gabby Flinchum layup and a pair of Biggs free throws before Davis & Elkins got off to a 17-2 run with 3-pointers from Amy Turner, Rachel Gostomski and Paige Turner, respectively. Shepherd cut the lead to as few as five points on a Shelby Fayak jumper with 9:35 to play before Davis & Elkins outscored Shepherd 27-13 to enter the halftime break with a 19-point lead.

"We couldn't find our continuity defensively or offensively in the first half," Ford said. "We struggled to connect with the five players we had out there on the floor, and that hurt us."

"We didn't come to play as we know how to," Fayak said about the first-half struggles.

"We knew we were much better than what we showed in that opening half."

After the intermission, the Senators had a 21-point lead on a Gostomski layup, but saw that lead began to slip away over the remaining 17:35 to play in regulation.

Hannah Safren got the Rams started in the second half with a jumper following the Senators' layup.

Biggs, who scored five points in the first half, began to make shots fall, scoring 21 of her 28 points in the second half.

"We talked about not focusing on individual shots, but team offense," Ford said. "We had to believe in it in order to win. Having that focus helped Katie (Biggs) relax."

"It was all about confidence," Biggs said of her shooting performance in the second half. "Once a few started to fall, I felt more confident to keep shooting the ball well."

Following Safren's jumper, Biggs made a 3-pointer to start her scoring spree. Alicia Lentz made a shot with 12:25 to play in regulation to give the Senators a 47-point lead before Biggs scored 10 points in a
Ashley Bowles stopped the run with a 3-pointer with 5:34 remaining. Biggs continued to lead the Rams, scoring eight of the Rams' remaining 10 points in regulation, including an off-balance 3-pointer, while being double teamed with 1:11 remaining in regulation to tie the game at 61.

Shepherd's Morgan Johnson, who is from Elkins, made a shot from the right corner with 15 seconds left to give the Rams a lead, but Jordan Lykes made a layup with five seconds left to tie the game at 63. Shepherd's Jenn Prine missed a layup as time expired in the second half to send the game into overtime.

In the first overtime, the Rams got off to a three-point lead with a Biggs free throw and a Fayak jumper from the right corner before Victoria Lyles made a 3-pointer to knot the game at 66 apiece with a minute remaining in the overtime period. Shepherd had an opportunity to take the victory, Fayak missed a layup with two seconds left to send it to a second OT.

In the second overtime, the Rams and Senators exchanged shot for shot with each side having a lead no larger than two points. After Ashley Magallanez made a layup to give the Senators the lead with 1:52 to play, Fayak made a pair of free throws and a 20-foot jumper to give the Rams the lead. Gostomski missed a 3-pointer with 13 seconds left as Biggs made a free throw with 12 seconds left to give Shepherd a four-point lead.

"We feed off of each other well, and it was a total team effort," Fayak said regarding the come-from-behind win.

"Once we get our momentum it goes and goes. We just need to get the momentum earlier in the game, so we don't have to come back from a 21-point deficit."
Rams get clear of Davis &?
Elkins

November 30, 2011
By Ben Gibson - For The Journal

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd's 83-73 win might look comfortable on paper, but it took a Sidney McCray 3-pointer to spark a late rally to give Shepherd some much needed breathing room in its win over Davis &?Elkins.

"That 3 Sid hit in the second half was big; I think it was a dagger in their heart," Shepherd coach Justin Namolik said.

McCray had watched as the Rams' lead dwindled down to just two points in the second half, but his 3-pointer stopped the Senators in their tracks.

"They were driving and kicking and did all the work," McCray said. "I just took the shot and knocked it down."

"They hit some clutch shots. They got us out of our game and in a scramble mode and a fouling mode," Senators coach Bruce Martin said.

The Rams went on to earn a 10-point victory as junior forward Chad Moore knocked down 7 of 8 free throws in the game's final minutes.

The win is the fourth on the season, giving Shepherd a 4-1 record and their best start under Namolik.

"We're in a good position," Namolik said. "When January and February come, it is going to get tough. The more we can keep this winning streak going is going to help us later in the season."

The first half started off with the Rams unable to find the bottom of the net after center Chauncey Burgazi gave Shepherd its first two baskets. The Rams' shots continued to spin around the rim, even going halfway down sometimes before finding a way to roll out, leaving Shepherd in a 10-6 deficit early on as Davis &?Elkins failed to capitalize.

But a key moment in the first half came after Moore knocked down two foul shots and Shepherd followed with a quick 5-0 scoring run, capping it with a acrobatic layup by Aeron Spencer to give the Rams a 11-10 lead.

The two teams battled back and forth and leveled the score at 27-27 before McCray knocked down a 3-point shot deep in the corner of the court to give Shepherd the lead.

Guard Brantley Osborne had a late surge on both ends of the floor, first making an impact defensively with a steal and a block before knocking down a pair of free throws that helped the Rams take a 34-31 halftime lead.

The two teams battled back and forth before the Rams built a small lead. The Rams built an eight-point lead, sparked by guard Malik Daouda as he fell out of bounds. He found Moore for an easy layup. McCray hit one of his four 3-pointers to help extend the lead before
Nearly nine out of ten of Moore’s free throws were missed before another Moore basket made it a 59-51 game.

But the Rams lead slipped away and, after the Senators’ Andy Morris fired a 3-point shot to bring the game within two, Shepherd looked like it might fall behind.

But McCray sparked the Rams as he stepped up and knocked down a free throw before the game-changing three, followed by a number of Moore free throws to earn Shepherd a third straight victory.

Moore led his team with both 29 points and nine rebounds. Dauda dished out four assists to lead Shepherd. McCray had 13 points while Spencer had 12.

The Senators’ P.J. Turner had 17 points and six assists to lead his ballclub.
Rams’ Davis heads four region stars

WEST CHESTER, Pa. — Four members of the Shepherd University football team were named to the 2011 Daktronics Inc. All-Super Region 1 team as selected by the region’s sports information directors.

Senior cornerback Elijah Davis was a first-team selection, while senior kicker Eric Dobratz, senior offensive lineman Steve Jackson and sophomore defensive lineman Howard Jones were second-team selections.

Davis, a two-time West Virginia Conference Player of the Week selection this season, 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 Shepherd single-season record. Davis also had 35 tackles (26 solo), a team-high eight pass breakups and a fumble recovery.

Meanwhile, he’ll be playing in the D2 vs. NAIA Senior Bowl Saturday in Middletown, N.Y.

Players selected will partake in a three-day experience that includes practices, NFL combine testing, an awards banquet and a showcase game with professional scouts in attendance.

Dobratz led the Rams in scoring with 99 points this season to set a Shepherd season mark for kick scoring. His 14 field goals on the year also established a Shepherd season record. He holds the WVC career mark for kick scoring points with 280.

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

Jones recorded 31 tackles with 28 solo stops. He led the Rams with 23.5 tackles-for-loss and 12 sacks. His 23.5 tackles-for-loss for minus 128 yards established a Shepherd single season record. He also added three forced fumbles and two blocked kicks.