Area Roundup: Shepherd women fall in WVC tourney

March 3, 2012
journal-news.net

CHARLESTON - Lydia Bridenbaugh scored a game-high 25 points to lead top-seeded West Virginia Wesleyan to a 74-47 win over Shepherd University in the semifinals of the West Virginia Conference Women’s Basketball Tournament at the Charleston Civic Center on Friday afternoon.

Jamie Kaufman added 18 points and 11 rebounds for the Bobcats, while Daria Abros’kina had 12 points and a game-high 14 rebounds. She also had four assists and a game-high six steals.

Senior guard Katie Biggs led the Rams with nine points. Senior forward Shelby Fayak and sophomore forward Jimyse Brown each added eight points. Brown also hauled down a team-high six rebounds.

Shepherd shot 30.5 percent (18 of 59) from the floor, with a 21.1 percent (4 of 19) effort from three-point range. The Rams connected on 7 of 17 (41.2 percent) foul shots.

West Virginia Wesleyan shot 39.7 percent (27 of 58) from the floor with a 23.1 percent (3 of 13) performance from beyond the arc. The hit on 17 of 23 free throws (73.9 percent).

Wesleyan had a 48-41 advantage on the boards.

Shepherd fell to 20-11, while West Virginia Wesleyan improved to 23-6. Wesleyan advances to the tournament finals on Saturday.

COLLEGE LACROSSE

Shepherd game moved

URBANA, Ohio - Women’s lacrosse action slated for today between Shepherd University and Urbana University has been postponed.

The two teams will play at Urbana at 10 a.m. today.
5 Local roundup: LHU wrestlers earn top 4 seeds for EWL

March 1, 2012
From staff reports, Williamsport Sun-Gazette

From Staff Reports

Five Lock Haven wrestlers have earned top four seeds for Sunday's EWL Championships at Clarion University.

The pre-seeding for the tournament has been completed with the top four seeds at each weight class announced Friday morning. The completed brackets for each weight class will be announced at 9 tonight.

Muncy graduate Aaron Fry was seeded fourth for the Bald Eagles at 157 pounds. Matt Bonson (141), Owen Wilkinson (149) and Harry Turner (285) were all named No. 3 seeds, and Fred Garcia (157) was awarded a fourth seed.

No. 9 Pittsburgh, the pre-tournament favorite and defending champion leads the way with four No. 1 seeds. West Virginia has three and host Clarion has two top-seeded wrestlers.

In college baseball, Lock Haven fell, 12-2, to Shepherd University during the first day of the Shepherd Tournament.

Austin Botts hit a two-run in the fourth inning for the Bald Eagles (3-4). Central Mountain graduate Ryan Watkins had two hits, including a double.

In college track and field, seven members of the Lock Haven men's indoor team have earned U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Division II All-Atlantic Region honors.

Thrower Tyler Thomas, a Jersey Shore graduate, was named All-Region in the weight throw and shot put.

Pole vaulter Jordan Stonebreaker and weight thrower Mark Manno, the Bald Eagles lone national qualifier, also were recognized.

Sean Harper, Christopher Jones, Steve Roberts and Paul Stults earned All-Region as members of the 4x400 meter relay team.

The top five from each region in individual events and each member of a relay ranked in the region's top three have earned the All-Region distinction for the 2012 indoor season.

College baseball
Shepherd 12,
Lock Haven 2
Lock Haven 000 200 00 - 2 6 2
Collin Mills, Nick Cummings (5) and Austin Botts. P. Hvozdovic, J. Byrd (8) and C. Bumbaugh. W - Hvozdovic (2-1). L - Mills (0-1).

Top Lock Haven hitters: Austin Botts 2-2, HR (2-run, 4th), Ryan Watkins 2-3, 2b, Jose Diaz 2b. Top Shepherd hitters: A. Scoville 2-4, 2b, N. Minich 3-4, 2 HRs, B. Coffey 4-4, 2b, HR, M. Lott 2-5, T. Siuger 2-4, 2b. Records: Lock Haven 3-4, Shepherd (5-4).
A busy week for Shepherd sports

Ram baseball, softball, tennis dominate the area’s sports calendar

March 4, 2012
By Brandon Brown - Journal Sports Writer (bbrown@journal-news.net), journal-news.net

Baseball is in full swing at Shepherd, and no one is swinging the bat better than Ram first baseman Nathan Minnick.

He'll take his team-leading six home runs to West Virginia State on Saturday and Sunday to face the Yellow Jackets, a perennial power and West Virginia Conference runner-up from a season ago.

The Rams are coming off a solid showing in their host tournament, the Ram Invitational, in which they went 2-2. In a win against Lock Haven, Pa., Minnick became Shepherd's all-time home run leader with a two blasts, then against Indiana University (Pa.), Minnick hit a tie-breaking grand slam to propel Shepherd to victory.

He'll try to keep his hot hitting going this weekend.

Both Saturday's and Sunday's matchups will start at 1 p.m.

High school basketball is coming to a close, with only a handful of games left involving area teams.

On Tuesday, No. 1 Martinsburg will host Bridgeport at the Fieldhouse for the right to go to Charleston and the Class AAA state basketball tournament. Hedgesville travels to Robert C. Byrd for the other Region II matchup on Tuesday. Both games are scheduled for 7 p.m.

In Class AA, Berkeley Springs will host upset-minded Lincoln on Thursday in their Region II tournament for the right to visit Charleston. Game time is set for 7 p.m.

The Ram softball team will host three games over the next seven days, as the Rams welcome Bloomsburg at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Millersville at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, and Mercyhurst at noon on Saturday.

The Shepherd men’s and women’s tennis teams visit Mount Olive at noon Thursday, then make the trek to Hilton Head, S.C., for two matches this week.

On Friday they'll both face Chestnut Hill at 3 p.m.

The Ram men will face Gordon at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, while the women's team will be facing Wooster at the same time.

The Rams lacrosse squad also hosts Millersville at 3:30 p.m. on Friday.
Shephrd splits pair with West Chester

March 4, 2012
From staff reports, journal-news.net

WEST CHESTER, Pa. - Senior third baseman Chelsie Oals belted a two-out, two-strike, two-run homer in the seventh inning to lift Shepherd University to a 4-3 win over West Chester in Game 1 in softball action at West Chester on Sunday afternoon. West Chester gained the split with a 5-4 win in the nightcap.

Oals went 2 for 4 with three runs batted in for the game. Freshman shortstop Taylor Bolton added a 2-for-3 effort.

Jessica Russ went 2 for 3 for the Golden Rams.

Junior pitcher Tricia Bettura (7 IP, 5 Ks, 3 BB, 6 H, 3 ER) improved to 3-1 for the Rams. Kim Murl took the loss for West Chester.

West Chester scored four runs in the first and one in the second and held on for a 5-4 win in the nightcap.

Nicole Cruts went 4 for 4 to lead West Chester.

Senior infielder Delaney Bell belted a three-run homer to pace the Rams in the nightcap.

Sophomore Alexis Fisher took the loss for the Rams to fall to 2-1. Devon Utterback gained the complete game win for West Chester.

Shepherd moves to 6-2, while West Chester is now 6-4.

The Rams return to action on Tuesday when they host Bloomsburg for a 2 p.m. doubleheader.

WOMEN'S

COLLEGE LACROSSE

Shepherd 19, Tiffin 14

TIFFIN, Ohio - Freshman attack Georgia Karr had six goals and two assists, while junior midfielder Krista Tippett added five goals to lead Shepherd University to a win over Tiffin University in women's lacrosse action at Tiffin on Sunday.

Shepherd also got three goals and an assist from sophomore attack Nicole Ruane. Freshman attack Hayley Roper and sophomore midfielder Jenny Cavey each tallied two goals, while sophomore attack Hanna Wharton netted one.

Sophomore attack Christina Ferrara recorded a game-high four assists, while Roper added a pair of assists.

Alexandria Quest had a game-high eight goals to pace Tiffin.
Rams fall to Bloomsburg in 10th inning

March 4, 2012
By Ben Gibson - For The Journal, journal-news.net

SHEPHERDISTOWN - The Shepherd Rams may have done more damage to themselves than the Bloomsburg Huskies did in a 6-5 loss in the Ram Invitational.

The Rams' nine errors were their undoing on Sunday.

"We should have been down by more. We were lucky to be that close because we flat-out didn't play well and committed too many errors," Shepherd coach Wayne Riser said.

A late rally forced a 10th inning, but Shepherd's own mistakes in that extra inning buried the Rams just as their earlier ones had.

Despite the mistakes that had Riser furious after the game, the Shepherd coach was happy to see his team fight back and force extra innings.

"We've been doing that all year, we've been battling back and not laying down, but you can't give that many extra outs and expect to win," Riser said.

Riser pointed out a stretch in the fourth inning where three errors had allowed the Huskies to tack two runs onto their lead to go up 2-0.

"That's six outs we gave them in that inning," Riser said.

Shepherd allowed three more runs to spot Bloomsburg a five-run lead after seven innings of play.

But the Rams saw their first bit of offense with third baseman Travis Sluger knocking the ball to left center field to score catcher Ryan Messina and left fielder Steve Ferguson.

After cutting the lead to 5-2, Shepherd loaded the bases in the eighth inning but avoided digging a deeper hole with three quick outs, but the Rams went three up, three down to leave themselves down by three headed into the ninth inning.

Shepherd held off the Huskies in the top of the ninth before Messina launched a shot over the left-field fence as the leadoff batter to cut the deficit to two.

With one out and the bases loaded, second baseman Chad Murphy tied the game with a double to score Ferguson and Sluger, but the Rams were unable to take the lead as they grounded into a double play.

Shepherd gave up an unearned run in the 10th on a misplayed ball by right fielder Michael Smith, allowing Huskies second baseman Keith
Meyer to trot home for the go-ahead run.

Lott redeemed himself with a bunt to get on base in the bottom of the 10th inning, but the rest of the Shepherd lineup was unable to get him home for the tying score.

The nine errors buried the Rams and put them in a 5-0 hole to start the game.

“Maybe they are starting to believe in themselves a little bit, playing like that and not giving up is the difference in not going 0-8,” Riser said of the comeback.

Shepherd will look to eliminate those errors when it hits the road on March 10 to face West Virginia State to kick off West Virginia Conference play.

Bloomsburg’s Nickolas Eversole led all hitters with three RBI off two hits while Shepherd’s Sluger had two hits for two RBI, followed by Messina with one RBI and two hits.
Two Rams earn POW

March 5, 2012

PRINCETON - Two of Shepherd's diamond standouts have been given West Virginia Conference honors this week.

Shepherd's Nathan Minnich was named the WVC player of the week in baseball, and Tricia Bettura the WVC pitcher of the week in softball.

Minnich, a 6-foot-3 senior first baseman from Waynesboro, Pa., hit .461 on the week (6 for 13) while driving in nine runs and scoring five. He belted two round-trippers in a 3-for-4 outing with five RBI and three runs scored in a win over Lock Haven. Minnich had two hits, one of which was a grand slam, in a win over Indiana (Pa.). His three home runs give him 43 for his career, establishing a school record while besting Mike Spry's mark of 40 from 2000-03.

Bettura, a 5-foot-5 junior hurler from Canfield, Ohio, garnered her second consecutive weekly honor. She worked 12 innings during her outings, giving up just two earned runs. She struck out 12 and walked four on the week. Bettura went 2-0 on the week. After working five innings while striking out seven in a shutout win over Chowan, she went the distance in the victory over West Chester.

In the victory, Bettura struck out five.
Shepherd drops two games against Bloomsburg

March 7, 2012
By Ben Gibson - For The Journal, journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd is on a rare three-game losing streak after being handed a pair of losses by the Bloomsburg Huskies.

The Rams lost 4-2 and 5-1 in a doubleheader on Tuesday.

"We have to figure things out and get something together," Shepherd coach Leslie Lopez said. "We have to get some momentum going."

Shepherd rarely finds itself losing consecutive games, but, like the last three-game streak under Lopez, the Rams were up against teams ranked in the nation's top 25.

This time those losses came from the 18th-ranked Huskies. The Rams' offense was outmatched by Bloomsburg's pitching, only managing a combined 10 hits and three runs in the two games.

"I have no idea why we couldn't get he bats going to day," Lopez said.

While Shepherd's defense kept Bloomsburg relatively in check in both games, the Huskies took advantage of the opportunities they were given in both parts of the doubleheader.

"I don't think we did it well enough. We left a lot of runners, but at times, we took advantage of our runners on base and scored," Bloomsburg coach Susan Kocher said.

The pitching of Bloomsburg's Cait Paine and Mandi Black was part of the reason the Rams' offense struggled to get on base, racking up six and five strikeouts, respectively.

The Huskies' scoring got started in the opening game when center fielder Raychelle Kuhns slapped a single to the left side of the infield in the second inning to score shortstop Chrissy Belko. The Huskies tacked on two more runs with third baseman Erika Yanora hitting a single to score Kuhns and first baseman Mandy Leach to take a 3-0 lead.

Shepherd struck back in the fifth inning when third baseman Chelsie Oais lifted a single into right field to score right fielder Taylor Schaefer, followed by left fielder Jess Mason driving the ball to center to score shortstop Taylor Bokton, cutting the Huskies' advantages down to 3-2.

But Bloomsburg loaded the bases in the bottom of the fifth before Yanora was hit by a pitch to score Leach and take a 4-2 lead that held up for the Huskies' first win of the day.
The Rams' fortunes were not any better in the second game as trouble began in the first inning with catcher Sem Piętack doubling down the left-field line to score leadoff batter and second baseman Mandi Baer.

The Huskies scored with another double, this time off the bat of Belko to bring in Piętack for a two-run lead.

Bloomsburg did its last bit of damage with left fielder Kayla McHale belting a single to score Belko and designated hitter Rachel Fredell for a 4-0 lead after one inning of play.

McHale scored again for the Huskies in the third inning after an errant throw allowed her to spring home and survive an impact with Shepherd catcher Savannah Snyder, jarring the ball loose and allowing McHale to reach her hand out for the plate and a 5-0 Bloomsburg lead.

The Rams' only run of the second game was courtesy of a Bolton sacrifice fly to left field that allowed center fielder Bianca Biondillo to score.
Minnich homers twice, Hvozdovic goes seven

DOG MADIGON / Sports Editor

SHEPHERDSTOWN — Nathan Minnich gave Shepherd a two-run home run to open its scoring in the first inning and another two-run home run in the eighth to close out its scoring. ... and the Rams rode the strike-throwing pitching of Paul Hvozdovic to a 12-2 win over Lock Haven during last Friday’s dry conditions at Fairfax Field.

Minnich’s pair of homers moved him past the school’s career record for home runs. His 42 homers (which he extended to 43 over the weekend) moved him by Mike Spyry in the Shepherd record book.

Once Minnich’s first-inning home run gave the Rams an early lead, they extended that advantage to 7-0 after just two innings.

Hvozdovic would throw mostly strikes in his seven-inning stint against the ordinary lineup of the Bald Eagles. His only blemish came when Austin Bortz reached him for a two-run homer with Shepherd still holding its seven-run lead.

Once there was a seven-run lead in place, the first five batters in Shepherd’s lineup continued to wear their hitting shoes, collecting 11 hits among them and scoring nine of the team’s runs.

Brandon Coffey went 4-for-4 and had eight total bases. His last hit was a solo homer that came on the heels of Minnich’s last inning round-tripper.

Michael Lott and Aaron Scoville both had two hits with Lott driving in two runs. Shepherd’s first five batters went to the plate 25 times and reached base 13 times.

Travis Slager, the third baseman whose glove keeps him in the lineup, had two hits as the Rams collected 13 hits off two Lock Haven pitchers.

The bottom four in the Rams’ order struck out a combined seven times with freshman catcher Cody Bumbaugh fanning in all four plate appearances.

Hvozdovic fanned five and meted out five hits. He was successful primarily because he walked only three and his fielders caught what they could reach on the dry field that soon would become saturated when a soft and steady rain took control of Fairfax Field for a game between the Rams and Indiana.
Shepherd softball goes 3-1 to start

GREENEVILLE, Tenn.—
The Shepherd softball team opened its season with three wins in four games in the Pioneer Classic at Tusculum College.

Augusta College defeated Shepherd, 4-2, to begin the 2012 campaign. Augusta's record was 8-5. Heather Hughes was Tusculum's winning pitcher, moving her record to 3-1. Heather Sisson had a save. Tricia Bettura was Shepherd's loser.

Delaney Bell had the game-winning RBI in Shepherd's 10-9 win over Tusculum that same day. Bell was 3-for-5 with a pair of doubles, and two runs scored. Sam McQuade was 1-for-2 and scored three runs for the Lady Rams.

The next day, Shepherd defeated Lee's-McRae, 4-2, as pitcher Tiffany Biggs pitched a complete game and allowed four hits and two walks while fanning eight. Both runs scored off her were earned.

Bell was 3-for-4 and Blanca Biondillo was 2-for-3 for Shepherd. Holly Crickenberg er had a two-run homer for Lee's-McRae.

Shepherd also defeated Kentucke Wesleyan, 6-1, in pitcher Tricia Bettura had a complete-game victory. She fanned seven and walked four and the run scored off her was earned.

Savannah Snyder was 2-for-4 and had a pair of RBIs, Kesi Durham was 2-for-4 and homered a solo homer.

The Lady Rams were 3-1 overall and began playing their first games at home this past weekend.

On Saturday, Shepherd defeated Chowan (NC) 10-0 and 6-5.

Bettura went the distance in the abbreviated five-inning opener. She allowed three hits, one walk, and fanned seven, less Mason was 4-for-4 and Durham was 2-for-2. In the nightcap, Shepherd scored three times in the fifth to overcome a Chowan lead. Christie Oils had an RBI double and Mason drove in two runs with her double. Biondillo, Taylor Scharer, and Elisa Ofantdi all had two hits in the one-run win. Alexa Fisher was the winning pitcher.

Chowan was 5-13 overall.

On Sunday, Shepherd visited the Golden Rams of West Chester and split a doubleheader. Oils had a home run and three RBIs and Taylor Belton had two hits in Shepherd's 4-3 win in the opener. Bettura improved her record to 3-1 with a six hitter that included five strikeouts.

West Chester claimed a 5-4 win in the second game. The Golden Rams scored four runs in the first inning off losing pitcher Fisher. Fisher was lifted in the second and allowed six hits and five earned runs in all. Tiffany Biggs went five scoreless innings while fanning eight.

Delaney Bell had a three-run homer in Shepherd's four-run fifth inning. Shepherd had only four hits in the loss and had a 6-2 overall record. The Golden Rams were 6-4 overall with the win.
Satisfied field, hittable pitcher see Indiana beat Rams

BOB MADISON Sport Staff

SHEPHERDSTOWN—With a steady rain making mud and wet baseballs the "face" of the game, it was the Rams that couldn't overcome the eight runs Indiana scored. The Rams scored in the first three innings off starter Trevor Appleby. Even though it had a six-run first inning off itself, Shepherd dropped a thoroughly wet 6-6 decision to the Crimson Hawks in a game that was called after the third inning.

With Appleby constantly checking his shoes and starting down at the glove on the mound, Indiana never wasted a moment or a plate appearance against the would-be No. 2 starter in Coach Wayne Riser's rotation. Appleby was with it from the start, in the first and then the next inning, and then was finally lifted in the third as another three runs crossed on Matt Sinks' three-homer that erased all of the one-time, two-run lead the Rams had.

Three runners batted in eleven of them because base runners only on one. Appleby was with it.

The first two runs Appleby faced, he walked. Three doubles later and the Crimson Hawks had a 4-0 lead.

What appeared to be a fruitless Shepherd first inning when the first two runners actually became a six-run frame and gave Aaron Scoville a chance to make two outs in the inning.

Nathan Minnick walked. Brandon Coffey had a single. Michael Lott walked off Indiana pitcher Greg Sweeney. The bases were loaded. Ryan Minnick poked a two-run single to right-center. Jake Cook lined a two-run single to center. Shepherd had tied it with five straight base runners. Nash Hatter launched a two-run homer to lift the Rams led, 6-4.

Appleby couldn't hold the short lead. A walk became another run on Dylan Songer's RBI double. Still, Shepherd had a one-run lead. But in the Indiana third, Sinks unloaded a three-run home run run through the rain drops and in one more batter, Appleby was gone.

Several times, 10-minute delays. The rain didn't stop, the players got wet.

At 9:25 p.m. Shepherd was finally lifted for the first time. Shepherd actually became a six-run frame and gave Aaron Scoville a chance to make two outs in the inning.

MINNICK slaps Gallant relief buoy Rams

BOB MADISON Sport Staff

SHEPHERDSTOWN—At first, Shepherd couldn't find its rhythm. Minnick ended up stymied in the first three innings.

Much later, Nathan Minnick led the Rams with a grand slam home run and Michael Lott drilled a solo homer along with it. Shepherd had a five-run lead. But relief pitcher Justin Byrd could not keep the damage in.

The Rams had four runs and one out in the third.

In the Shepherd fourth inning, Shepherd was at the plate with two runners. Minnick led off with a solo shot that dropped in front of pitcher Indiana's Chase Miller. Shepherd reliever Justin Byrd with a four-run rally in the seventh.

Shepherd starting pitcher Brandon Coffey was in total control until the fourth inning when the Crimson Hawks broke through with a run on a run past Shepherd.

Gallant’s Scotty Morris had a big 6-for-3 effort, including a two-run double in the top of the fifth.

In the Shepherd fourth inning, Shepherd had four runs and two outs. But the Rams were buried and four runs ended a run past Shepherd.

Six runners batted in eleven of them because base runners only on one. Appleby was with it.

The first two runs Appleby faced, he walked. Three doubles later and the Crimson Hawks had a 4-0 lead.

What appeared to be a fruitless Shepherd first inning when the first two runners actually became a six-run frame and gave Aaron Scoville a chance to make two outs in the inning.

Nathan Minnick walked. Brandon Coffey had a single. Michael Lott walked off Indiana pitcher Greg Sweeney. The bases were loaded. Ryan Minnick poked a two-run single to right-center. Jake Cook lined a two-run single to center. Shepherd had tied it with five straight base runners. Nash Hatter launched a two-run homer to lift the Rams led, 6-4.
Minnich sets home run record

March 8, 2012
By Eric Jones - Journal Sports Writer (ejones@journal-news.net)

By Eric Jones
Journal Sports Writer

SHEPHERDSTOWN - There wasn't much left for Nathan Minnich to accomplish when he began the baseball season.

A season ago, he was named the West Virginia Conference Player of the Year, was awarded several regional honors and was a finalist for the Tino Martinez Award, given to the top player in Division II.

However, when he walked onto the baseball diamond in February, there was another accomplishment just waiting for him to conquer - Shepherd's all-time home run record.

Minnich eclipsed that record during a week in which he, in typical fashion, lit up opposing pitching. The All-American first baseman finished with 10 hits and 12 RBI in the Rams' five outings and for that, has been named The Journal/Gold's Gym Athlete of the Week (Feb. 26-March 3).

Minnich got the career home runs record in a 12-2 blowout of Lock Haven, Pa., in the Rams' opening game of the Ram Invitational. He went into that game tied with Mike Spry for the all-time mark with 40 home runs and wasted no time passing Spry with a two-run blast in the first inning. He added another two-run homer in the eight inning to up his record total to 42.

Minnich finished 3 for 4 with five RBI in that game.

Minnich's performance against Lock Haven was the biggest highlight, but he had a couple more big performances throughout the week.

He opened the week with a 4-for-4, two-RBI effort in Shepherd's 9-7 win over Pitt-Johnstown in Game 1 of a doubleheader sweep over the Mountain Cats. Then, he finished the week with a grand slam against Indiana, Pa., as he finished 2 for 5 in the Rams' 7-6 victory and upped his home run total to 43.

Minnich's performance last week added to an already impressive set of numbers so far this season. He currently leads the team in eight categories, including hits (15), RBI (18) home runs (6), total bases (36) and batting average (.385).
SHEPHERD WOMEN'S LACROSSE: Freshman attack Georgia Karr had six goals and two assists, while junior midfielder Krista Tippett added five goals to lead Shepherd University to a 19-14 win over Tiffin University in women's lacrosse action at Tiffin on Sunday.
Bettura pitcher of the week

March 9, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

Junior pitcher Tricia Bettura (Canfield, OH/Canfield) of the Shepherd University softball team has been named the WVIAC Pitcher of the Week, as announced by the league office.

She worked 12 innings on the week, giving up just two earned runs. She struck out 12 and walked four on the week. Bettura went 2-0 on the week. After working five innings while striking out seven in a shutout win over Chowan, she went the distance in the victory over West Chester. In the victory, Bettura struck out five.
Currence ready to be a Ram

March 12, 2012
By Spencer Leatherman - For The Journal, journal-news.net

CHARLES TOWN - On a snowy October night against the Hampshire Trojans last season, Washington coach Mark Hash cooked up a defensive alignment with Bryant Currence and linebacker Tyrek Collier in a 42-12 victory.

"We had found a defensive scheme where Tyrek and I lined up on the same side of the defensive formation," Currence said of the game. "I was able to make some big plays when I needed to."

Currence will be joining Collier as a member of the Shepherd Rams football team.

"Tyrek and I have played football together since we were kids in the youth football league," Currence said.

"We both made the decision to play for Shepherd on our own, but it feels great to keep playing football with him."

While playing on both sides of the ball at Washington, Currence anticipates to play on the defensive line for the Rams. He also did not rule out switching from defense to offense if coach Monte Cater needs him to.

"Coach Cater saw that I was big and athletic. I am 6-foot-5 and 275 pounds, and Cater thought that the best years of football were ahead of me," Currence said.

"Although I enjoy the defensive side of the ball more, I would be able to play offensive lineman."

Currence is looking forward to being out on the field for what he called a "great program."

"I just am excited to get started," Currence said.

"Shepherd and Alderson-Broaddus were wanting me to play there, but I chose Shepherd because of its program."

While Currence will be looking ahead to the college football season, he will remember the four years he had as a Washington Patriot and the development of the football program.

"We started out with nowhere to practice except a middle school. The first seasons were not good at all," Currence said.

"We improved to the point we were one game away from making the playoffs for the first time in school history. I hope that the underclassmen that are currently on Washington's football team can appreciate what we went through and can pick up right where we left off."

Currence is undecided about his major but has considered political science with a business minor.
Shepherd softball splits doubleheader with Lenoir-Rhyne

March 12, 2012
From staff reports, journal-news.net

HICKORY, N.C. - Junior outfielder Bianca Biondillo walked and later scored on an RBI single off the bat of junior pitcher Tiffany Biggs in the fourth inning of the nightcap to lift Shepherd University to a 4-3 win over Lenoir-Rhyne in softball action at Lenoir-Rhyne on Monday. The Bears took a 3-2 win in Game 1.

Lenoir-Rhyne took a 3-0 lead in the first inning of the nightcap with Carlee Carpenter and Sarah Atkins each smacking RBI doubles.

The Rams (9-7) tied the game with three runs in the second. Freshman outfielder Tayler Schaefer, Biggs, and freshman shortstop Shanan Plunkett each drove in a run.

Schaefer had a pair of hits to lead the Rams.

Biggs (7 IP, 9 H, 3 ER, 2 Ks, 1 BB) earned the win to improve to 3-2. Lenoir-Rhyne plated three runs in the first inning in game one and held on for a 3-2 win.

Shepherd got on the scoreboard in the second when Biondillo belted a solo homer.

The Rams added a run in the sixth when sophomore first baseman Sam McQuade reached on a fielder’s choice and scored on a single by Schaefer.

Biondillo led the Rams with two hits.
Rams split with Winston-Salem State

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

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. - Shepherd University rapped 17 hits in a 17-3 win over Winston-Salem State in the nightcap to gain a split in softball doubleheader action at Winston-Salem State on Tuesday. Winston-Salem took a 5-4 win in 10 innings in Game 1.

Shepherd (10-8) jumped out to a 6-0 lead in the first inning of the nightcap. Senior infielder Delaney Bell hit a two-run homer and sophomore first baseman Sam McQuade added a two-run double to key the scoring outburst.

The Rams put the game out of reach with seven runs on six hits in the third. Freshman outfielder Tayler Schaefer had a two-run double to highlight the rally.

Schaefer, senior designated hitter Kris Durham and freshman catcher Savannah Snyder each had three hits for the Rams.

Latoya Lynch hit a three-run homer for Winston Salem.

Junior pitcher Tiffany Biggs (5 IP, 3 H, 3 ER, 7 Ks, 0 BB) earned the win to improve to 4-2.

Brittany Rich scored on an infield error in the 10th inning to give Winston Salem a 5-4 victory in Game 1.

Rich scored a pair of runs in the and drove in another in the contest.

Sophomore outfielder Jess Mason and Schaefer had a pair of hits to lead the Rams.

Junior pitcher Tricia Bettura (9 IP, 5 Ks, 1 BB, 9 H, 1 ER) took the loss for the Rams.
Shepherd sweeps Wesleyan

March 13, 2012
By Andrew Bartoldson - For The Journal, journal-news.net

SHEPHERDSTOWN - Shepherd collected 27 total hits on the day as the Rams swept West Virginia Wesleyan at Fairfax Field in a doubleheader on Tuesday. The Rams charged their way past the Bobcats 5-2 during the first game and won a thriller, 16-14, in the second contest.

During the first contest, the Rams’ Nash Hutter had three hits while teammate Nathan Minnich had two hits and one RBI over the course of the game. Pitcher Paul Hvozdovic allowed four hits and had three strikeouts, while fellow pitcher Andrew Gallant had one strikeout for the game.

The Bobcats’ Cory Flickinger and Mark Darlington both had one hit and one RBI. Pitcher Aaron Adams had a rough day allowing eleven hits while striking out four Rams.

Shepherd got off to a good start, with Minnich hitting a pop fly which turned into an RBI after an error allowed Michael Lott to score the first run and give the Rams an early lead.

Wesleyan was quick to respond during the third inning with Flickinger sending the ball out of left field, tying the game at 1-1.

The Rams (10-7) managed to keep momentum with Kenny Beyer hitting an RBI single into right field, bringing Minnich home. Following Beyer’s lead, Jake Cook hit another RBI single to right field, bringing in Chad Murphy to give the Rams a 3-1 lead ending the third.

Wesleyan tried to get some momentum with Darlington hitting a home run to right field, but the Bobcats were unable to score any more runs during the fourth inning.

The Rams found another groove during the sixth inning scoring two more runs with Aaron Scoville bringing Hutter home and Brandon Coffey bringing Minnich home.

Neither team scored a run during the seventh inning to cap Game 1.

Coach Wayne Riser was pleased with his team’s performance.

“We had good team defense. We didn’t make an error,” Riser said after Game 1.

“I thought we played well together and with a lot of energy.”

The Rams used a six-run fifth inning to rally past Wesleyan in Game 2 and never looked back.
Ruane sets Shepherd program scoring mark


By Josh Land Times Staff Writer

Nicole Ruane surpassed her own program scoring standard when she became the first player in the Shepherd University women's lacrosse team’s three-year history to reach double digits in goals in a single game this week.

Ruane, a junior midfielder and a Century High School graduate, scored a career- and season-high 11 goals in a 23-7 win at Tuesday. She accomplished that feat on just 14 shots while adding three ground balls and seven draw controls in the contest; previously set the record at eight goals three times as a freshman.

It was just the latest big effort for Ruane, who is one of two players on the team to score in every game this season. She has helped Rams to a 6-0 start with team-leading totals of 32 goals, 36 points, 57 shots and 37 draw controls. She’s tied for the team lead in ground balls and is second with 11 caused turnovers.

Ruane has played a key role in Shepherd’s development as a program, as she led the team in scoring as a freshman, when it went 2-13, finished third during an 8-7 campaign last year and has been at the center of this year’s hot start.

Freshman attack Georgia Karr (Liberty) and sophomore midfielder Jenny Cavey (Westminster) have both helped Shepherd Karr ranks second on the team with 30 points, including 18 goals, while chipping in 12 ground balls. Cavey has nine goals, nine ground balls and six caused turnovers.

Reach staff writer Josh Land at 410-857-7875 or josh.land@carrollcountytimes.com.
Bobcats drop doubleheader at Shepherd University

March 14, 2012
By Jesse Stiles - Sports Correspondent, The Inter-Mountain

SHEPHERDSTOWN - West Virginia Wesleyan dropped a tough doubleheader at Shepherd University Tuesday afternoon in West Virginia Conference action.

The Bobcats dropped the first contest 5-2 and suffered a 15-14 loss in nightcap.

In game one, Wesleyan received a strong pitching effort from Aaron Adams who went the distance, allowing only three earned runs.

Adams struck out four while walking only two batters. Both of the Bobcat runs came via the long ball, as Corey Flickinger and Mark Darlington each drilled home runs in a losing effort.

Wesleyan pounded out 14 hits in game two and accumulated a 12-6 lead by the middle of the third inning. But the Rams rallied to win late.

Third baseman Gene Franks led the offense going 3-for-4 with two doubles. Second baseman Matt Edwards collected three hits and three RBIs while Flickinger added two more hits and three RBIs.

"They were both tough losses, especially the second game to lose a six-run lead," Wesleyan head coach Randy Tenney said.

The Bobcats will return to action on Saturday when they entertain Concord for a doubleheader.

Game 1 is scheduled to get underway at 1 p.m.
Minnich at it again in Shepherd’s 10-9 win over West Virginia State

INSTITUTE— Repeat. Encore. Hit another one out!

Shepherd infielder Nathan Minnich slammed two more homers — giving him 10 in 15 games -- as the Rams rallied throughout a 10-9 win over West Virginia State that took eight innings.

The two homers were Minnich’s third and fourth in a three-game series Shepherd had with the Yellow Jackets over this past weekend.

Minnich’s first-inning home run gave the Rams and early 2-0 lead. Shepherd’s lead was 6-0 after RBIs from Chad Murphy, Brandon Coffey, and Kenny Beyer.

But West Virginia State scored the game’s next eight runs to rout Shepherd’s second pitcher, Brian Martin, and take an 8-6 lead.

Minnich’s second home made it 8-7 and then Travis Slager singled and later scored on a wild pitch to make it 8-8.

Andrew Pickering’s RBI-double gave West Virginia State a shortlived 9-8 lead.

Slager hammered a solo homer and the go-ahead run came when Hutter walked and rode home to score on a wild pitch and an Aaron Scoville single.

Minnich finished with a 3-for-3 showing and had four RBIs.

Gallant pitched two scoreless innings to record a save after Matt Copley had worked two innings and yielded an unearned run for the win.

Minnich finished the three-game weekend series with a batting average of .447 after 15 games. He had 21 hits, had scored 17 runs, landed three doubles and 10 home runs. His 27 RBIs led the WVIAC as did his 54 total bases and luminous 1.149 slugging percentage.

Shepherd was 8-7 overall and West Virginia State was 3-9.

Minnich hits two homers as Rams split doubleheader with ’Jackets

INSTITUTE— Nathan Minnich hit home runs in both ends of the WVIAC baseball doubleheader split by homestanding West Virginia State and Shepherd.

The Yellow Jackets scored twice in the fifth inning of the opener to survive Minnich’s two-run homer and hand Shepherd left-hander Paul Hvozdovic the loss in their 4-3 win. Noah Blackhurst had a solo homer for the Yellow Jackets.

Minnich went 2-for-3 and drove in all three Shepherd runs. Chase Pickering was the winning pitcher and Kiser Butcher recorded a save. Hvozdovic had a 2-2 record.

In the nightcap, Minnich clubbed a two-run homer that snapped a 4-4 tie and lifted the Rams to a 6-4 win and a split of Saturday’s two games.

West Virginia State had a 3-0 lead in the first inning against Shepherd starter Brandon Coffey.

Shepherd got a run on a Chad Murphy sacrifice fly that plated Jake Cook. Travis Slager’s RBI single that scored Ryan Messina got Shepherd its second run. With the Yellow Jackets ahead, 4-2, the Rams evened it at 4-4 when Cook and Nash Hutter were able to score runs.

Minnich then crashed a two-run shot in the top of the last inning to finally get Shepherd in front. Minnich had been walked three times prior to hitting his game-deciding blast.

Andrew Gallant pitched the last two innings, allowing no hits and only one walk while fanning three. Gallant got the win, improving his record to 1-2 overall.
Twenty wins again?

Shepherd softball starts another winning season

SHEPHERDSTOWN—Continuing with its non-conference schedule of games, Shepherd swept a softball doubleheader at home against Millersville, a team that had played only twice.

Tricia Bettura limited the Marauders to only four hits as she pitched a complete game in Shepherd’s 2-1 win the first game. Jess Mason went 2-for-2 and Savannah Snyder was 2-for-3. Snyder drove in Mason in the third and Delaney Bell drove in Mason in the fifth. Bettura improved to 4-2.

The second game only went five innings and was called due to darkness. Shepherd had 10 hits and rote the complete-game pitching of Tiffany Biggs to a 5-2 win.

Biggs yielded just five hits and walked one while fanning five.

Bianca Biondillo and Sara McQuade had two hits for Shepherd. Taylor Bolton (two RBIs) and Biondillo each had a triple.

Shepherd was 8-4 overall and Millersville was 1-3 overall.

Mercyhurst of the PSAC showed the Lady Rams some low-hit, low-run pitching when the Lakers swept a doubleheader from Shepherd on Saturday.

The Lakers posted wins of 3-2 and 2-1 to improve their record to 9-9 and leave Shepherd at 8-6 overall. The loss in the opener saw Tayler Schaefer get three hits and Jess Mason have two of Shepherd’s six hits. Bettura took the loss to go to 4-3.

In the nightcap, Shepherd only had four hits and Sara McQuade had two of those. Tiffany Biggs was the hard-luck loser for the Lady Rams.

Shepherd split a Monday doubleheader at Lenoir-Rhyne in North Carolina. Lenoir-Rhyne won the first game, 3-2, and Shepherd could claim 4-3 win in the second game when winning pitcher Tiffany Biggs drove in two runs with a late-game single.

Biondillo had two hits in the opener and Schaefer drove in a run. Bettura took the loss and was 4-4.

Schaefer was 2-for-3 with an RBI in the second game. Biggs was 1-for-1. Biggs improved her record to 3-2 with a nine-hit complete game where she walked only one and fanned two.

Shepherd was 9-7 overall and Lenoir-Rhyne was 22-9 overall.
Colwell nets four in Wolves’ 23-7 loss to Shepherd

Newberry freshman Nikki Colwell recorded her second four-goal game of her career, while fellow freshman Sam Capers made 20 saves in goal as the Wolves fell to the visiting Shepherd University Rams 23-7.

Shepherd (6-0) opened its account a little over a minute into the game, as the Rams scored four straight before Newberry (1-3) tacked on its first goal of the game just under five minutes in. After freshman Meg Kenny (Mauldin) controlled a draw, the ball found its way to Colwell (Greer) who found the back of the net for the Wolves opening tally.

Newberry added a second goal with about five minutes remaining in the opening period as Kenny posted her third tally of the season to cut the Rams’ lead to 9-2. At 29:16 Newberry senior Kristin Stensholt (Melbourne, Victoria, Australia) drew a Shepherd foul and converted on a free position shot for her third goal of the year.

Returning from the halftime break down 9-3, Newberry surrendered four straight Shepherd goals before Colwell scored for the second time on the afternoon ten minutes into the second period. Down 18-4, the Wolves added a fifth goal when Colwell scored for the third time nearly 21 minutes into the second half.

Newberry freshman Elise Sanchez (Tujunga, Calif.) did everything on her own at 21:22 when she controlled a draw, drew a foul and scored her first career goal to put the Wolves behind 18-6.

After Sanchez created her own opportunity, Colwell controlled the following draw and did the same scoring her fourth of the game and 12th of the season.

Colwell’s final goal was also the last time Newberry found the back of the net against Shepherd, falling behind 23-7 before time expired giving the Rams the victory.

Capers (Monroe Township, N.J.) recorded 20 saves on the day, while Sanchez and sophomore Tricia Powell (Monroe Township, N.J.) led the Wolves with three ground balls each.
Shepherd softball falls

March 19, 2012
From staff reports, journal-news.net

SALEM, Va. - Shepherd University dropped a 12-1 decision to
California, Pa., at the West Virginia Wesleyan Tournament on Sunday
in Salem, Va.

Jillian Russell went 3 for 3 with a three-run homer and five RBI to lead
the Vulcans.

Shelby Lia added a two-run blast and Kristen McKenzie had a solo
homer.

Sophomore outfielder Jess Mason went 2 for 3 and scored Shepherd's
only run in the fourth inning on an RBI single by sophomore first
baseman Sam McQuade.

Junior pitcher Tricia Bettura took the loss for the Rams to fall to 5-7.
Hope Spancake earned the win to improve to 8-1.

Shepherd falls to 13-10, while California improves to 15-3.

The Rams return to action on Wednesday when they travel to
Indiana, Pa., for a 1:30 p.m. doubleheader.
Long comeback helps Rams sweep West Virginia Wesleyan

SHEPHERDSTOWN—Andrew Gallant got saves in both ends of Shepherd’s conference doubleheader sweep of West Virginia Wesleyan.

Gallant, who had four saves in Shepherd’s 10-7 record season, had one-inning saves in both the opening, 5-2, win and wild-ride, 16-14, victory in Game 2.

West Virginia Wesleyan was 6-10 overall and 2-2 in the WVIAC after dropping both games.

Even in stranding 10 runners in the opener, Shepherd had 11 hits off route-going Adams. The Rams stranded another 11 runners in the nightcap when they rattled out 16 hits off the combined pitching efforts of four Bobcats.

The Rams’ left-hander Paul Hvozdovic went five innings in the opener and improved his record to 3-2. He yielded four hits, walked three, fanned four, and both runs off him were earned.

He survived home runs by the Bobcats’ Corey Flickinger and Mark Darlington.

Chad Murphy had two RBIs and Nathan Minnich one RBI for the Rams. Minnich was 2-for-3 and scored twice. Nash Hutter was 3-for-3 and scored a run.

In the nightcap, Shepherd tallied five runs in the first when its first six batters reached safely. There were three walks and two hit batters in front of Ryan Messina’s grand slam homer.

West Virginia Wesleyan chased Shepherd starter Trevor Appleby with a nine-run second inning. And took a 9-5 lead in the process. Appleby faced seven batters in the second and could not retire any of them. There were eight hits and three Shepherd errors in the huge uprising.

Messina had another RBI in the second when Shepherd moved to within 9-6.

After the Bobcats scored another three runs in the third off Shepherd reliever Jamie Driver, they led 12-6. Darlington’s three-run homer accounted for the runs.

Shepherd made it 12-8 with two runs in the third when Aaron Scoville had an RBI as did Murphy.

Hutter singled home a run in the fourth and the Bobcats lead was at 12-9.

After Rams’ reliever Sam Beatty yielded a run in the fifth, Shepherd rallied for six runs in its half of the inning.

After Minnich walked and Murphy doubled, Jake Cook singled in a run. Travis Sluger’s three-run homer lifted Sheph-er back into a 13-13 tie.

Hutter had a single. Michael Lott also singled and so did Scoville. Minnich then delivered a two-run single to give the Rams a 15-13 lead. In the next inning, the Shepherd lead went to 16-13 when Sluger doubled in Brandon Coffey, who had singled.

Gallant surrendered a run in the top of the seventh, but retired the last three men he faced to close out the win.

Minnich had reached base five times after being walked four straight times. Cook was 3-for-3 and scored twice. Sluger was 3-for-5 with four RBIs. Hutter continued his hot hitting, going 2-for-4, and scored twice. Lott was 2-for-4 and scored twice. Murphy drove in two runs.

Shepherd actually had 27 baserunners in its six innings.

Minnich was on base in eight of his nine at-bats.

Minnich improved his batting average to .476.

Shepherd moved into second place in the North Division of the WVIAC behind only unbeaten-in-the-conference Seton Hill.
Rams deal Griffins first WVIAC loss

From staff reports

GREENSBURG, Pa.—Seton Hill came into last weekend's conference games against Shepherd with an unbeaten (6-0) WVIAC record. The Griffins were the 13th-ranked team in the country in NCAA Division II baseball.

On Saturday, Seton Hill comfortably defeated the Rams, 7-3, and 14-6, in a doubleheader that evaporated Shepherd's winning streak to its own conference schedule.

But then on Sunday in a single game, the Rams rallied for three runs in the 10th inning to drop the Griffins, 5-2. By salvaging the Sunday game, Shepherd improved its WVIAC record to 4-3 and shoved its overall mark to 11-9. The 4-3 conference record had the Rams in second place in the seven-school North Division.

In losing, 7-3, Shepherd had 11 hits but stranded eight runners, made four errors, and struck out nine times as a team.

Starting pitcher Brandon Coffey couldn't get out of the fourth inning.

Nathan Minnich, Nash Hatter, Ryan Messina, and Aaron Scoville all had two hits.

In the 14-6 loss, Shepherd had all four of its pitchers -- Justin Byrd, Andrew Gallant, Jamie Driver, and Matt Copley -- roughed up by the Griffins.

The Rams committed three errors and left 10 runners on base.

Minnich hit his 11th homer of the season while scoring two runs and collecting two RBIs. Coffey and Ryan Messina both had two hits. Michael Lott scored twice.

In winning on Sunday, the Rams used the low-run pitching of Paul Hvozdivic to stay with the Griffins for nine innings. Hvozdivic limited the Griffins to seven hits and one earned run while fanning eight in his nine innings.

Again, Shepherd had to work around four errors and stranded another nine runners.

Minnich's double had driven in one run and Messina had the other RBI hit in the first nine innings. In the 10th, Lott walked. After Scoville safely legged out what was to be a sacrifice bunt, Minnich hit into a fielder's choice.

Chad Murphy had a sacrifice fly to give the Rams a 3-2 lead. Messina singled in a run as did Coffey, and the lead was at 5-2.

Gallant pitched a scoreless 10th for the Rams for his fifth save of the year. Hvozdivic improved his record to 4-2.

Minnich was selected as the D2BaseballNews.com National Player of the Week for the week of March 14.

After last weekend against Seton Hill, Minnich had moved his batting average to .475 with 11 homers and 32 RBIs. Minnich had 67 total bases and had a 1.098 slugging percentage. In 20 games, he had drawn 23 walks and scored a team-high 25 runs.

Shepherd will be at home at Fairfield Field on Saturday for a 1 p.m. doubleheader against Wheeling Jesuit. A single conference game against the Cardinals on Sunday also has a 1 p.m. start.

Shepherd returns from Salem tournament

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.—Shepherd and homestanding Winston-Salem State split a softball doubleheader on March 13. Winston-Salem State took 10 innings to win the opener, 5-4, and then Shepherd responded with a 14-3 win in a game halted after five innings because of the mercy rule.

The Lady Rams were 10-8 overall and Winston-Salem State was 13-11 overall.

Winston-Salem's winning run in the 10th inning of the opener scored on an error. Both teams had scored single runs in both the eighth and ninth innings.

Shepherd only had seven hits with both Jess Mason and Tyler Schaefer getting two hits. Schaefer's hits were doubles.

Tricia Bettura was the losing pitcher.

In the nightcap, the Lady Rams collected 17 hits. Schaefer was 3-for-3, Savannah Snyder was 3-for-4, Kris Durham was 3-for-4, Delaney Bell was 2-for-2, and Bianca Biondillo was 2-for-4.

Sam McQuade had three RBIs as did Bell. Schaefer, Durham, and Biondillo had two RBIs.

Tiffany Biggs was the winning pitcher with a five-inning three-hitter that featured seven strikeouts.

In a weekend tournament in Salem, Va., Shepherd suffered a 5-0 shutout loss to Kutztown after winning a first game against the Golden Bears, 4-3.

Biggs fanned nine in the nine-inning win, improving to 5-2. Mason had an RBI single that plated Snyder in the ninth of the 4-3 win. Mary Kocienczi had a six-hit shutout against the Lady Rams in Kutztown's win. Bettura was Shepherd's losing pitcher. Kutztown was 17-1 overall.

On Saturday, Shepherd defeated Chowan again, beating the North Carolina nine, 3-2, in eight innings and then tripping Shippensburg, 2-1, in another game.

Sam McQuade had a two-run homer versus Chowan. Biggs improved her pitching record to 6-2. Biondillo had a solo homer against Shippensburg as Bettura had a complete-game four-hit. The Red Raiders were 3-2 overall.

In its final game at Salem, the Lady Rams fell to California (Pa.), 12-1, and returned to Shepherdstown with a 13-10 overall record.
COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Indiana sweeps Shepherd

INDIANA, Pa. - Shepherd University dropped a pair of games to Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

The Crimson Hawks rallied for a 5-4 win in Game 1 and added a 5-1 victory in the nightcap.

Shepherd took a 3-0 lead in the third inning in Game 1 behind a three-run double by freshman outfielder Tayler Schaefer.

The Crimson Hawks cut the lead to 3-1 in the fifth on an RBI double by Megan McCormick.

The Rams added a run in the sixth when junior outfielder Bianca Biondillo reached base on an error and scored on an infield single by freshman shortstop Taylor Bolton.

IUP scored a run in the sixth on an RBI single by Ashley Strack to cut the Shepherd lead to 4-2.

The Crimson Hawks plated three runs in the bottom of the seventh to rally for the win. Stephanie McCoy singled home pinch-runner Kaylee Prendergast with the game-winner.

Bolton went 2 for 3 to lead the Rams.

Junior pitcher Tiffany Biggs (6.1 IP, 7 H 5 ER, 6 Ks, 6 BB) took the loss to fall to 6-3. Alexa Campbell picked up the win for the Crimson Hawks.

McCormick went 2 for 3 and drove in four runs to lead IUP to the nightcap win.

Shepherd's lone run came in the first when senior third baseman Chelsie Oals led off with a single and later scored on a single by Biondillo.

Oals had a pair of hits to lead the Rams.

Junior pitcher Tricia Bettura (6.0 IP, 10 H, 4 ER, 5 Ks, 1 BB) took the loss for the Rams to fall to 5-8. Kelly King earned the win to improve to 4-3.

Shepherd fell to 13-12, while Indiana (Pa.) improved to 10-6-1.
SHEPHERDSTOWN - Junior midfielder Nicole Ruane scored five goals and freshman attack Georgia Kerr added four to lead Shepherd University to a 13-5 win over Kutztown in women's lacrosse action at Ram Stadium.

Sophomore midfielder Jenny Cavey had two goals and an assist, while freshman defender/midfielder Alyx Albano added a goal and an assist. Freshman attack Hayley Roper also netted a goal.

Sophomore attack Christina Ferrara had a game-high three assists and Kerr added one.
COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Shepherd splits pair

SALEM, Va. Sophomore outfielder Jess Mason singled home freshman Savannah Snyder in the ninth inning to lead Shepherd University to a 4-3 win over Mercyhurst on Friday at the West Virginia Wesleyan Tournament in Salem, Va. Shepherd dropped a 5-0 decision to No. 12 Kutztown in a later game.

Shepherd (11-9) took a 3-0 lead against Mercyhurst in the first behind an RBI double from freshman outfielder Tayler Schaefer and an RBI-single by sophomore first baseman Sam McQuade.

Samantha Elmert hit a solo shot in the third for the Lakers to cut the lead to 3-1.

Mercyhurst added a run in the sixth on an RBI double by Emily Redig and added a run on a solo homer in the seventh to force extra innings.

Junior pitcher Tiffany Biggs fanned nine to earn the win and improve to 5-2.

Laker reliever Megan Hopton took the loss.

Samantha Derr hit a three-run homer to help lift Kutztown (17-1) to a win over the Rams in later game.

Mary Kocencki scattered six hits and picked up the win for the Golden Bears to improve to 5-0. Junior pitcher Tricia Bettura (6 IP, 6 Ks, 2 BB, 7 H, 4 ER) took the loss for the Rams to fall to 4-6.
Biggs named WVIAC co-pitcher of the week

March 23, 2012
Shepherdstown Chronicle

Junior pitcher Tiffany Biggs (Harpers Ferry, WV/Jefferson/Potomac State) of the Shepherd University softball team has been named WVIAC Co-Pitcher of the Week, as announced by the league office today. Biggs shared the honors with Ali Neace of Alderson-Broaddus.

Biggs went 4-0 on the week for the Rams. She registered a complete-game win over No. 25 Lenoir-Rhyne. Biggs also hurled complete-game wins over Winston-Salem State, Mercyhurst and Chowan. For the week, she had 28 strikeouts against just six walks in 34 innings of action.