

SHEPHERD (0-0) vs. SHIPPENSBURG (0-0)

RAM STADIUM • SHEPHERDSTOWN, WV
SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 2009 • 1 P.M.

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. -- The Shepherd football team enters the 2009 campaign with great anticipation after coming off an uncharacteristic 5-5 mark in 2008 as the Rams had three loss by a total of 12 points.

Head coach **Monte Cater** returns 15 starters, including six players who earned WVIAC All-Conference honors a year ago. Seven offensive starters are back, led by junior running back **Jimmy Sutch (Hagerstown, MD/St. James)**. Eight starters return on defense with senior defensive tackle **Frank Herrera (Burke, VA/Robinson)** and senior free safety **Layton Hersh (Taneytown, MD/Francis Scott Key)** lending the most experience.

Junior All-American return specialist **Deante Steele (Woodbridge, VA/Potomac)** will pace the special teams play. Junior **Kevin Clancy (Westminster, MD/Westminster)** is expected to get the starting nod at quarterback. Senior **Brett Zirkle (Fishersville, VA/Stuarts Draft)** will also vie for action.

Sophomore **Tommy Addison (Germantown, MD/Quince Orchard)**, who ran for over 100 yards in the season finale last year, will also vie for time.

Junior **Bobby Humphries (Frederick, MD/Thomas Johnson)** enters his third season as the starter at fullback.

A three-year starter and team captain, senior **Jeremy Hairston (LaPlata, MD/Lackey)** returns to lead the offensive line.

Senior **Campbell Martens (Bethesda, MD/Walt Whitman)**, junior **Geoff Fry (Frederick, MD/Frederick)**, and sophomores **Carl McIntyre (Dayton, VA/Turner Ashby)**, **Josh Spring (Lovettsville, VA/Loudoun Valley)**, and **Steve Jackson (Madison Heights, VA/Amherst)** all return with starting experience.

Senior **T.J. Mazyck (Germantown, MD/Seneca Valley)** will get the starting nod at tight end. Sophomore **Ricky Jenkins (Ft. Washington, MD/Friendly)** and freshman **John Frick (Greencastle, PA/Greencastle-Antrim)** are also expected to see action.

The Rams return a solid veteran group at wide receiver led by senior **Nasser Muhammad (Silver Spring, MD/Sidwell Friends)**. Senior **Raymond Mendis (Leesburg, VA/Park View)** and junior **Nikkolai Norrell (Richmond, VA/Hermitage)**, and sophomore **Neal Hardie (Alexandria, VA/West Potomac)** also return. Newcomer **Robert Byrd (Alexandria, VA/Troy)** is expected to make an immediate impact.

The defensive line returns veterans **T.J. Taylor (Frederick, MD/Frederick)**, **Travis Huff (Sterling, VA/ Park View)**, **Will Wheeler (Chantilly, VA/Westfield)** and **Ryan Peacock (Baltimore MD/Digital Harbor)**.

Junior captain **Brian Taylor (Elkridge, MD/Long Reach)** leads the linebacking corps.

Sophomore kicker **Eric Dobratz (Woodbridge, VA/Potomac)** and junior punter **Matt Martin (Martinsburg, WV/Martinsburg)** are back to handle the kicking chores.

A REIGN OF EXCELLENCE

Head Coach **Monte Cater** is now in his 23rd season at the helm of the Shepherd football program. The Rams have had a great deal of success since **Cater** arrived in 1987 as they have won 11 WVIAC titles in 22 seasons. In that time the Rams have made two trips to the NIAA Playoffs and five trips to the NCAA II Playoffs with playoff appearances (1998-99 and 2005-07). Below is a list of where **Cater** ranks on the all-time victories and all-time titles lists in the WVIAC.

WVIAC COACHING VICTORIES

1. **Monte Cater (SU)** 155-76-1 (.670)
2. **Deacon Duvall (FSC)** 125-42-3 (.744)
3. **Joe Bartell (WL)** 118-55-11 (.671)
4. **Bill Struble (WVW)** 113-151-0 (.428)
5. **Walter Barr (SU)** 104-48-4 (.679)
6. **Tony Colobro (BSC/CC)** 100-45-7 (.681)
7. **Cebe Ross (WVW/MH)** 97-109-12 (.472)
8. **Adolph Hamblin (WVS)** 90-58-18 (.596)
9. **Dana Lough (Pot. St.)** 86-90-9 (.489)
10. **Cam Henderson (D&E)** 81-33-6 (.700)

2009 SHEPHERD SCHEDULE

August	
29	Shippensburg 1 p.m.
September	
5	@ Bowie State 1 p.m.
12	@ Fairmont * 1 p.m.
19	Seton Hill * 1 p.m.
26	Charleston * 1 p.m.
October	
3	@ Concord * 4 p.m.
10	@ WV Wesleyan * 6 p.m.
17	West Liberty * 1 p.m.
24	WV State * ^ 1 p.m.
November	
5	@ Glenville * 8 p.m.
* WVIAC Games	
^ Homecoming	
Home Games in Bold	

2009 SHIPPENSBURG SCHEDULE

August	
29	@ Shepherd 1 p.m.
September	
5	@ Edinboro 1 p.m.
12	Lock Haven * 1 p.m.
19	East Stroudsburg * 1 p.m.
26	@ Millersville * 7 p.m.
October	
3	@ C.W. Post * 1 p.m.
10	Kutztown * 1 p.m.
17	West Chester * 1 p.m.
24	@ Bloomsburg * 2:30 p.m.
31	@ Cheyney * 1 p.m.
November	
7	California (Pa.) 6 p.m.

* PSAC-East Games Home games in bold

WVIAC COACHING TITLES

1. **Monte Cater (SU)** 11
2. **Deacon Duvall (FSC)** 8
3. **Joe Bartell (WL)** 7
- 4T. **Tony Colobro (BSC/CC)** 5
- Eddie King (MH)** 5
6. **Rich Rodriguez (GSC)** 4
- 7T. **Walter Barr (SU)** 3
- Cebe Ross (WVW/MH)** 3
- Bill Struble (WVW)** 3

NEWS AND NOTES

Misc. STATS

Here is a compilation of some interesting tidbits on the Rams last season:

Third Down Conversions by SU/Foes: 53/135 (39%) / 44/128 (34%)

Shepherd Avg. Time of Possession/Foes: 31:42 / 28:13

Penalties-Yards by SU/Foes: 56-535 / 80-786

First Downs by Rush-Pass by SU/Foes: 76-90 / 69-75

SHEPHERD'S MAGIC NUMBERS

24

If the Rams score 24 or more points, there is a good chance they will come out on top. Shepherd owns a 234-12 (.951) all-time record when reaching the magical 24-point mark. Included in that record is a 107-9 (.922) record since 1990 and a 113-11 (.911) mark under Cater.

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The Rams sport a 345-75-26 (.802) all-time record when holding the opposition to 14 points or less. Currently, Shepherd has won 71 of its last 72 games when holding the opposition to 14 or less and owns a 93-3-1 (.963) record since 1990 when turning the trick. Shepherd is 104-7-1 (.933) under Cater in such games.

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Shepherd is 119-99-26 (.541) all-time in games decided by seven points or less. Shepherd has a 37-24-1 (.604) record since 1990 and a 41-33-1 (.553) mark under Cater in games decided by seven or less.

150

Another key to victory is the Rams' running game. Shepherd is 143-23-2 (.857) since 1980 in games that it rushes for 150 or more yards. Since 1990, the record is 92-11-1 (.889) and under Cater it is 102-17-1 (.854).

Anything Less than 100

Defensively, the Rams will try to contain the running game and force teams to pass. If they hold the opposition to under 100 yards rushing, the odds on a win go up dramatically. Since 1980, the Rams are 120-17-1 (.873) when holding teams to less than 100 yards. Since 1990, Shepherd is 85-12 (.876) in such games and 93-15 (.861) under Cater



RADIO AND WEB RADIO COVERAGE:

The Ram Sports Radio Network will once again bring the action of the 2009 Shepherd University football team to the fans of the four-state region. WRNR-740 AM will broadcast all 10 regular-season games with Matt Miller and Vic Holmes covering all the action. The action can also be heard on the Web. Links are available at www.talkradiowrnr.com or www.shepherdrams.com.

SHEPHERD-SHIPPENSBURG ALL-TIME SERIES RESULTS

Date	Winner	Score
10-27-23	Shepherd	14-7
10-25-24	Shippensburg	28-6
10-3-25	Shippensburg	14-8
10-6-28	Shepherd	12-6
10-5-29	Shippensburg	31-0
10-3-31	Shippensburg	40-0
10-1-32	Shepherd	3-0
10-16-37	Shippensburg	27-0
10-15-38	Shippensburg	13-3
11-2-40	Shippensburg	47-2
10-7-50	Shippensburg	13-7
10-6-51	Shippensburg	59-0
9-26-56	Shippensburg	14-2
9-28-57	Shippensburg	27-7
9-27-58	Shippensburg	10-6
9-26-59	Shippensburg	14-0
10-21-60	Shepherd	12-0
10-21-61	Shepherd	32-12
9-29-62	Shippensburg	14-13
9-28-63	Shepherd	12-7
9-26-64	Shippensburg	23-6
9-25-65	Shippensburg	33-10
9-9-78	Shepherd	14-10
9-8-79	Shippensburg	23-7
11-16-85	Shippensburg	7-0
11-15-86	Shepherd	28-17
9-7-91	Shippensburg	49-28
9-5-92	* Shippensburg	21-7
9-4-93	Shippensburg	10-7
9-3-94	Shippensburg	17-0
9-3-94	Shippensburg	17-0
9-2-95	Shippensburg	24-21
9-7-96	Shippensburg	24-22
9-13-97	Shepherd	20-16
9-5-98	Shippensburg	36-14
9-4-99	Shippensburg	24-21
9-2-00	Shepherd	28-13
9-1-01	Shepherd	28-25
9-7-02	Shepherd	17-10
9-6-03	Shippensburg	33-14
9-4-04	Shippensburg	35-7
9-3-05	Shepherd	34-32
9-2-06	Shepherd	14-0
9-1-07	Shepherd	19-14
8-30-08	Shepherd	20-16

Shippensburg leads the all-time series, 27-17

* includes Shepherd forfeit win in 1992

MILESTONES AND MEMORIES

ON THE RUN

Junior running back **Jimmy Sutch** returns as the starting running back after rushing 190 times for 885 yards and 14 touchdowns last season.

SUTCH'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G/GS	Ru-Yds.	Avg.	TDs	Long
2007	9/0	56-315	5.6	5	32
2008	10/10	190-885	4.7	14	78
Totals	19/10	246-1,200	4.8	19	78

SUTCH'S CAREER HIGHS

Rushing yards 201 vs. Shippensburg (8-30-08)
 Carries 28 vs. West Liberty (10-25-08)
 Rushing TDs 4 vs. WV State (11-1-08)

SUTCH'S 100-YARD RUSHING GAMES

Opponent	Carries-Yards (Date)
WV State	24-158 (11-1-08)
Concord	16-122 (10-11-08)
Shippensburg	26-201 (8-30-08)
Indiana (Pa.)	17-119 (11-24-07)

THE GREAT VALLEY CLASSIC

The Rams and Red Raiders will met for the 12th annual Great Valley Classic. Shepherd holds a 7-4 edge in the classic series.

CAPTAINS

Senior defensive lienman **Frank Herrera**, offensive lineman **Jeremy Hairston**, junior linebacker **Brian Taylor**, and senior wide receiver **Nasser Muhammad** will serve as captains for the Rams in 2009.



2009 SHEPHERD FOOTBALL CAPTAINS

MAN OF STEELE

Junior return specialist **Deante Steele** returns after gaining First Team All-American honors last season.

STEELE'S KICK RETURN TOUCHDOWNS

Deante Steele (85-yard KO return vs. WV State) 11-1-08
 Deante Steele (60-yard punt return vs. WV State) 11-1-08
 Deante Steele (91-yard KO return vs. Concord) 10-11-08
 Deante Steele (95-yard punt return vs. Charleston) 10-4-08
 Deante Steele (68-yard punt return vs. Charleston) 10-6-07

STEELE'S CAREER PUNT RETURN STATISTICS

Year	G/GS	Ru-Yds.	Avg.	TDs	Long
2007	10/9	17-232	13.6	1	68
2008	10/10	20-404	20.2	2	*95
Totals	20/19	37-636	17.2	3	*95

* ties school record

STEELE'S CAREER KICKOFF RETURN STATISTICS

Year	G/GS	Ru-Yds.	Avg.	TDs	Long
2007	10/9	20-457	22.9	0	72
2008	10/10	17-491	28.9	2	91
Totals	20/19	37-948	25.6	3	91

CATCHING ON

Senior wide receiver **Nasser Muhammad** paced the team with a team-high 29 receptions for 368 yards in 2008. His three touchdown grabs also led the team.

MUHAMMAD'S CAREER STATISTICS

Year	G/GS	Ru-Yds.	Avg.	TDs	Long
2007	12/1	18-225	12.5	2	44
2008	10/4	29-368	12.7	3	43
Totals	22/5	47-593	12.6	5	44

FOR KICKS

Sophomore **Eric Dobratz** returns as the starting kicker for the Rams. Junior **Matt Martin** is back to handle the punting duties.

IN AUGUST

The Rams have played only seven games in their history in August, with a 4-3 mark, including a 2-1 mark at home. Shepherd's all-time results in August:

Year	Opponent	W/L	Score
1974	@ Fairmont (8/31)	L	0-7
1975	Fairmont (8/30)	L	7-26
2004	@ Virginia State (8/28)	L	8-13
2005	Virginia State (8/27)	W	24-7
2006	@ Millersville (8/26)	W	28-7
2007	Millersville (8/25)	W	36-7
2008	@ Shippensburg (8/30)	W	20-16

