

For Immediate Release

Contact: Chip Ransom, Director of Sports Information, 304/876-5228

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SHEPHERD (1-0) vs. BOWIE STATE (1-0)

RAM STADIUM • SHEPHERDSTOWN, WV

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2008 • 1 P.M.

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. -- Sophomore running back **Jimmy Sutch** (Hagerstown, MD/St. James) rushed 26 times for 201 yards and a pair of touchdowns and redshirt-freshman running **A.J. Brown** (Dunkirk, MD/Northern) scored the game-winning touchdown on a 10-yard run with 6:31 remaining in the game to lead 13th-ranked Shepherd University to a 20-16 win over Shippensburg University in the Great Valley Classic at Seth Grove Stadium last Saturday.

Sutch earned **WVIAC Offensive Player of the Week** and **D2Football.com Offensive Player of the Week** honors for his stellar play.

Shepherd took 7-0 lead with 5:45 left in the first quarter when Sutch broke outside, shook off a would-be tackler, and raced 78 yards for a score. Freshman kicker **Eric Dobratz** (Woodbridge, VA/Potomac) added the extra point.

Shippensburg answered back with 6:31 left in the second quarter when Chad DiFebbo connected with split end Mike Harris on a nine-yard alley-oop pass for the score. Kyler Ford added the extra point to tie the game at 7-7.

The Rams retook the lead at 13-7 with 1:34 remaining in the half when Sutch scored his second touchdown of the day on a seven-yard jaunt. The extra point attempt by Dobratz was wide left.

The Red Raiders took a 14-13 advantage into the break moments later on a six-yard touchdown pass from Chad DiFebbo to Chase DiFebbo.

Shippensburg extended its lead to 16-13 when sophomore wide receiver **Raymond Mendis** (Leesburg, VA/Park View) took a reverse and was tackled in the end zone with 12:14 left in the fourth quarter.

Shepherd scored the game-winner with 6:31 left in the fourth quarter when Brown blasted his way into the end zone from 10 yards out.

Shepherd got a gutty performance for senior quarterback **Tyler Lazear** (Bethesda, MD/Walt Whitman) who returned in the second half after leaving the game in the first quarter with an injury. Lazear completed 10-of-14 passes for 119 yards.

Junior wide receiver **Nasser Muhammad** (Silver Spring, MD/Sidwell Friends) had four catches for 47 yards and senior wide receiver **Craig Tremel** (Lilly, PA/Penn Cambria) added three grabs for 49 yards to lead the Ram receivers.

Chad DiFebbo connected on 15-of-33 passes for 197 for the Red Raiders. Harris had game-high of seven receptions for 117 yards to pace the receiving corps.

Senior linebacker **Louis Corum** (Manassas, VA/Westfield) led the Rams defense with 10 tackles including six solos. Senior linebacker **Jacquez Taylor** (Gaithersburg, MD/Quince Orchard) chipped in with seven stops.

The secondary was paced by junior free safety **Layton Hersh** (Taneytown, MD/Francis Scott Key). Hersh picked off a pass late in the game to spoil a Red Raider comeback bid.

A REIGN OF EXCELLENCE

Head Coach **Monte Cater** is now in his 22nd 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 21 seasons. In that time the Rams have made two trips to the NAIA Playoffs (1991, 1992) and five trips to the NCAA II Playoffs (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) 151-71-1 (.679)
2. Deacon Duvall (FSC) 125-42-3 (.744)
3. Joe Bartell (WL) 118-55-11 (.671)
4. Bill Struble (WVW) 109-134-0 (.448)
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)

2008 SHEPHERD SCHEDULE/RESULTS

August

30 @ Shippensburg W 20-16

September

6 **Bowie State** 1 p.m.

13 **Glennville** * 1 p.m.

20 **Fairmont** * 1 p.m.

27 @ **Seton Hill** * 4 p.m.

October

4 @ **Charleston** * 1 p.m.

11 **Concord** * 1 p.m.

18 **WV Wesleyan** * ^ 1 p.m.

25 @ **West Liberty** * 1 p.m.

November

1 @ **WV State** * 1 p.m.

* WVIAC Games
^ Homecoming
Home Games in Bold

2008 BOWIE STATE SCHEDULE/RESULTS

August

30 @ **Cheyney** W 51-26

September

6 @ *Shepherd* 1 p.m.

13 @ **Nicholls State** 6 p.m.

20 @ **Livingstone** * 7 p.m.

27 @ **Shaw** * 4 p.m.

October

11 **Elizabeth City State** * 1 p.m.

18 @ **St. Paul's** * 1:30 p.m.

25 **Virginia Union** * 1 p.m.

November

1 **Virginia State** * 1 p.m.

* CIAA 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 through one game this season:

Third Down Conversions by SU/Foes: 5/16 (31 %)/3/16 (19 %)
Shepherd Avg. Time of Possession/Foes: 33:43/26:17
Penalties-Yards by SU/Foes: 5-50/8-77
First Downs by Rush-Pass by SU/Foes: 6-8/4-8

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 231-10 (.958) all-time record when reaching the magical 24-point mark. Included in that record is a 104-7 (.937) record since 1990 and a 110-9 (.924) mark under Cater.

14

The Rams sport a 341-75-26 (.800) all-time record when holding the opposition to 14 points or less. Currently, Shepherd has won 67 of its last 68 games when holding the opposition to 14 or less and owns an 89-3-1 (.962) record since 1990 when turning the trick. Shepherd is 100-7-1 (.926) under Cater in such games.

7

Shepherd is 119-93-26 (.554) all-time in games decided by seven points or less. Shepherd has a 37-21-1 (.635) record since 1990 and a 41-30-1 (.576) mark under Cater in games decided by seven or less.

150

Another key to victory is the Shepherd running game. Shepherd is 141-23-2 (.855) since 1980 in games that it rushes for 150 or more yards. Since 1990, the record is 89-11-1 (.886) and under Cater it is 99-17-1 (.850).

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 118-16-1 (.877) when holding teams to less than 100 yards. Since 1990, Shepherd is 83-11 (.883) in such games and 91-14 (.867) under Cater.



RADIO AND WEB RADIO COVERAGE:

The Ram Sports Radio Network will once again bring the action of the 2008 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.

SCORING SUMMARY & STATISTICS FROM SHIPPENSBURG GAME

Shepherd	7	6	0	7-	20
Shippensburg	0	14	0	2-	16

SHEP - Sutch 78 yd run (Dobratz kick)
 SHIP - Harris 9 yd pass from Chad DiFebbo (Ford kick)
 SHEP - Sutch 7 yd run (Dobratz kick failed)
 SHIP - Chase DiFebbo 6 yd pass from Chad DiFebbo (Ford kick)
 SHIP - Riley Bowen safety
 SHEP - Brown 10 yd run (Dobratz kick)

SHEP		SHIP
17	First Downs	13
199	Rushes-Yards	84
145	Passing Yards	197
24-23-145-0-1	Passes	15-33-197-2-1
67-344	Plays-Total Off.	63-281
90	Return Yards	103
8/33.5	Punts/Av.	10/42.6
3-2	Fumbles-Lost	3-1
5-50	Penalties-Yards	8-77
33:43	Time of Possession	26:17

Rushing: SHEP Sutch 26-201-2, Brown 8-30-1, Tremel 1-4-0, Zirkle 1-(-4)-0, Lazear 8-(-30)-0, Mends 1-(-5)-0. SHIP Marshall 6-42-0, Infante 11-36-0, Stoops 3-12-0, Catherman 4-8-0, McCain 2-1-0, Chad DiFebbo 4-(-14)-0.

Passing: SHEP Lazear 10-14-119-0-1, Zirkle 4-9-26-0-0. SHIP Chad DiFebbo 15-33-197-2-1.

Receiving: SHEP Muhammad 4-47-0, Tremel 3-49-0, Lavin 2-26-0, Norrell 2-11-0, Sutch 2-4-0, Humphries 1-8-0. SHIP Harris 8-117-1, Chase DiFebbo 3-26-1, Stoops 2-19-0, Marshall 1-29-0, Biondi 1-6-0.

NATIONAL HONORS

Sophomore running back Jimmy Sutch earned D2Football.com Offensive Player of the Week honors for his standout play against Shippensburg last week.

AMONG THE RANKS

The Rams are again ranked 13th in the AFCA NCAA Division II Football Poll for September 2. The Rams are also ranked 13th by D2Football.com.

