

HISTORY • OF • RAM STADIUM



Ram Stadium has served as the home of the Shepherd football team since 1959, when it was dedicated at the Homecoming game on October 10 with a 14-0 win over rival Potomac State. Since then the Rams have treated their fans to plenty of excitement, last-second wins, and hard-hitting tackles. With the crowd as the 12th man on the field, the Rams have recorded a 222-76-6 (.740) record on their home field.

The program permanently moved its playing site to Ram Stadium in 1960 after playing its home contests at Fairfax Field, which is now the revamped home for the University's baseball team.

In 2000, the stadium underwent a \$2.2 million expansion project. The home stands were moved to the west side, which features seating with a capacity for 3,000 spectators to increase the total seating capacity to 5,000. Two new sections of reserved seats are offered. A new press box, concession stands, and bathrooms are also included. The field also features a new underground irrigation system.

The Kenneth J. Boone Field House, a \$1.25 million facilities building, was completed in 2003. The Shepherd University Foundation raised \$500,000 in private gifts and grants with an assist from the Ram Stadium Committee chaired by Boone '76, a former Ram football player. The University covered the remaining construction cost through a bonding initiative.

FieldTurf was installed in time for spring practice in 2008. The FieldTurf Project was spearheaded by generous donations from former Rams Brian Jackson '87 and Chris Mack '88. A new turf was installed in the spring of 2019.

Memorable Moments

- Oct. 10, 1959 -- Walter Barr and Charlie Lochbaum each rush for a TD to give Shepherd a 14-0 win over Potomac State.
- Oct. 13, 1962 -- Steve Bruce's 98-yard fumble return for a TD keys Shepherd's 58-0 win over Gallaudet.
- Oct. 4, 1972 -- Perry Hubbard (150 yards/21 carries, 1 TD) and Bob Pope (118 yards/18 carries, 2 TDs) lead the Rams to their first WVIAC title since 1955 in a 31-17 win over Salem College.
- Sept. 17, 1977 -- Reserve QB Ken Belchik comes off the bench to lead Shepherd to 11 fourth-quarter points and a 25-22 win over Randolph-Macon.
- Oct. 13, 1979 -- Everett Yore stops West Virginia Wesleyan's Preston Wright inches shy of the goal line as time expires to preserve a 20-17 Shepherd win. Fred Dorsey's TD run with minutes remaining capped a Ram comeback from a 17-0 deficit.
- Nov. 10, 1984 -- Anthony Crenshaw rushes for a then school-record 200 yards on 26 carries in Shepherd's 34-14 win over West Virginia State.
- Oct. 4, 1986 -- Rob Bradford sets school-record with 288 receiving yards on eight receptions, including touchdowns of 75 and 64 yards. The Rams set a team single-game record with 66 points in a 66-14 win over Salem.

- Sept. 8, 1990 -- QB Skip Stasky comes off the bench to rally Shepherd from a 10-point deficit to defeat Millersville, 28-24.
- Oct. 23, 1993 -- Bill Adams becomes the WVIAC all-time leading rusher as he rushes for 101 yards on 20 carries and a TD to lead the Rams to a 35-6 win over WV Tech.
- Oct. 29, 1994 -- The Shepherd defense records six interceptions as the Rams clinch a share of the WVIAC title with a 26-9 win over Fairmont. The Rams picked off 30 passes in 1994 to lead the nation.
- Sept. 13, 1997 -- Shepherd defeats Shippensburg, 20-16. It is the first on the field win over the Red Raiders since 1986. Damian Beane led Shepherd with 206 rushing yards and two TDs.
- Oct. 18, 1997 -- Bootsie Washington returns three consecutive kicks (89-yd. KO return, 60-yd. punt return, 59-yd. punt return) for TDs to set a new NCAA II mark in a 48-3 win over WVU-Tech.
- Nov. 7, 1998 -- James Rooths returns his fifth punt of the year for a touchdown in a 36-6 win over Glenville to set a new NCAA record for all divisions.
- Nov. 11, 2000 -- Dalevon Smith rushed for a school record 267 yards and four TDs, while James Rooths added a pair of punt returns for TDs as Shepherd blanked WV

RAM STADIUM RECORDS

Largest Margin of Victory: 58
Shepherd 58, Gallaudet 0, 1962

Largest Margin of Defeat: 34
Millersville 45, Shepherd 11, 1994

Most Points Scored: 76
Shepherd 76, ESU 34, 2019

Most Points Allowed: 49
New Haven 49
Shepherd 23 -- 1992

Shepherd 54
Notre Dame 49 -- 2017

Most Points Scored/Both Teams: 110
Shepherd 76, ESU 34, 2019

Longest Stadium Win Streak by Shepherd: 18 games (2010-14)

Last Shutout by Shepherd:
2021: Shepherd 55
Clarion 0

Last Time SU was Shutout:
1985: Shippensburg 7, Shepherd 0
(A span of 185 games)

(Out of 304 games, Shepherd has been shutout just four times)

Undefeated Seasons at Ram Stadium

1959 (2-0-0)	1961 (4-0-0)
1963 (3-0-0)	1967 (3-0-0)
1971 (2-0-2)	1976 (5-0-0)
1977 (4-0-0)	1979 (3-0-0)
1981 (4-0-0)	1983 (5-0-0)
1997 (4-0-0)	1998 (5-0-0)
2001 (5-0-0)	2007 (7-0-0)
2011 (6-0-0)	2012 (5-0-0)
2015 (8-0-0)	

Shepherd by Decade at Ram Stadium

1950s.....	2-0-0
1960s.....	17-15-2
1970s.....	31-10-2
1980s.....	34-16-1
1990s.....	35-14-1
2000s.....	39-7-0
2010s.....	52-9-0
2020s.....	6-1-0

Overall Record: 222-76-6 (.740)

Overall Record on Grass: 158-62-6 (.712)

Overall Record on FieldTurf: 64-13-0 (.820)

Wesleyan, 51-0. Rooths finished his career with an NCAA record 10 career touchdowns on punt returns.

- Oct. 27, 2001 -- Matt Meadows returned both an interception and a blocked punt for touchdowns to lead Shepherd to a 30-7 win over West Liberty.

- Oct. 26, 2002 -- Monte Cater surpassed Walter Barr (104-48-4) as the all-time winningest coach in program history with Shepherd's 35-21 win over Glenville. Alex Herbert rushed 26 times for 163 yards and two scores to pace the Rams.

- Oct. 9, 2004 -- Alex Herbert rushes 28 times for 150 yards and two touchdowns to lead Shepherd to a 20-14 win over rival Glenville State. The Pioneers had first-and-goal in the game's final minute, but the Shepherd defense held tough to preserve the win.

- Nov. 5, 2005 -- Shepherd put an exclamation point on a perfect 11-0 regular season with a 51-10 win over West Virginia State. The Rams completed the regular season undefeated for the first time since the 1955 team finished at 8-0-0.

- Nov. 25, 2006 -- Bryan Wright rushed 14 times for 144 yards and Dervon Wallace rushed 21 times for 102 yards to lead fifth-ranked Shepherd to a 31-7 win over Merrimack in second round action of the NCAA Playoffs.

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• Nov. 3, 2007 -- Dervon Wallace rushed 27 times for school records of 311 yards and five touchdowns to lead 15th-ranked Shepherd to a 42-7 win over West Virginia State.

• Sept. 18, 2010 -- Keon Robinson picks off a pass with 1:19 remaining to help Shepherd hold on for a 19-16 win over Fairmont State.

• Nov. 10, 2010 -- Tommy Addison (13 carries for 145 yards) and Nate Hoyte (13 carries for 113 yards) each rush for over 100 yards to lead Shepherd to a 40-6 win over #25 Shaw in NCAA II Playoff action.

• Oct. 29, 2011 -- Shepherd recorded a 38-17 win over Bowie State in a snowstorm. DJ Scott had a 92-yard interception return for a score and William McKenzie had a 90-yard kickoff return for a touchdown in the difficult playing conditions.

• Nov. 10, 2012 -- Bobby Cooper completes 27-of-38 passes for a school-record 430 yards to lead Shepherd to a 49-23 victory over Fairmont State.

• Sept. 3, 2013 -- Shepherd recorded a 33-0 win over Shippensburg in the season opener. The Rams defense had four sacks and limited the Red Raiders to 32 rushing yards.

• Nov. 30, 2013 -- Allen Cross raced 29 yards for a touchdown in the third quarter for the game's only score in a 7-0 win over #9 Winston-Salem State in NCAA II Playoff action. The two teams combined for only 18 first downs.

• Sept. 13, 2014 -- Jeff Ziemba completed 14-of-14 passes for 262 yards and a score to lead Shepherd to a 56-0 win over Fairmont State in the home opener.

• Nov. 14, 2015 -- Jeff Ziemba completed 28-of-37 passes for 361 yards and five touchdowns to lead fifth-ranked Shepherd to 52-20 win over Urbana. The win clinches the MEC title for the Rams.

• Nov. 28, 2015 -- Jeff Ziemba and Billy Brown team on a 28-yard scoring pass with 2:08 left in the game to lift fifth-ranked Shepherd to a 17-13 win over Indiana (Pa.) in second round action of the NCAA II playoffs.

• Dec. 12, 2015 -- Connor Jessop came off the bench to replace an injured Jeff Ziemba and completed 15-of-20 passes for 173 yards and two scores to lead fifth-ranked Shepherd to a 34-32 win over 12th-ranked Grand Valley State to advance to the national championship game. Allen Cross had 16 carries for 157 yards and a pair of scores, while Billy Brown had nine receptions for 132 yards and two touchdowns.

• Sept. 17, 2016 -- Fourth-ranked Shepherd amasses 649 yards of total offense en route to a 64-13 win over UVa-Wise. Jeff Ziemba completed 28-of-28 passes for 355 yards and four scores.

• Nov. 5, 2016 -- Third-ranked Shepherd holds off 17th-ranked Fairmont State in a battle of unbeaten teams for a 27-17 triumph.

• Nov. 19, 2016 -- The third-ranked Rams hand #25 Assumption a 48-31 setback in first round action of the NCAA Playoffs. Future New Orleans Saint Deonte Harris returned a kickoff 97 yards for a score for the Greyhounds.

• Sept. 2, 2017 -- Connor Jessop completed 35-of-48 passes for 476 yards and five touchdowns to lead seventh-ranked Shepherd to a 54-49 win over Notre Dame. Jessop also rushed for a pair of scores to account for seven touchdowns on the day.

• Nov. 4, 2017 -- Second-ranked Shepherd upended the University of Charleston, 49-12, to clinch the MEC title. Connor Jessop completed 25-of-39 passes for 317 yards and four scores. James Gupton recorded a game-high 11 tackles to help the Shepherd defense limit UC to 203 yards of total offense.

• Sept. 19, 2018 -- Tyson Bagent completed 32-of-41 passes for 378 yards and three scores to lead Shepherd to a 41-24 win over Glenville State. The win gave head coach Ernie McCook his first career victory.

• Oct. 27, 2018 -- Tyson Bagent completed 29-of-37 passes for 306 yards and a school-record seven touchdowns in a 58-35 win over West Virginia Wesleyan. Ruan Venter was successful on 3-of-5 drop kick extra point attempts.

• Oct. 12, 2019 -- Shepherd scored on a one-yard quarterback sneak by Tyson Bagent with 42 seconds remaining to rally for a 32-30 win over Shippensburg.

• Nov. 2, 2019 -- Deonte Glover rushed 11 times for a career-high 220 yards and three scored while Tyson Bagent completed 24-of-30 passes for 284 yards and five touchdowns in Shepherd's 76-34 win over East Stroudsburg. Shepherd's 76 points set a school mark for most points in a game.

• Nov. 27, 2021 -- Tyson Bagent rolls right and finds Josh Gonatrek in the end zone for a 23-yard scoring pass with 1.9 seconds left to lift Shepherd to a 38-34 win over Notre Dame in second round action of the NCAA II Playoffs.

All-Time Homecoming Results at Ram Stadium

1959	Potomac State.....	W.....	14-0
1960	Concord	L.....	19-25
1961	Shippensburg.....	W.....	32-12
1962	Concord	L.....	12-13
1963	Potomac State.....	W.....	21-12
1964	Concord	W.....	31-6
1965	WV Tech.....	L.....	6-27
1966	Concord	L.....	7-20
1967	WV Tech.....	W.....	11-0
1968	Western Maryland.....	L.....	20-30
1969	WV Tech.....	W.....	20-12
1970	Bridgewater.....	W.....	20-8
1971	WV Tech.....	T.....	17-17
1972	West Liberty	W.....	31-20
1973	WV Tech.....	W.....	14-7
1974	West Liberty	L.....	17-28
1975	Concord	W.....	20-14
1976	West Liberty	W.....	17-0
1977	WV Tech.....	W.....	24-20
1978	Salem	W.....	23-16
1979	WV Wesleyan.....	W.....	20-17
1980	Salem	W.....	27-7
1981	WV Wesleyan.....	W.....	21-3
1982	Concord	W.....	14-6
1983	WV Wesleyan.....	W.....	54-0
1984	Concord	L.....	17-26
1985	WV Tech.....	W.....	31-17
1986	Concord	W.....	21-6
1987	WV Tech.....	W.....	34-5
1988	Fairmont.....	L.....	3-10
1989	WV Tech.....	L.....	39-43
1990	Concord	W.....	31-21
1991	West Liberty	W.....	33-7
1992	WV State.....	W.....	19-0
1993	West Liberty	W.....	21-16
1994	WV Wesleyan.....	W.....	30-11
1995	WV Tech.....	W.....	45-6
1996	WV Wesleyan.....	L.....	21-24
1997	WVU-Tech	W.....	48-3
1998	WV Wesleyan.....	W.....	47-31
1999	WVU-Tech	W.....	60-6
2000	Fairmont.....	L.....	23-25
2001	WV State.....	W.....	48-14
2002	Glenville.....	W.....	35-21
2003	WV State.....	W.....	35-21
2004	WV Wesleyan.....	W.....	41-25
2005	West Liberty	W.....	34-7
2006	Concord	W.....	42-0
2007	Charleston	W.....	49-13
2008	WV Wesleyan.....	W.....	27-12
2009	WV State.....	W.....	55-14
2010	WV Wesleyan.....	W.....	37-26
2011	WV State.....	W.....	37-7
2012	WV Wesleyan.....	W.....	37-6
2013	Charleston	W.....	28-9
2014	Glenville.....	W.....	37-14
2015	Notre Dame.....	W.....	43-14
2016	Concord	W.....	21-7
2017	West Liberty	W.....	51-14
2018	Concord	W.....	61-21
2019	Kutztown.....	L.....	27-34
2021	West Chester.....	W.....	42-38

Overall Record: 49-12-1 (.803)