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## West Chester Univ. Golden Rams @ Millersville Univ. Marauders

Saturday, November 9, 2002 - Kickoff 1 p.m. - Biemesderfer Stadium, Millersville, PA

**WEST CHESTER, PA** - The Golden Rams of West Chester University (4-5/3-1) will visit the Marauders of Millersville University (1-7/1-3) on Saturday afternoon in a crucial battle for the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Eastern Division title. Kickoff at Biemesderfer Stadium in Millersville, PA, is 1:00 p.m.

The Golden Rams are coming off a tough 23-10 loss at Bloomsburg, while Millersville was defeated by East Stroudsburg 37-26.

With Bloomsburg, ESU and WCU all tied in the loss column (one each), the Golden Rams will likely need to beat Millersville and Mansfield over the next two weeks to share the PSAC Eastern Division crown.

WCU is visiting Millersville for the second straight season.

### *Bloomsburg defeats West Chester 23-10*

**BLOOMSBURG, PA** - Bloomsburg University jumped out to a 17-0 lead and West Chester University could never quite catch up in a 23-10 PSAC Eastern Division setback last Saturday.

WCU sophomore kicker **Dan Wilbourne (Doylestown/Central Bucks West)** booted a 42-yard field goal - the longest of his career - with :00 left on the first-half clock to pull the Golden Rams within two touchdowns, but the Huskies opened up the third quarter with a score to take a 23-3 lead.

Sophomore QB **Bob Findora (Downingtown/Coatesville)** found sophomore WR **Corey DeForrest (Wycombe/Council Rock)** with a nine-yard touchdown strike late in the third as WCU cut the lead to 13, but the Golden Rams could not muster any more points.

DeForrest finished the game with seven catches for 72 yards, while senior WR **Brian Bradley (Philadelphia/South Philadelphia)** grabbed two balls for 22.

Junior TB **Mike Eckmeyer (Glendora, NJ/Triton)** ran the ball 31 times for 113 yards, extending his consecutive 100-yard game streak to 15.

The victory gave the Golden Rams an edge in the race for the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Eastern Division title as WCU moved to 3-0 on the season (4-4 overall). ESU fell to 5-2 overall and 3-1 in the PSAC East.

Defensively, senior MLB **Brandon Neely (Willow Grove/Upper Moreland)** recorded 11 hits (8 tackles and 3 assists) to lead WCU. He also had a one-yard tackle for loss.

Sophomore OLB **Tim Garman (Leola/Conestoga Valley)** had a terrific afternoon. He posted six tackles, one assist, two sacks for -19 yards and recovered a fumble.

Sophomore DE **Graham Eggleston (Mechanicsburg/Mechanicsburg)** - who normally wears #95 - had his jersey ripped and needed to don freshman backup QB **Matt Burdalski's (Reading/Reading)** #14. Burdalski is red-shirting and present only for a dire emergency.

But the emergency in this case was Eggleston's uniform switch, which promptly led him to a two-yard tackle for loss, a 13-yard sack and a fumble recovery in quick succession.

### *This Week's Opponent: Millersville*

The Marauders extended their consecutive game scoring streak to 114, dating to November, 1991...it is the third-longest active streak in NCAA II football...QB **Chuck Andrew** surpassed the 3000-yard mark in pass yardage in Saturday's 37-26 loss at East Stroudsburg...he ranks 7th on the MU career pass chart with 3024 yards...senior RB **Calvin Everett** went over the 1000-yard mark in career rushing with his 119-yard outing at ESU...he has 1101 career yards with two games remaining...the 63-yard TD strike from Andrew to WR **Andy Neupauer** at ESU was the longest pass play by 21 yards this fall, and the most since Andrew found **Calvin Everett** for a 56-yard score in last fall's 32-30 win at Mansfield...junior LB **Joe Hollister** needs 21 tackles to become the first MU defender to record 100 season stops since **Lee Rizzotto** (108 in 1999).

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In last Saturday's PSAC Eastern Division contest at Eiler-Martin Stadium in East Stroudsburg, PA, Millersville hurt itself with key mistakes in a 37-26 setback...East Stroudsburg received a 93-yard kickoff return by cornerback Michael Glover, a 19-yard blocked punt return by defensive end Greg Thoman, and three field goals combined from kickers Mark Brubaker (two from 35 yards) and Matt Huber (20 yards).

The loss spoiled a fine performance by the Millersville offense, as Andrew threw for 266 yards and two touchdowns, and Everett went over the 100-yard mark for the second straight week with 119 yards on 15 carries...he scored first-half touchdowns on runs of 32 and 24 yards.

Defensively, Millersville received strong performances from junior free safety **Braden Steffy** and junior inside linebacker **Joe Hollister**, who totaled 14 and 13 tackles, respectively...senior cornerback **Terrance Trogdon** intercepted ESU QB Jeremy Palm twice, and the first theft led to a 24-yard touchdown run by Everett late in the second quarter.

### ***The Last Meeting: October 20, 2001***

**MILLERSVILLE, PA** - Wilbourne booted a 19-yard field goal in overtime and current sophomore DB **Eric Engstrom (Phoenixville/Spring-Ford)** forced Millersville quarterback Chuck Andrew to fumble as the West Chester University Golden Ram football team edged Millersville University 24-21 in overtime on October 20, 2001.

After taking a 21-0 lead, the Golden Rams saw Millersville charge back with three straight touchdowns to force the extra session. But the ferocious WCU defense sacked Andrew twice, causing him to fumble the ball each time on Millersville's only possession of OT.

The first fumble was caused by current senior MLB **Brandon Neely (Willow Grove/Upper Moreland)**, but the Marauders pounced on the ball setting up a third and 20 from the Golden Rams 35.

On the very next play, Engstrom blitzed from the right side as Andrew rolled out left. Just before the Marauder quarterback lifted his arm to throw, Engstrom dove at Andrew, stripped the ball and sent him flying to the ground.

This time **Clifton Orwick (Dallastown/Dallastown)**, now a senior, pounced on the ball, immediately ending the game under the rules of overtime.

Engstrom finished the game with the two tackles and was credited with a four-yard sack on Andrew that iced the game, while Neely had three hits and an 11-yard interception return. Orwick posted four total hits - two tackles and two assists.

WCU had built a 21-0 lead on the strength of Findora's 216 passing yards, and twin 100-yard rushing games by senior Don DeFilipo and Eckmeyer. Eckmeyer carried the ball 21 times for 118 yards, while DeFilipo had 22 rushing attempts for 102. Eckmeyer scored on a two-yard run to give WCU a 19-0 third-quarter lead. Then Adrian Wilkerson snared a two-point pass from Findora to up the margin to 21-0.

Wilkerson, who had six catches for 96 yards, started the scoring with a 28-yard grab from Findora in the second quarter. Findora opened the third quarter with a diving touchdown run from 14 yards out, flying through the air to hit the pylon. He would finish the game with 26 yards rushing, 216 yards passing and 242 yards of total offense. He connected on 13 of 25 attempts, hitting Bradley five times for 97 yards. He also found Bradley on a 51-yard strike to set up WCU's last touchdown.

The victory at Millersville was the first by WCU since 1996.

Defensively, the Golden Rams allowed just 246 yards of offense, stuffing the Marauder rushing game in the process. MU managed just 26 yards on the ground.

In all, the Golden Rams recorded five sacks in the victory. Current junior center **Joe Manley (Wilmington, DE/Salesianum)** had a two-yard sack, while current junior DE **Jacob Walker (Doylestown/Central Bucks East)** was credited with a seven-yard sack and a fumble recovery.

### ***Success when the leaves fall***

Much had been made of the Golden Rams lack of victories in late August and September...since 1997, the Golden Rams have produced a 4-19 record during the first full month of the season...however, since 1997, the Golden Rams are 27-11 in the months of October and November...of the 23 games played before October 1, the Golden Rams have competed against NCAA I-AA clubs seven times and NCAA Division II perennial playoff powerhouses IUP, UC-Davis, New Haven and Bloomsburg on 10 different occasions.

### ***The Coaches***

Kevin Kiesel is in his second campaign at Millersville with a 4-15 record...his overall 10-year coaching mark is 53-47-1 (.530)...Rick Daniels is in his 14th year as the head coach of the Golden Rams...he is 85-62-1 all-time (.578)...Daniels is second on the all-time win list behind the legendary Dr. W. Glenn Killinger.

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## ***WCU vs. Millersville - The History***

The Golden Rams hold a commanding 53-16 advantage over the Marauders...the teams first met in 1921 when Millersville defeated WCU 38-7...it took over 50 years and 42 games before Millersville won again...the Golden Rams captured 41 in a row from 1922-74.

## ***Milestones & Honors***

Eckmeyer has extended his consecutive 100-yard game streak record to 15...he is now third all-time in career 100-yard games at WCU with 15...he needs two more to catch Jason Sims (17 from 1985-87)...he is now 10th all-time on the career rushing charts with 2269 yards...he is just the 12th Golden Ram to rush for over 2000 career yards...he needs 57 yards to catch ninth-place Jim Lindsay (2326, 1993-96) and 64 to tie eighth-place Bert Nye (2333, 1966-68)...Eckmeyer now has the sixth-best single-season yardage total in WCU history...he has 1243...he is the first Golden Ram to rush for over a 1000 yards since Thomas Fulton did it in 1997...Eckmeyer still has two games to play and needs just 219 yards during that span to break Joe Iacone's (1461 yards in 1962) 40-year-old single-season rushing record...his nine straight 100-yard games is a record in a season.

## ***Ramblings***

The Golden Rams entered the season as the second winningest Division II program in the nation behind Texas A&M Kingsville...WCU needs just two wins to reach 500...the Golden Rams have finished first or second in the PSAC East in 30 of the 36 years they have competed in the league...WCU has won 18 PSAC East crowns.

## ***Individual PSAC Leaders***

Eckmeyer is the leading rusher in the PSAC with his 138.1 yards per game average...he is 1st in all-purpose yards as well (154.4) and 2nd in scoring (8.9 ppg.)...Findora is 3rd in passing yards per game (228.3), 3rd in total offense per game (221.2) and 3rd in pass efficiency (128.1 rating)...DeForrest is 4th in receptions per game (5.11) and 7th in receiving yards per game (72.2)...sophomore ***Joe Brooks (Clark Summit/Abington Heights)*** is tied for 2nd in the PSAC in fumble recoveries...he has three...all three came at Delaware to tie a school record for most recovered fumbles in a single game...Walker is 6th in the PSAC in sacks per game (0.71), while Eggleston is tied for 3rd in TFL's (1.67) and tied for 4th in sacks (0.72).

## ***NCAA II Individual Leaders***

Eckmeyer is ranked 6th in the country in rushing, 8th in scoring and 16th in all-purpose yards.

## ***Team PSAC Leaders***

West Chester is 3rd in passing offense (232.4 y/g) and 6th in rushing offense (159.4 y/g)...WCU is 1st in total offense (391.9 y/g)...WCU is 5th in scoring offense (27.3 ppg)...WCU's 183 first downs ranks as the third best in the PSAC...WCU is 3rd in pass efficiency (128.1)...WCU is the 2nd least penalized team in the league...the Golden Rams are penalized an average of 44.2 yards per game...WCU is the best in the league at converting third downs (64 for 140 for a 45.7% rating)...WCU's defense is third-best in the PSAC at stopping teams in the red zone...opponents only score 66.7% of the time (22 for 33)...WCU leads the league in field goal percentage (4 for 5 - 80%).

## ***Internet Broadcast***

All 11 Golden Ram football games will be broadcast on Red Zone Media this season...fans may access Red Zone Media through the WCU webpage: <http://iws.wcupa.edu/athletics/>...on the main page will be a link to the football games...seniors ***Sean Kane (Guthriesville/Bishop Shanahan)*** and ***Chris Rudolph (Mortonville/Bishop Shanahan)*** will handle this week's broadcast from Biemesderfer Stadium in Millersville, PA, beginning at 12:45 p.m. EST.

## ***Radio Broadcast in Chester County***

All seven day games will be broadcast on WCHE 1520 AM...Saturday's game at Millersville will be simulcast with the internet broadcast and also begin at 12:45 p.m.

## ***Radio Broadcast in Lancaster County***

Saturday's game will also be broadcast live in Lancaster County on WLPA-AM (1490) radio beginning at 12:45 p.m...Mike Nolt and Justin Fleming are the announcers.

## ***The Next Game***

The Golden Rams will close out the regular season at home vs. Mansfield on Saturday, November 16, at 1:30 p.m. in a PSAC East contest.