

Tom Di Camillo, Sports Information Director
Office: 610-436-3316; Home: 610-857-1353; Hotline: 610-436-2100
Fax: 610-436-2966; E-Mail Address: tdicamillo@wcupa.edu

Mansfield Wrap - November 20, 2002

Wilbourne's 18-yarder with :10 left lifts WCU by Mansfield

DeForrest sets personal career receiving yard mark; Walker earns PSAC defensive award

WEST CHESTER, PA - West Chester University sophomore kicker **Dan Wilbourne** (*Doylestown/Central Bucks East*) booted an 18-yard field goal with :10 left in regulation, giving the Golden Rams a 9-7 victory over Mansfield on Saturday in rain-drenched Farrell Stadium.

The win lifts the Golden Rams record to 5-6 overall and 4-2 in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Eastern Division, while the Mountaineers finished the year 3-7 overall and 2-4 in the East. WCU is now 31-0 all-time vs. Mansfield.

Wilbourne's heroics came after he had missed an extra point and two field goals in the second half.

In the season finale vs. Clarion last year, Wilbourne also missed an extra point, but came back to kick the game-winner vs. the Golden Eagles in a 16-14 victory.

Three weeks ago, Wilbourne beat East Stroudsburg University with his late-game heroics in Farrell Stadium as WCU edged ESU 17-14.

WCU sophomore WR **Cory DeForrest** (*Wycombe/Council Rock*) caught five passes for a career high 151 yards, including a 49-yarder on the final drive that set up Wilbourne's winning field goal. He also hauled down a 48-yard touchdown grab in the third period.

Sophomore QB **Bob Findora** (*Downingtown/Coatesville*) struggled in the rain, but he saved his best for late in the contest to finish 13 of 24 for 223 yards and one score - the 48-yarder to DeForrest.

West Chester University junior tail back **Mike Eckmeyer's** (*Glendora, NJ/Triton*) streak of 100-yard games ended after he picked up nearly all 69 of his yards in the first quarter.

Eckmeyer did finish the season with 1538 yards, becoming the only WCU running back to rush for over 1500 yards in one campaign. His 14 carries elevated his 2002 total to 295 for the season - a new WCU single-season record. The old mark of 291 was set by Derrick Price in 1990.

Junior DE **Jake Walker** (*Doylestown/Central Bucks East*) led WCU with 10 hits in the win. He had eight tackles and two assists, compiled 3.5 tackles for loss (-19 yards), and used two of those TFLs for sacks of -13 yards.

For his effort, Walker was named the **PSAC East Defensive Player of the Week**.

Junior OLB **Scott Linus** (*New Castle, DE/William Penn*) and senior MLB **Brandon Neely** (*Willow Grove/Upper Moreland*) each posted six hits in the game. Neely had three tackles and three assists, while Linus registered four tackles, two assists and a five-yard tackle for loss.

Junior CB **Calvin Braxton** (*Philadelphia/Central*) had a terrific afternoon in the rain. He registered a pair of tackles, leaped above a Mansfield receiver and took the ball out of his hands for an interception, recorded a quarter-back hurry and chipped in a one-yard tackle for loss.

Freshman **Chris Tagye** (*Exton/Downingtown*) recorded an interception in the win, while sophomore DE **Graham Eggleston** (*Mechanicsburg/Mechanicsburg*) had a seven-yard sack and a 1/2 tackle for loss (-1 yard). His brother, senior DE **Matt Eggleston** (*Mechanicsburg/Mechanicsburg*), earned three tackles - one being a two-yard tackle for loss.