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Football Release 7 (Glenville State Preview) - September 5, 2002

## West Chester Golden Rams @ Glenville St. Pioneers

*Saturday, September 7, 2002 @ Ike & Sue Morris Stadium*

**WEST CHESTER, PA** - The West Chester University Golden Rams will visit Glenville State (WV) for the first time on Saturday, September 7, in Glenville, WV. Kickoff is slated for 6:00 p.m.

This will be the first meeting between the two clubs and the first time that WCU has ever played a team from the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. It is also believed to be the first time WCU has played a game on West Virginia soil.

### *Scouting the Pioneers*

The Pioneers open defense of their 2001 WVIAC title with a visit from WCU on Saturday night...GSC returns 16 starters, but must replace QB Jack Mental and DB Jerald Brown...RB Toby Murray scored 10 touchdowns and gained 749 rushing yards last season...GSC won its final four games of the 2001 season...Redshirt freshmen Joey Conrad and Jason Tucker should man the quarterback position...WR Brett Pettinger had 38 receptions in 2001...Eastern Kentucky transfer Antonio Carter also should contribute at the wideout position...linebackers Robert Hinton, John Ours and Tyson Shahan pace the defense...GSC is 6-4 in its last 10 season openers...the Pioneers have won six WVIAC titles since 1993...GSC is ranked #32 in this week's D-II coaches' poll.

### *Double Duty*

Wideout Brett Pettinger is the Glenville State Sports Information Director.

### *The Coaches*

Third-year head coach Paul Shaffner owns a 9-11 (.450) mark at Glenville State after leading his Pioneers to the 2001 WVIAC football crown...Rick Daniels begins his 14th year as the head coach of the Golden Rams...he is 81-58-1 (.582) all-time...Daniels is second on the all-time win list behind the legendary Dr. W. Glenn Killinger.

### *WCU vs. Glenville State - The History*

This is the first meeting between the two teams...Glenville

State is 7-6 vs. Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference schools over the past 10 years.

### *New Haven 28, WCU 19 - August 29, 2002*

The Golden Rams are coming off a tough season-opening setback vs. the University of New Haven on Thursday night, August 29. WCU sophomore quarterback **Bob Findora (Downingtown/Coatesville)** suffered his first loss as a starter, but the second-year starter connected on 22 of 44 pass attempts for 263 yards and two touchdowns.

Turnovers and special teams hurt the Golden Rams, however, as a fumbled punt, a short punt from their own end zone, and a long kickoff return deep into their own territory supplied New Haven with most of its offense. In addition, a tipped pass found its way into a New Haven receiver's hands for one touchdown, while Findora connected with senior **Brian Bradley (Philadelphia/South Philadelphia)** on a 49-yard pass play that seemed to be a sure touchdown, but Bradley was stripped of the ball at the UNH one.

Still, shake off the first-game jitters and the Golden Ram offense rolled up 326 yards of offense, while the defense permitted just 91 passing yards and 160 yards on the ground.

Offensively, Bradley managed to snare eight Findora passes for 110 yards as junior RB **Mike Eckmeyer (Glendora, NJ/Triton)** carried the ball 21 times for 101 yards and a 68-yard score. Eckmeyer now has rushed for 100 yards in seven straight games, tying the school record set by **Derrick Price (September 30 - November 12, 1988)**. He also had three catches for 22 yards and returned one kickoff 14 yards for 137 all-purpose yards.

Findora also found sophomore WR **Cory DeForrest (Wycombe/Council Rock)** twice for touchdowns of five and 28 yards. He finished the game with six catches for 98 yards.

Defensively, the Golden Rams produced 10 tackles for losses of 58 yards - five of those being sacks for -47 yards.

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Junior DE **Jake Walker (Doylestown/Central Bucks East)** was terrific for WCU. He posted two sacks (-13 yards) and had three total tackles, while sophomore DE **Graham Eggleston (Mechanicsburg/Mechanicsburg)** led the Golden Rams with his seven hits (4 tackles, 3 assists) and two TFL's for -15 yards. One of his tackles for loss was a 12-yard sack.

Senior DT **Jim Dempsey (Columbia, MD/Fort Wilde)** posted three tackles, two assists and a nine-yard sack. He finished with two TFL's for -10 yards.

Senior captain **Brandon Neely (Willow Grove/Upper Moreland)** registered two TFL's for -6 yards, a heads-up fumble recovery after a UNH player inadvertently touched the football on a punt, and five total hits (4 tackles, 1 assist).

### ***Ramblings***

The Golden Rams need just six wins to reach 500 all-time...WCU is now the second winningest Division II program in the nation behind Texas A&M - Kingsville...the Golden Rams have finished first or second in the PSAC East in 30 of the 36 years they have competed in the league...seniors **Brandon Neeley (Willow Grove/Upper Moreland)** and **Jason Cserpnyak (Bethlehem/Southern Lehigh)** are the team captains in 2002...WCU was picked to finish fourth in the PSAC East in the league's preseason poll voted on by the head coaches.

### ***Shedding the Ghosts of September***

The Golden Rams are looking to exorcise some spirits that have haunted the team during the opening month of the season for the past six years.

WCU has not won its season opener since 1996 when the Golden Rams thumped Cheyney 62-0, and the Golden Rams are 0-for-September since beating Shippensburg 36-21 on September 26, 1998. But don't be fooled. The Golden Ram schedule during that stretch has featured I-AA power Delaware twice, and perennial national powers UC-Davis, IUP, Bloomsburg and New Haven seven times. In losing their last five openers, the Golden Rams have fallen by a combined total of 32 points - or just over six points per game.

### ***Internet Broadcast***

For the first time ever, 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: [wcupa.edu](http://wcupa.edu), then click on 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 the play-by-play and commentary for nearly all of the games this season...the WCU-Glenville broadcast will begin at 5:45 p.m. EDT.

### ***Radio Broadcast***

All seven day games will be broadcast on WCHE 1520 AM again this season...the games will be simulcast with the internet broadcast.

### ***The Next Game***

The Golden Rams will visit the University of Delaware on Saturday night, September 21, at 7 p.m.