

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



DAVID SHEPPARD-BRICK/the Justice

Danielle Lavalley '11

■ The rookie third baseman has already proven to be a dependable run producer for the softball team this season.

Third baseman Danielle Lavalley '11 came through at the plate during the softball team's second game of a doubleheader against Wellesley College Thursday, a 3-3 decision that was called for darkness.

While hitless in the first game, Lavalley capitalized with two runners in scoring position and two outs in the fifth inning of game two. After shortstop Chelsea Korp '10 picked up an RBI double earlier in the inning, Lavalley hit a double that brought home two more runs and gave the Judges a 3-2 advantage, their first lead of the game.

"Offensively, during the first game, I didn't really do as well as I would have wanted at the plate, so during the second game, I got another opportunity with runners on base and in scoring position to get a big hit when it counted," Lavalley said.

Lavalley's performance was indicative of her ability to get timely hits, something she's been doing since the beginning of the season. The rookie third baseman batted .360, fourth-

highest on the team, during University Athletic Association play earlier this season, despite it being her first week playing collegiate softball.

"I think I've developed my skills more as a hitter, [so] I'm more and more confident at the plate [at the college level]," Lavalley said.

Lavalley said her experience playing travel softball for the Central Mass Rapids Gold helped her adjust to college play.

Her experience as a starting pitcher for three years on her high school's Varsity team (where she also played third base for four years) also helped her.

"I think being a pitcher helped me as a batter because I can guess what pitchers are going to throw in a certain situation and with a certain count," Lavalley said. "I [can] guess what I would throw in that situation and then hope that they would throw that too."

—Julie Ganz

AP BRIEFS

UAA gets championship as Wash U routs Amherst for Division III title

SALEM, Va.—Washington University in St. Louis shot 90 percent and scored 90 points, but defense also was a major factor in leading the Bears to their first NCAA Division III championship.

Senior center Troy Ruths scored 33 points and Wash U defeated defending champion Amherst College 90-68 last Saturday, giving the University Athletic Association its first champion since the University of Rochester won in 1990. The Bears held Amherst's all-American point guard, senior Andrew Olson, to six points in the first half and a total of 16.

"It was a great defensive effort overall," Olson told reporters after the game. "They took us out of our game."

Bears coach Mark Edwards said the key to the defense was point guard Ross Kelley, who guarded Olson. Kelly began the year as the backup, but a season-ending injury to junior starter Sean Wallis opened the door for Kelly to step in.

"They did to us today what we've had the pleasure of doing to other people," said Amherst coach Dave Hixon, whose Lord Jeffs have been in four of the last five Final Fours.

Ruths, the winner of the Jostens Award for the best Division III player in the nation, was nine-of-13 from the field, added 15 free throws and also had eight rebounds. Sophomore guard Aaron Thompson added 19 points for the Bears and senior guard Tyler Nading had 13.

"I really think free throw shooting is a huge thing," said Ruths, who averaged 75 percent from the line during the regular season and went 15-for-17 on Saturday. "You have to be prepared for whatever they throw at you."

Senior forward Fletcher Walters scored 17 points to lead Amherst. Junior guard Brian Baskauskas and senior forward Brandon Jones each had 12.

The Bears led all the way, with Ruths scoring 17 points in the first half to help build a 45-32 halftime lead.

WashU shot 70 percent in the second half, while the Lord Jeffs shot 47 percent for the game and made only five of 20 attempts from three-point range.

In the second half, Amherst cut the lead to six twice—when Walters hit a three-pointer with 15 minutes, 41 seconds to go, and at the 15:07 mark when a layup by Baskauskas made it 55-49. But jumpers by senior guard Danny O'Boyle and Thompson, followed by two Ruths foul shots, extended the Bears' margin.

This was WashU's second-straight appearance in the Final Four. The Bears finished third last year, losing to Virginia Wesleyan College in the national semifinals.

Earlier last Saturday, senior forward Marcus Vanderheide scored 24 points and senior guards Tyler Wolfe and Derek VanSolkema had 22 apiece to lead Hope College to a 100-86 victory over Ursinus College in the consolation game.

Davidson over Goliaths: Curry leads No. 10 Wildcats into the Sweet 16

RALEIGH, N.C.—Stephen Curry couldn't stop jumping up and down at midcourt at the final buzzer. Little Davidson was on its way to the NCAA Tournament's round of 16 after another brilliant performance by its big-time guard.

Curry scored 25 of his 30 points in the second half and Davidson staged a remarkable comeback behind their star sophomore to stun mighty Georgetown 74-70 on Sunday in the second round of the Midwest Regional.

Curry missed 10 of his first 12 shots but stepped up at crunch time for Davidson, which trailed by 16 points with 15 minutes left. He had the go-ahead basket, a key-pointer, and then hit five of six free throws in the final 23 seconds in a performance that left the Hoyas, and everyone else, stunned.

No. 2 seed Georgetown was shooting 71 percent from the field early in the second half and led 48-32 before a stunning collapse under the weight of 20 turnovers and Curry's dominance.

Jason Richards added 20 points and kept Davidson (28-6) in it early when Curry was missing everything.

Jessie Sapp scored 14 points and Jonathan Wallace finished with 12 for Georgetown (28-6), which lost despite shooting 63 percent from the field.

Davidson, which hadn't won an NCAA tournament game since 1969 before Friday, advanced to face Wisconsin on Friday in Detroit.

Georgetown, the nation's stingiest defensive team, came in allowing only 57.6 points per game and 37 percent shooting. That defensive prowess was on display early.

With waves of different defenders fighting through screens, Curry looked exhausted, and Davidson appeared spent.

Georgetown built a big lead and then started making mistakes. Ineffective 7-foot-2-inch center Roy Hibbert picked up his fourth foul by pushing off in the post. It was one of a series of turnovers that allowed Davidson to get back in it.

When Georgetown's defense finally lost Curry, he buried a three-pointer from the right wing. He then fed Andrew Lovedale for a layup to make it 50-48 with 8:47 left.

After picking up his fourth foul with 4:15 left, Curry scored on a nifty scoop shot in the lane and hit a deep three to give Davidson a 65-60 lead with 2:56 left.

It led to a roar from the partisan crowd. Not only was Davidson playing 160 miles from campus, but North Carolina fans adopted the in-state school ahead of the Tar Heels' later game against Arkansas.

Davidson was now getting the breaks, too. Curry, son of former NBA sharpshooter Dell Curry, had a three-point attempt partially blocked, but it landed in Lovedale's hands for a layup to make it 67-60.

The Hoyas' comeback bid was foiled by Curry's free-throw shooting, allowing Davidson to extend the nation's longest winning streak to 24 in the most improbable fashion.

As the final seconds ticked down, the baby-faced Curry jumped at midcourt, did a chest bump with Richards and was mobbed by the rest of his teammates.

Then, the team gathered in front of the band and sang Neil Diamond's "Sweet Caroline," which had become the theme song during Davidson's memorable season. The Wildcats hadn't been a player in the NCAA tournament since Lefty Driesell led them to two regional finals in the 1960s.

Georgetown could only look on, stunned at its second-round exit a year after reaching the Final Four under coach John Thompson III.

Judging numbers

9 strikeouts by starting pitchers Kate Streilein '08 in the first game of last Thursday's doubleheader at Wellesley College. Despite the performance, the Judges, after taking a 1-0 lead, surrendered four straight runs in an eventual defeat.

918 fans, on average who attended a men's basketball game this past season. The Judges drew a total of 12,850 fans in 14 home contests, including 3,350 who attended the team's first- and second-round NCAA Tournament contests.

1 stolen base collected by utility player Lauren Rashford '10 in the softball team's doubleheader at Wellesley College last Thursday. Rashford stole second for the first time in her collegiate career in the second inning of the second game. She is playing softball this season after starring as a reserve guard on the women's basketball team.

23 steals picked up by reserve point guard Lauren Rashford '10 in 18 games for the women's basketball team last season. Rashford's tally was the third-highest on the team and first amongst the squad's reserve players.

30 wins in the last 37 games for the men's basketball team, dating back to the 2006 to 2007 season. The streak began with an 81-75 triple-overtime win over Washington University in St. Louis last season and also includes four NCAA Tournament wins. It includes victories over both Division III finalists—Amherst College and WashU—this season.

UPCOMING GAME OF THE WEEK

Baseball vs. Albertus Magnus College

The Student Union will have a pep rally before Friday's 3:30 p.m. contest.

Fresh off tying for the University Athletic Association championship, the baseball team resumes its schedule this week with four games, two of which are at home.

The second of those games is against Albertus Magnus College Friday at 3:30 p.m.

Before the game, the Student

Union is sponsoring the second annual baseball pep rally at 3 p.m. University President Jehuda Reinharz is expected to throw the ceremonial first pitch.

Last season's home date with the Falcons was postponed due to inclement weather, but Brandeis won the last matchup 12-3 in 2006.

TEAM LEADERS

Baseball (batting average, min. 20 AB)

John O'Brion '10 leads the Judges with a .464 batting average so far this season.

Player	AVG
John O'Brion	.464
Nick Gallagher	.409
Tony Deshler	.400
Artie Posch	.385
David Almeida	.355

Baseball (strikeouts)

Tyler Robinson '08 has struck out a team-high 13 batters from the mound.

Player	SO
Tyler Robinson	13
Drew Brzozowski	7
Justin Duncombe	7
James Collins	3
Craig Letendre	3

Softball (batting average, min. 20 AB)

Pitcher and first baseman Kate Streilein '08 leads the Judges with a .424 batting average.

Player	AVG
Kate Streilein	.424
Melisa Cagar	.400
Erin Ross	.385
Danielle Lavalley	.367
Chelsea Korp	.297

Softball (strikeouts)

Kate Streilein '08 has tallied a team-best 39 strikeouts for the Judges.

Player	SO
Kate Streilein	39
Natalie Volpe	25
Emily Vaillette	2
Allie Mussen	0

UAA STANDINGS

Baseball

Not including Monday's games

	UAA Conference		Overall		Pct.
	W	L	W	L	
Emory	4	2	15	6	.714
JUDGES	4	2	5	2	.714
Rochester	3	3	7	3	.700
Washington	3	3	6	5	.545
Case	1	5	2	7	.222
Chicago	0	0	0	0	.000

Softball

Not including Monday's games

	UAA Conference		Overall		Pct.
	W	L	W	L	
Washington	7	1	15	5	.750
Rochester	6	2	9	5	.714
Emory	3	5	14	8	.636
JUDGES	3	5	5	6	.458
Case	1	7	7	9	.222
Chicago	0	0	1	0	.000