“WALKING-OFF IN STYLE TO START 2016”

Easton Warriors vs. Parkside Rams  
March 23, 2016  
By: Tyler Owens

Just two days delayed, Opening Day has finally arrived as the Rams stayed on their home turf to take on the Warriors of Easton. Sean Fisher would get the start on the mound for the Opening Day affair between the two teams. After each team tallied a couple in the first, the pitching silenced both lineups as no one score again until Easton in the top of the fifth, which the Rams answered back in the bottom of the inning. The story of the game was the Smith Brothers in the bottom of the seventh. With two outs and a tied game, senior outfielder Matt Smith came up to the plate and popped a double down the third base line. With Matt sitting safely at second, little brother Andrew Smith laced a ball down the first base line after working the count to drive in his older brother and to get a walk-off double in his first career varsity game. With that, the Rams got a 5-4 victory over Easton to start the season 1-0. Connor Shockley would pick up the win on the mound and contribute at the plate with three base hits and two runs batted in. The Rams will now have a couple days off as they prepare to face Sussex Central and Dover this Saturday at home for their annual Spring Tournament.

“HOLMES’ GEM, SMITH HITTING POWERS RAMS PAST EAGLES”

Snow Hill Eagles vs. Parkside Rams  
March 30, 2016  
By: Tyler Owens

After a weekend of struggles for the Rams, a new week finally arrived as a new challenge was placed in front of them as they faced their first Bayside South match up of the season, the 4-0 Snow Hill Eagles. Lucas Holmes would get the nod on the mound as the Rams looked to start a new winning streak. The Rams would put a two spot up in the first and continue to tack on runs throughout the game, putting up a run in four of their six innings at the plate. Their offense was powered by the Smith brothers, Matt and Andrew, as Matt went 4-4 with a double, a triple and four RBIs, and Andrew went 3-4 with a double and an RBI. Lucas Holmes would have a memorable day on the mound. In his first start of his senior season, he would pitch a complete game, only allowing one earned run and four hits as he earned the win in the Rams 10-3 victory. The Rams will hope to continue their winning ways as they travel down the road to face Wicomico High for their first road game of the season tomorrow afternoon.

“NO. 200 COMES IN COMEBACK FASHION”

Parkside Rams vs. Wicomico Indians  
March 31, 2016  
By: Tyler Owens

Coming off of a solid win against an undefeated Eagles team, the Rams would take the road for the first time this season to face city rivals Wicomico High. Sean Fisher would get the start for the Rams and was dealing early, going four strong innings, allowing only one hit and striking out nine. Matt Smith would again help the offense early, as he hit his first homerun of the season, a solo shot, to give the Rams a 2-0 lead. The Rams would fall into some trouble in the bottom of the sixth, as walks aided the Indians in taking a 4-3 lead heading into the last inning of play. The Rams wouldn’t quit, as the Rams would rally back to score five times in the top of the seventh, punctuated by an Andrew Smith two-run shot for his first career Varsity homerun. The Rams would go on to beat the Indians 8-6 as Connor Shockley would pick up his second win of the year on the mound. This win for the Rams marks a big moment for head coach Brian Hollamon, as he picked up his 200th victory as the head coach of the Parkside Rams. They now look to start the road to win number 300 as they face Annapolis Area Christian on Saturday.

“DERBY UP NORTH”

Parkside Rams vs. North Caroline Bulldogs  
April 6, 2016  
By: Tyler Owens

Coming off a rough lost against city rivals James M. Bennett, the Rams were heading up north to take on 2A opponent North Caroline. Connor Shockley would get the start on the mound for the Rams. The Rams would jump on top early and never look back with Matt Smith delivering a two-run shot in the first. Sean Fisher would deliver his first varsity homerun in the top of the third with a three-run shot to put the Rams up 6-0. The Rams would go on to win 12-2, where Matt Smith contributed with another two-run homer. Colin Green and Andrew Smith also contributed to the offensive fire power with two RBIs a piece. Connor Shockley would pick up his third win of the season on the mound as the Rams jump back above .500 at 4-3. The road doesn’t get any easier as they find Bayside South competitors Stephen Decatur waiting for them at home on Friday, as the Rams look to finish the week with a win.

“UNDEFEATED NO MORE”

Parkside Rams vs. Stephen Decatur Seahawks  
April 29, 2016  
By: Tyler Owens

After a rainout Thursday, the Rams get a chance at revenge against Stephen Decatur after a tough loss the first time these two met up earlier in the season. A healthy Grant Burleson would get the nod, making this only his third start of the season. Burleson would be put to work early, working out of jams in each of his first three innings, including a 6-4-3 double play in the first which halted the Seahawks from putting up a run early. The Rams would take first blood as Colin Green got a two-out RBI single in the top of the third to score Lucas Holmes. That would prove to be enough as the Rams would tack on another run in the top of the fifth and go on to defeat the Seahawks in a 2-0 shutout, marking Stephen Decatur’s first loss of the season. Burleson would pick up the win on the mound, allowing five hits, while striking out seven. Sean Fisher would pick up the save with two lights out innings in relief, only allowing one hit. The Rams look to ride this momentum into the final week of the season, which includes a 2A matchup with the team who eliminated them from the playoffs last season; Queen Anne’s County.

“TWO DECADES LATER, THE RAMS ARE BAYSIDE CHAMPIONS AGAIN”

Parkside Rams vs. Colonel Richardson Colonels  
May 11, 2016  
By: Tyler Owens

After weeks of dispute and rain, the Rams (12-7) and Colonels (18-0) ended up at Perdue Stadium Wednesday night as Bayside South and North Champions to compete for the Bayside title. The Rams would send Junior Sean Fisher to the bump for the start as the Colonels would send Division One College commit Jaret Bennett for what was posed to be a great match up. The Rams would get on the board first as Senior Matt Smith roped an RBI double down the line to put the Rams up 1-0. The Colonels would go on to put up two in the bottom of the inning and take a 2-1 lead. The Colonels would look to remain in control through five, as they had a 5-2 lead heading into the top of the sixth. The Ram offense would heat up, as they knocked Bennett out of the game and went on to bat around, putting up a four spot on the board for a 6-5 lead; their first since the top of the first. The Colonels weren’t done either, as they put up two more in the bottom of that inning to retake a one run lead. Heading into the top of the seventh, the Rams were determined not to go down without a fight. They would bat around for the second straight inning, putting up three more runs, capped off by a Colin Green infield single which gave them the lead. Junior Grant Burleson would come on to close in the bottom of the seventh and was lights out, facing only three Colonel Richardson batters and striking all three out. The Rams would knock off the undefeated Colonels 9-7 and become Bayside Champions for the first time since 1996. Lucas Holmes would get the win in relief and Burleson would be credited with the save. Offensive contributions came from Matt Smith, Colin Green, and Dylan White, as they each had two hits and Green drove in two runs in the game.   
This accounts for the second time this season the Rams knocked off an undefeated team, as they also did so against Stephen Decatur who was 15-0 before the Rams defeated them 2-0 on the road. The Rams now hope to carry this momentum into the playoffs and accomplish another goal; win the 2A State Title. Their first game in pursuit of that goal will be Monday at home against the winner of Easton vs. Kent Island. Congratulations to the Rams coaches, players, parents, and fans on becoming Bayside Champions for the first time in two decades.