



Photo by Chris Nagy/Standard Journal. Warrior Run's Sean Morehart, right, slides under the tag of Shikellamy's Nick Dunn during their game Monday.

## Cold Start

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By Chris Nagy

## Shikellamy 7

Warrior Run 3

TURBOTVILLE—When Warrior Run first-year head coach Howie Raup looked out onto the infield during warm-ups before Monday's season opener against Shikellamy he saw something he hadn't seen all year—his team on a baseball field.

"When we came out to take infield it was the first time we had stepped foot on this baseball field—on any baseball field," said Raup.

The rust was evident as the Defenders committed three

key errors that helped Shikellamy to a 7-3 win on a cold, blustery but sun-filled afternoon. The game was called after five-innings on an umpire decision due to the cold temperatures.

"It's been tough not being able to get outside because of the weather and the field conditions," said Raup. "But I was happy with the effort today."

The Braves got on the board first with a four-spot in the second.

Warrior Run starting pitcher Hunter Raup hit two straight batters with one out and then committed an error on a bunt to allow the first run to score. After a walk, Matt Snyder smacked a two-run double to make it 3-0 and a passed ball made it 4-0.

Two more errors led to a run in the third and Shik was sitting pretty at 5-0.

But the Defenders, just like the field, were starting to warm up.

"We have been preaching to the kids to battle from the first out to the last out no matter what," said Howie Raup. "The kids responded and battled back."

With two outs in the bottom of the third, Sean Morehart drew a walk and stole second. Jared Bender then delivered an RBI double to make it 5-1.

Warrior Run again cut into the lead in the bottom of the fourth.

Derek Keiser led off the inning with a single and Andrew Gummo walked. Hunter Raup hit into a fielder's choice but the Defenders had runners on the corners with just one out.

A wild pitch platted Keiser and then one out later, an error brought home Hunter Raup to make it 5-3.

"I saw a lot of positives today," said Howie Raup.

Shik tacked on two runs in the top of the fifth and after Warrior Run went in order in the bottom half, the game was called.

Hunter Raup was tagged with the loss while Jack Hare pitched four strong innings for the win.

Warrior Run (0-1) is at Montgomery Wednesday.

Shikellamy 7, Warrior Run 3  
at Warrior Run

Shikellamy (2-0) 041 02—7-4-1  
Warrior Run (0-1) 001 20—3-2-1

Game called after five innings because of cold temperatures

Jake Hare, Kenney (5) and Colby Lahr; Hunter Raup, Jared Bender (5) and Connor Pelletier.

W—Hare. L—Raup.

Leading hitters for Shikellamy: Matt Snyder, double, 2 RBI; Nick Dunn, double; Brandon Kashuba, single, RBI; Jean Turber, single, 2 runs scored.

Leading hitters for Warrior Run: Bender, double, RBI; Derek Keiser, single.