

Dietz delivers in 31-6 Neshaminy win

By Chris Goldberg
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LANGHORNE — Neshaminy quarterback Jim Dietz didn't sulk or complain when he was benched during two early-season games.

He watched. And he learned.

On Saturday, before a large homecoming crowd, Dietz led the Redskins to a 31-6 rout of Harry S Truman in a Suburban One National Conference game.

The win improved Neshaminy's record to 4-2 overall and 4-1 in the league. For Dietz, it was another chance for redemption.

The 5-foot-9, 150-pound junior completed 7 of 12 passes for 196 yards and one touchdown, and he ran for another score. Three times,

Dietz hit John Hatfield (four catches, 163 yards) for completions of at least 43 yards, including a 55-yard TD to open the scoring.

"When he [coach Mark Schmidt] pulled me, he told me before the game," said Dietz, who was replaced against Council Rock and Bensalem by backup Dave Feight. "Coach wanted me to be on the sidelines and to watch coverages and the defensive backs."

Dietz apparently learned his lessons well. He has thrown for 386 yards in Neshaminy's last two wins, and three times against Truman (2-4, 1-4), he hit Hatfield on identical routes for long yardage.

The first long pass to Hatfield was the 55-yard TD just three minutes

into the game. Dietz also hit Hatfield for 52 yards in the second quarter and, after the Tigers had clawed to within 10-6, hit Hatfield on a 43-yarder on the second play of the second half.

That set up Dietz's 5-yard TD run. Rob Miller's conversion made it 17-6, and after that, Neshaminy dominated play.

"Jim had a great day," Schmidt said. "He had some great reads and threw the ball terrific."

The Redskins' defense also shined. Hatfield had two of Neshaminy's five interceptions, and Truman quarterback Shawn Slivinski (14 for 30, 139 yards) was sacked four times.

Meanwhile, Nick Durnin scored the final two Neshaminy touch-

downs on runs of 1 and 4 yards.

Truman's highlight came after Miller's 21-yard field goal made it 10-0 in the first period. Slivinski responded by directing a seven-play, 80-yard drive that culminated in an 18-yard TD run by Jeff Rogers.

"We're taking our lumps, and we're playing inconsistently," Tigers coach Jan Cechak said. "I thought the momentum was going our way at halftime, but then it shifted."

Harry S Truman	6	0	0	0	—	6
Neshaminy	10	0	14	7	—	31

N: Hatfield 55 pass from Dietz (Miller kick)

N: FG Miller 21

T: Rogers 18 run (kick failed)

N: Dietz 5 run (Miller kick)

N: Durnin 1 run (Miller kick)

N: Durnin 4 run (Miller kick)