

Carroll Receivers Ad-Lib a Victory

By TED SALARY

Archbishop Carroll's pass-oriented offense would fit best in a one-way street, with receivers dodging parked cars, making cuts at the sewer holes and, of course, using fire hydrants to pick off defenders. Then again, it doesn't look bad in the green of suburbia, either.

Marty Kennedy last night passed 16-for-30 for 221 yards and a touchdown as the Patriots deflated Neshaminy Langhorne, 17-6, in a non-league football classic. Six-four Dave Guyer snagged eight passes for 120 yards with junior Terry Mullen adding five for 99.

The most noteworthy feature of this aerial show, though, was that almost every play was diagrammed with a figurative stick in the dust. And that the receivers did the drawing.

Now, that's inventive. "We started that last season," said Kennedy, "but it takes a while to perfect the system. On all our plays designed for short passes, I walk to the line then take a look at our wide receivers. They flash a number which tells me what they want to run."

"No matter how the defenders line up, our receivers—if they're on the

ball—can suggest a pattern that should work."

DURING the pre-season, Guyer and Mullen were so adept at catching passes after suggesting the patterns, Coach Jim Bowes decided to make room for both and sack the Patriots' commonplace double-tight end offense.

In the first half last night, Guyer caught six passes for 86 yards and Mullen tried to hit him at least twice that often. All that activity endeared Guyer to the Langhorne defense, which provided the services of a bodyguard and stationed another d-back nearby at all times.

Thus, when it was time to catch passes or catch fail after the Redskins earned a 14-10 lead on a pass from Dirk Kirby to Bob Petrosky with 3:37 remaining, the obvious target was Mullen.

Terry produced right away, posting a 36-yard pickup on a second-down play from the Carroll 13. After Phil Channness (11 carries, 46 yards) sped three yards for a first down at Langhorne's 40, four plays later, Bowes halted the improvisation and ordered Mullen to run a fly pattern.

"Marty was forced to run for [the 10-yard gain]," said Bowes, "but the play

was there and we wanted to use it and after Terry was getting one-on-one coverage."

Single coverage just isn't gonna get it when a Mullen's involved. Terry, who was in the end zone before his momentum carried him over the sideline.

"THE GAIN [on a slant pattern] that got us to midfield was all our 50 sets, where we flash the patterns to the defense." Mullen said. "The idea is great because it gives us one last advantage over the defense. But when we call the wrong pattern and catch hell from the coaches, it's not so great."

"My playing receiver goes back to grade school, when I saw Kevin having such a good time with it, I was resigned to backing up Dave this year, but Coach Bowes made the switch and I'm happy. We have a great soph receiver [Marty McCabe] so we should be all right for next year, too."

The heroics by Kennedy, Guyer and Mullen would have meant nothing if not for a productive defense paced by linebacker Steve Doherty (11 tackles).

On the first scrimmage play of the second half, Willie Doherty forced a mid-air fumble and safety Jeff Bodo reced 46 yards for a touchdown. Three series later, Ed Walsh's interception and 10-yard return gave Carroll the ball at Langhorne's 21. Soph Blaise "Keek" a Touchdown, Santangelo hammered a 23-yard field goal six plays later.

"The 'D' is young," said Bowes, "but they came up with several big plays. Yet, in the second half [after a scoreless first half], it was like both teams left their 'D' in the locker room."

When Kennedy's hot, that's a natural assumption. Marty's family (Joe, fullback in '76; Tom, split end in '78; Bob, linebacker in '80) helped Carroll's program in the past.

"THE ONLY REASON I'm a quarterback is 'cause of my coach at St. Colman's, John Maguire," Marty said. "He thought I was a good athlete and stuck me there, then spent countless hours to make me better. Without him, I'd never be as good as I am now."

"I'm not saying I'm good," he added, with a laugh, "but I do OK. Coach Maguire taught me qualities like determination, perseverance and persistence. He is one tough Irishman. He hates to lose."

So, too, does Bowes. That eventually was prevented on a fourth-and-eight play from the Redskins 30 as Walsh managed his second interception. The twirling of the head ref's finger to signal game's end was a welcome sight.

"This team showed real character," Bowes said. "The offense kept its cool in a pressure situation."

ELSEWHERE: Rick Burns (24-117, two-yard score) and Ted Bucan (PAT) helped Bishop Egan beat Neshaminy Maple Point 7-6. • Stuart Geisels's one-yard score was Haverford School's bright spot in a 27-6 loss to Valley Forge MA.

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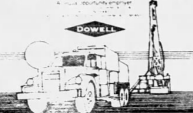
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