

C.B. West routs No. 3 Neshaminy, 25-0, for 38th in row

By M.G. Missanelli

Special Staff Writer

Now that Central Bucks West has won 38 straight games and has made a mockery so far of the Suburban One National Conference, it may be time for the Bucks to cut that rap song.

Can anybody jive to "The Beat Goes On"?

In what may have been its finest performance of the season, C.B. West, The Inquirer's No. 1-ranked team in Southeastern Pennsylvania, crushed No. 3-ranked Neshaminy, 25-0, before a standing-room-only crowd of about 9,000 at Harry Franks Stadium.

The heroes were the usual ones. Quarterback Randy Cuthbert scored two touchdowns and threw for one

yard scamper, was aided by two key plays. On the first, end Paul Shish scooped up Livezey's fumble and turned a 4-yard play into a 20-yard play. The second came when Neshaminy's Jim Patella was flagged for a face-mask penalty after stopping Cuthbert cold in the Bucks' backfield.

Wingback Anthony Ventresca scored on a 79-yard screen pass and had a beautiful 58-yard run as the Bucks rolled up 361 yards total offense. Kicker Chris Angell added a 33-yard field goal and two PATs.

But the story last night was West's defense, which limited Neshaminy's high-powered offense to 135 yards total and nothing from the air. "Defensively, that was one of the best games we've ever played," said West coach Mike Pettine. "And what keyed that was the offense. We got up early and we were able to dictate to them a little."

What started out to be a serious threat to C.B. West's monumental winning streak soon turned into a familiar pattern of Bucks domination.

Neshaminy's wishbone offense, which many said would be no threat to the West defense, surprised even the most partisan fan by ripping the Bucks' middle for 61 yards on its second drive of the game, strictly on running plays.

The orchestrator was quarterback Bill Vergantino, who, when he wasn't dancing away from early penetration, was giving the ball to fullback John Rizzo. The Redskins got the ball as far as the West 14, before Rizzo was stopped for a 4-yard loss on third down. The drive stalled when Mike Doyle missed a 35-yard field goal.

From there, the Neshaminy offense was nearly nonexistent, running only 11 plays on three drives

the rest of the first half.

Vergantino, who had 46 yards rushing in the second quarter, finished with just 49, as West's blitzing defense, led by linebackers Jeff Livezey and Joe Butlin, stuffed the Neshaminy quarterback before he could gather a head of steam.

"We had to put some heat on [Vergantino]," Pettine said. "We felt if we could make a big play on him with our linebackers, we could get them in a second-and-10 or second-and-12 situation. And it's tough to work off of that."

West got off and running on a brilliant 79-yard first-quarter screen-pass play from Cuthbert to Ventresca. West's 5-foot-10, 155-pound senior wingback nestled behind a

great wall of blockers, then scampered away from every Neshaminy defender in pursuit to stun the overflow crowd.

Last week, Pettine chastised Ventresca for fumbling twice against Council Rock.

"I was tentative last week, and had to remind myself to hold on to the ball with two hands," Ventresca said. "But at game time, my confidence was back and I was back to holding it with one hand, which makes me quicker."

The Bucks would score twice more in the second quarter for a 17-0 half-time lead.

The first drive, which began at the West 43 and ended five plays later when Cuthbert scored on a pretty 20-

yard scamper, was aided by two key plays. On the first, end Paul Shish scooped up Livezey's fumble and turned a 4-yard play into a 20-yard play. The second came when Neshaminy's Jim Patella was flagged for a face-mask penalty after stopping Cuthbert cold in the Bucks' backfield.

"We gave the kids an awful lot this week to absorb," Pettine said. "In fact, I thought we gave them too much and figured they'd come out nervous. But we responded well."

C.B. West	7	10	8	0	—	25
Neshaminy	0	0	0	0	—	0
CBW:	Ventresca 79 pass from Cuthbert (Angell kick)					
CBW:	Cuthbert 20 run (Angell kick)					
CBW:	Angell 33 FG					
CBW:	Cuthbert 1 run (Cuthbert run)					