

Mistakes, penalties and injuries turn Neshaminy-Egan game into dull tie

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The Bishop Egan-Neshaminy game used to be a spectacle. Lately, it's been something less than that.

Last night's season-opener was a dull, 7-7 tie between two teams who might wind up contenders in their respective leagues. Both look like pretty good clubs, but a blizzard of penalties, mistakes and minor injuries took a lot off the game.

It was the fourth year of the renewed series, which packed Neshaminy Stadium in the '60s, but now plays to crowds in the 4,000 range. Egan had won the first two games of the renewal, and Neshaminy won last year.

Two big plays, and a penalty, decided the game.

The first, after a scoreless half, was created by the flying feet of Egan's

great running back, Tom Seger. On the third play of the third quarter he broke through the middle of the Neshaminy line and went 71 yards for a touchdown. Jim Larson kicked the point, and the Eagles led, 7-0.

The second big play was on the last play of the third quarter, when Neshaminy's Todd McDonald caught a 14-yard scoring pass on a twisting, diving catch with Seger dragging him down from behind. Redskins quarterback Kip Shenefelt lobbed the ball up, and McDonald dove for the catch at the back of the end zone. Scott Obringer kicked the tying point with 13 seconds left in the period.

Neshaminy nearly used McDonald's scurrying feet and twisting arms to pull it out in the fourth quarter. The 5-foot, 8-inch senior turned a short completion into a 50-yard gain, down to the Egan 10.

But the Redskins couldn't get it in

for the game winner. A run by Bob Thomas gained a yard, a pass fell incomplete and a procedure penalty pushed them back five yards.

After a Thomas run lost two yards on a good defensive play by Egan's Joe Radich, Mark Cordelli lined up to try a 33-yard field goal.

The kick was barely short and barely to the right. Without the five-yard penalty and the two-yard loss, the field goal probably would have been good.

Cordelli also tried a 50-yarder on the game's final play, but it was far short.

Both these teams will be heard from later, but last night wasn't their best performance.

Bishop Egan	0	0	7	0-7
Neshaminy	0	0	7	0-7

BE - Seger 71 run (Larson kick)

N - McDonald 14 pass from Shenefelt (Obringer kick)