

Filotei has game to remember

By Chris English

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It would be very difficult for anyone to look back 30 years from now and remember one play from his high school football career. But Bob Filotei will remember this one.

Filotei, a 5-9, 150-pound senior wide receiver for the Pennsbury High School

team, will be bouncing grandchildren on his knee and telling them about Nov. 9, 1985, the day his catch made Pennsbury Suburban One League National Division champs for the second straight year, and, just as importantly, 10-0 for the season.

It came with 4:47 left in Saturday's classic title clash with Neshaminy. The Falcons had a first down on their own 44 after

a defensive holding call had given them second life. Quarterback Dave Fisher took the snap, faked two handoffs, and rolled to the left with the ball on his hip. Spotting Filotei on a post pattern, he nailed him in stride for a 66-yard, game-winning touchdown.

"It was a 17-bootleg pass. We just put it

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"in this week," Filotei explained. "(Dan) Santhouse (Neshaminy defensive back) was to the left of me and number 21 (Ken Kemp) was to the outside. Santhouse looked like he was going to bump me off the line but he just flew in and I knew I could beat number 21.

"There's three guys on that pattern. Paul McMullin goes out and does a little sideline pattern. Andy Anderson goes a little further downfield and cuts to the sideline and I'm on the weak side running a post down the middle. They said to go to me. If I have one-one coverage and that's what happened.

"It was kind of tough because I was running the pattern and looking back and looking almost into the sun. It was a good thing it was thrown low because I picked up the ball perfect. I didn't have to break stride and once I caught it I had to run about 30 yards or so and I didn't see any Neshaminy guys around."

Fisher felt it was largely a matter of the right call at the right time.

"I remember the Council Rock game. We were setting them up the whole time with that bootleg run to the left and we were doing that in this game, too," he said. "Once the call came in from Mr. Dietz (Pennsbury assistant coach Eric), I knew I was going to Bob, so I just threw it as far as I could."

The play was even more dra-

matic considering the circumstances. Neshaminy was moving the ball crisply on the ground (it would outgain Pennsbury 198-90 in rushing yards and 196-174, overall) and had momentum on its side. Then, with a fourth-and-six on the Pennsbury 24, Neshaminy elected to try a 42-yard field goal into a stiff wind. It had just converted on a fourth-and-three minutes earlier.

Tom Waterbor's kick missed badly. The Falcons took over and got the benefit of a controversial defensive holding call on a third-and-six. That's all Fisher and Filotei needed, and they made the next play count.

"I think they were moving guys back and forth on the line and our linemen were a little confused on who to block," said Filotei. "Neshaminy has a good team and they were really tough."

Scott LaBrecque, a major part of the Falcons' relentless ground game, was held to 55 yards on 14 carries. He finished the year with 1,104.

"A great offensive line makes me a good runner. When you're following guys like Bob Burns (tackle), it's not hard," LaBrecque said. "Neshaminy came to play. They did a great job defensively against us. They were doing things we weren't expecting but we scored 14 points and that was enough to win the game."

Fourteen points was indeed enough, along with some crucial breaks and one gem of a pass play.