

**Neshaminy** 21

**William Tennent** 19

*Suburban One National football*

# 'Skins win a seesaw struggle

By Adam Gusdorff

INQUIRER CORRESPONDENT

Seventy-six seconds into their game Saturday, Neshaminy coach Dick Bedesem and William Tennent coach Howard Wible looked at the scoreboard and saw different things.

Sure, they both saw that the visiting Redskins had already scored a touchdown and a safety to lead, 9-0. But Wible wasn't the one who started to worry.

"When you get up that much, that quick, and that easily," Bedesem said, "the kids' emotions let down. We were up, 9-0, and the emotion left the sideline."

Actually, it just traveled across the field. The Panthers rallied to take leads of 13-9 and 19-15 before a Bill Borman touchdown run with 6 minutes, 42 seconds left in the game allowed Neshaminy (2-3, 1-3) to win the battle of the Suburban One National cellar-dwellers, 21-19. Tennent is still looking for its first win at 0-4 (0-5 overall).

"This was a game we should have had, could have had," Wible said, "and we let it get away. But even if it wasn't a 'W', the effort was still there.

The Panthers comeback was led by running back Paul Lizzi, who scored all three of the team's touchdowns. At just 5 feet, 6 inches and 165 pounds, he embodied Tennent's refusal to quit. Against Neshaminy's massive defensive front, he rushed nine times for 59 yards and two TDs.

On the first play of the game, Mormello kept the ball on an option play and went 64 yards untouched to put the visitors up, 6-0, just 31 seconds into the game. Dan Sock's extra point made it 7-0. After a holding penalty gave Tennent a first-and-18 on its own 8-yard line, defensive tackle Bruce Beecher tackled quarterback Kevin Greenberg in the end zone for the 9-0 lead. On the play, it appeared Beecher caught Greenberg's facemask and used it to jerk the quarterback down to the ground.

"That was so flagrant and so unmistakable, the officials should be in trouble [for not calling a penalty]," Wible said. "Forget the two points; the boy's neck could've been snapped."

Greenberg remained in the game until late in the third quarter, when he suffered a concussion.

After the safety, Neshaminy started to fall apart. On its ensuing possession the team was forced to punt. Beecher, the long-snapper, snapped the ball five yards short of punter Arnie Gooch, who was tackled at his own 32 by Brian Platt.

On second-and-9 from the Tennent 16, Lizzi threw a block, then went out as a pass receiver and was uncovered. Greenberg found him with a pass and the score was 9-6. A pass for the extra point was incomplete.

On Neshaminy's next possession, Beecher made another poor snap on a punt, and this time Gooch was brought down at the 12. Lizzi's 1-yard run with 53 seconds left in the opening quarter gave Tennent a 13-9 lead after Damoen Mahassey's extra point.

The Redskins then embarked on a 10-play, 93-yard drive that culminated when Gooch scored on an 8-yard touchdown pass from Mormello. They held a 15-13 lead until the opening drive of the second half.

Julian Eichert returned the kickoff 48 yards to the Neshaminy 32. From there, it took only four plays before Lizzi scored on a 15-yard run. That lead held for more than 15 minutes, before Borman's score won the game.

Neshaminy	9	6	0	6	—	21
William Tennent	13	0	6	0	—	19

NE: Mormello 64 run (Sock kick)

NE: Safety, Beecher tackled Greenberg in end zone

WT: Lizzi 16 pass from Greenberg (pass failed)

WT: Lizzi 1 run (Mahassey kick)

NE: Gooch 8 pass from Mormello (kick failed)

WT: Lizzi 15 run (run failed)

NE: Borman 9 run (kick failed)