

Crashing party, Eagles pin loss on Crusaders

The Redskins were more or less out of the game by early in the second half. Even their last touchdown was not pretty — a fumble recovery in the end zone.

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It isn't easy to win a football game when you possess the ball for less than 15 minutes of a 48-minute game.

And when your longest drive is 2 minutes, 24 seconds, that's also a concern.

These are the problems the Neshaminy football team caused for itself, with a little help from the Central Bucks East defense, in Friday's 38-14 Suburban One National loss to the Patriots.

The Redskins' second trip to Doylestown's War Memorial Stadium was a little better than their first, but the result was the same. In September, Central Bucks West delivered a 40-0 setback to Dick Bedesem's team. But this one was surely more troubling.

East (5-3 overall, 4-3 league) came in averaging 12 points a game, but didn't have much trouble moving the ball or scoring. Junior fullback Brad Bernhard gained a career-high 133 yards on 17 carries and scored a touchdown, and overall the Patriots outgained the Redskins by 440-134.

"I'm very excited," Bernhard said. "I'm happy we won the game. We worked very hard as a team for this."

Four different Patriots rushed for scores behind a line that opened up gaping holes. Junior center Brian Coverdale, guards Ron Gall and La-Coya Wright, and tackles Mike Moosbrugger and Josh Mitchell did their job, and more.

East senior back Brian Taylor, who scored a touchdown and rushed for 52 yards, praised the line. "It feels good to win a ball game and actually dominate. We came out thinking we'd win no matter what. It was just how it would unfold."

Field position played a big part early. On Neshaminy's five first-half drives, four ended in punts after three plays. The average field position for the Redskins was their own 21. East's first three drives all started in Neshaminy territory.

A 3-yard touchdown run by junior Jason Karabin and a 1-yard scoring

Central Bucks East 38
Neshaminy 14

Suburban One National football

burst by Bernhard made it 14-0 by the middle of the second quarter. Neshaminy didn't have too much to smile about, except for the efforts of junior quarterback Careem Hunte, who outran the East defense for a 55-yard touchdown to make it 14-7.

But when East kicker Chris Becker ended the first half with a 31-yard field goal, any Neshaminy momentum was squashed. The Patriots scored on their first two drives of the second half, and the game was effectively over.

"Everything went wrong," Bedesem said. "Our purpose offensively is to control the ball. You might say we're a little inconsistent. We should've been able to come out and play, but they took it away."

A 64-yard pass for a touchdown from junior Brian Thackray to Karabin made it 24-7, and five minutes later Taylor broke free on a counter for a 25-yard touchdown. Senior Brian Olson scored on a 11-yard touchdown scamper to make it 38-7.

Neshaminy's final drive was its longest in duration, but even in its ending, there was a negative. As junior Lance Horwatt was about to cross the goal line on a 1-yard touchdown, he dropped the ball. Hunte fell on it in the end zone for a touchdown, but the point was clear.

"I was scared to death coming in because I thought they would move the football," East coach John Quinn said. "I thought defensively we did a real good job."

Neshaminy	0	7	0	7	—	14
Central Bucks East	7	10	14	7	—	38

C: Karabin 3 run (Becker kick)
C: Bernhard 1 run (Becker kick)
N: Hunte 55 run (Lee kick)
C: FG Becker 31
C: Karabin 64 pass from Thackray (Becker kick)
C: Taylor 25 run (Becker kick)
C: Olson 11 run (Becker kick)
N: Hunte recovered fumble in end zone (Lee kick)