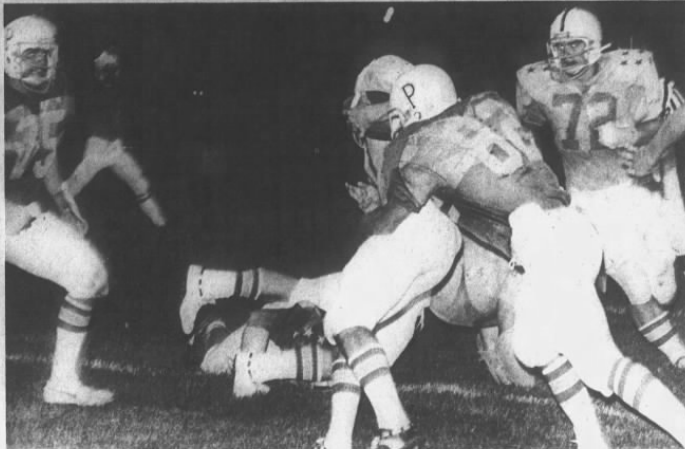




Colleen Hager, accompanied by Gary Krytniak, was named the North queen at the Bucks County All-Star game on Saturday night.



Russ Monahan tackles quarterback Mike Elko in the backfield, sticking the South QB with a 10 yard loss during play on Saturday night. The North, with seven members of the Pennridge football team, beat the South 27-0 because of plays like this one. Ray Passante (75) and Glenn Wright (72) converge on the scene.

NEWS-HERALD/Charles Horton

Rams Boost North To All-Star Win

By PAUL VIGNA

We would be exaggerating a bit to suggest that the Bucks County All-Star football game on a starlit Saturday night featured Pennridge versus the South. This, as the cliché is often used, a team effort, as the North outlasted the South 27-0 in a one of your better summertime ballgames. Many schools played a part in the win, but perhaps none more than the seven graduates who represented Pennridge High School.

Jim Jamno ran under a gorgeous spiral thrown by former CB East quarterback Scott Stankavage, turning the third quarter reception into a 59-yard touchdown play. Brooks Peters guessed correctly on a long pass

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with second left in the ballgame, picking off the aerial near the goal line to take away the South's last opportunity to win. Russ Monahan, Ray Passante, Jack Wuerstle and Bill Jamno all played for the North defensive unit, which limited the South to just six points through the first 45 minutes of the contest. Brian Dierolf cracked open a number of holes in the South defensive line, blasting from his position at offensive guard.

And to cap the night, Colleen Hager of Pennridge, with Gary Krytniak pinch hitting at her side for Brooks Peters, was crowned queen of the North, "the good witch" of the North as she's known in Oz.

They've gone in different directions by now, each one either looking ahead to a September in college or as part of the labor force. By Monday of this week, many of the Pennridge graduates who were in this football game had already resumed a full day's schedule at their place of employment. But for the last two weeks, they were lucky enough to represent their league and their school at this benefit game for the blind charities of the county, sponsored by the Lions. For the seven, it was a treat just to perform once again on the gridiron before a large crowd (3500 estimated).

"I realized how much I missed it," said Dierolf, who went back to pumping gas at Heston Swartzley's on Monday after fueling the North offense on Saturday with some timely blocks. "It felt good to put the uniform on again. I wasn't sure how everybody would get along when we got together for practice, but it was amazing the way the group pulled together as a team."

No doubt this August and September will be awkward for Dierolf and some of his mates from Pennridge, who won't be reporting for football practice for the first time in a number of years.

"Yes, I was thinking about that," Dierolf admitted. "But tonight was just super!"

It was super for several reasons. The North finished on top, breaking loose from a narrow 7-6 lead at the half to score twice in the third period and again in the fourth. The North, which included Bus-Mont players from Quakertown, CB West and CB East in addition to Pennridge, took a seven point lead in the opening quarter when Don Mease picked off a 70-yard pass and juiced 18 yards to the end zone. After Jamno threw a lasso around his touchdown pass, the North made 20-6 with its bulldozer offense, smashing the South line repeatedly on a line consuming 14 play drive that covered 95 yards, all on the ground. In the final quarter, after the South had slimmed their deficit to 20-14, Council Rock's Glenn Wright slammed his head protector into South quarterback Brett Connelly and knocked the pigskin loose. It bounced to Darrel Neff of Palsadesa, who joyfully brought the ball 35 yards for a score. The South, however, with the aid of several penalties, kept the crowd from leaving War Memorial Field early by tallying a touchdown with 1:54 left in the game, pulling back to within six points. And the eventual losers made the final chapter of this winning even more suspenseful, capturing an unmissable kick near-modified with plenty of time left to negotiate the real estate needed for a ballgame score. But Peters, who switched between cornerback and free safety and was active at both positions for the North,

State Bid Ends For Lady Rams

The wise say there is no better recourse after a loss than to immediately forget it and concentrate on what lies ahead. Words easily spoken, but advice difficult to always follow. The PIAA state softball tournament is a double elimination playoff, allowing a team the chance to slip up in one game, yet still bounce back to win the thing.

For Pennridge, however, this tourney in Shippensburg last week boiled down to single elimination. There is no question that once they fell to North Hills in a heartbreaking finish on Tuesday, the Lady Rams were a beaten

club. They were finished, and played like that the following morning, losing 6-1 to Wyoming Area and getting no-bis in the process.

There was, like all of these post-season events, one winner out at Shippensburg. The remainder of the contenders all fell feeling like losers. Some departed as early as Tuesday. Others remained in contention until the last couple days. The Lady Rams fell right in the middle, winning on Monday, then losing their next two ballgames.

North Hills, that was the game we

put the lid on the comeback with his swipe at the goal line.

"You could see where the quarterback was going to throw by where he was looking," said Peters of Connelly, who just graduated from Neshaun-Langhorne. "I could tell right off it was coming my way. I think I might have had better position on the ball than the receiver did. The only thing I was worried about was that I had stepped out of bounds. When I looked down after making the catch, I thought 'I came down out of bounds.'"

He was ruled, correctly, inbounds when I picked off the pass, allowing Peters the thrill of racing, arms upstated, toward his bench, the ball and victory safely in his hands. It was fitting that a Pennridge player would figure in the ending after having such success throughout the contest.

Jim Jamno caught one TD, and only a driving save by a South defensive back prevented Jimmy from catching a pass that would have sent him home. Bill Jamno held his ground at the left cornerback position. Dierolf was on the field during that 13-play drive, exploding into the defense. Russ Monahan was excellent at defensive end, busting through midway through the first quarter to sack the QB for a 10-yard loss. Jack Wuerstle and Ray Passante had several tackles and a few assists to their credit. This isn't to downplay the contribution from the other schools. Scott Stankavage, in particular, was brilliant at quarterback for the North, and both Ron Clark (of West) and Craig Hillers (of East) made some South running backs awful sore with their physical play. But Pennridge was well represented by its seven players, which gave the multitude of Rams followers plenty to be hoast about.

"I was so excited," said Passante. "I had butterflies all day. I got the chance to start, to play with the best football players in the area. I just feel super, really super."

His six Pennridge teammates all echoed the same enthusiasm.

NOTES — It was a well played game, much more exciting than the one played the night before at North Penn, where the South beat the North 27-7. CB East Joe Koak, Shippensburg, Council Rock's John Franco and Archbishop Wood and Don Mangini were the offensive leaders for the North. Mike Valania of Neshaun-Magle Point and Connelly led the South. Brenda Kahn and Tammy Greiser were the "no-name" cheerleaders from Pennridge whom we weren't able to identify until game time. . . neither girl practiced with the cheerleaders from the other school because nobody bothered to reach them until the day before the game. . . both, however, relied on their experience and whooped it up as much as anyone. . . one other reporter might have included the phrase in this summary of the game, but I claim responsibility for the "I hate those Mates to pieces" statement that the South was probably muttering by halftime of the ballgame.

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