

Bristol Connection leads South past North, 15-14

By Tim Panaccio
Inquirer Staff Writer

OK, so there were nine players from Central Bucks West and eight from Neshaminy. Perhaps you could make an argument that this was the game the two schools should have played last season but didn't.

In the end, however, the Bucks County North-South All-Star football game last Saturday which pitted CBW coach Mike Pettine against Neshaminy coach John Chaump, was determined by an unlikely cast of heroes from Bristol, Pennsbury and Council Rock.

True, some players from the South squad were chanting, "We beat CBW, we beat CBW," following the South's 15-14 upset, but it was the Bristol Connection of Sean Andrews and Tony Devine — not anyone from Neshaminy — that gave the South its two touchdowns.

"It feels good to play against these Suburban One guys and win it," said Devine, whose 14-yard TD reception and subsequent 2-point pass reception won the game. "At Bristol, we play all those little schools during the season and beat them. But there's no challenge like there was tonight."

Devine was conscious of the fact that the South's victory gave Pettine his

Bucks County All-Star football game

first loss as a head coach since 1983. "Yeah, I feel sorry for Pettine," said Devine with a smile. "I'm pretty shined up right now."

Andrews, 5'9 and 150 pounds, was a late entry on the South squad a week before the game. All he did was catch a 37-yard touchdown with 29 seconds left in the second quarter to give the South a 7-7 tie at halftime.

Yet the unsung hero of all was South's 6'1, 170-pound quarterback Mike Doring, from Council Rock. Three weeks ago, Doring was the No. 3 quarterback on the South's squad. Then Council Rock teammate Steve Owen, who held the starting job for the South, inexplicably withdrew from the game.

Chaump immediately moved Pennsbury's Andy Szarko up from No. 2 to No. 1 quarterback. But Szarko, who plays shortstop and relief pitcher for the baseball team, withdrew days before the game because Pennsbury had advanced into the state baseball playoffs.

Szarko's absence forced Doring into the starting role at quarterback. (He was supposed to be the starting safety only).

"Doring is no third-string quarterback, and you could see by his performance," said Chaump. "He may have been the third man for the job but he was first-stringer tonight."

Doring, who will attend Columbia in the fall, was impressive, completing 10 of 17 passes for 146 yards and 2 touchdowns. He upstaged CBW's Shawn Moylan, who was 11 of 18 for 133 yards, with 2 interceptions.

"I never really expected to play in this game other than at safety," said Doring. "I'm just thankful I got a chance to prove myself."

Doring's passes were thrown with pinpoint accuracy during the second half, when the South rallied from a 14-7 deficit. Two passes really stand out. His 43-yarder to Pennsbury's James Bodley with 3:57 left, gave the South a first-and-goal at the North's 9-yard line.

Bodley caught 4 passes for 59 yards in the game. His last reception, however, required him to outjump two defenders, notably Central Bucks East's Greg Glemser. Better still, Bodley made the catch over his shoulder.

"I wasn't really thinking about the jump," he said. "I just wanted to win

the game. But I make a lot of those catches in practice."

How's that? See, Bodley is also a long jumper and what appeared extraordinary to the crowd was merely routine for him.

"This is the first time I ever heard he was long jumper," Chaump said. "I didn't know he could jump that high. All I knew was that he was the fastest kid we had. I looked down the bench at the end and I'm looking for the fastest kid. I tell him to play flanker and run a deep post up the middle."

Which is what Bodley did, and Doring caught him on the fly with the big pass. A penalty and two plays later, saw Doring fire a 14-yard TD pass to Devine.

Initially, the ball went past Bodley's outstretched hands, then literally right through CBW defender Matt Bernhard's hands, before ending up in the clutches of Devine.

"I felt it go right by my hands," said Bernhard. "That was a pick play. I had an open field ahead of me if I got the ball."

Devine had a better explanation, of course.

"It went through the linebacker's hands but I had the greater concentration," he said. "The best concentration in all of Bucks County. I had it all the

way."

Doring wasn't sure who had it.

"I saw it go through James' [Bodley] hands and Tony is backing up and he ends up catching it," Doring said. "It was supposed to be Tony's ball. I'm not sure why James was over there. I think he thought it was supposed to be his ball."

Bodley and several other players said Chaump delivered a "very emotional" speech before the game. Just what was exactly said, remains unclear, although players said Chaump did not lose sight of the fact that no one had beaten Pettine in quite some time.

"We felt we owed it to him [Chaump] and to ourselves to show everyone that guy [Pettine] on the other sideline is beatable," said Bodley.

Pettine was not bothered by the loss.

"It hurts to lose, but it wasn't like it was the regular season," said Pettine. "As much as they beat us, we beat ourselves."

And what about the CBW-Neshaminy stuff and kids chanting, and the speech before the game ...

"Believe me, you'll see a different football team in the fall when we [CBW] play them [Neshaminy]."

The clock runs out on last-minute rally by North QB Moylan

By Tom Sheridan
Special to The Inquirer

Central Bucks West's Shawn Moylan hadn't lost a football game since eighth grade, and he was not giving up with his North team trailing, 15-14, late in the Bucks County North-South All-Star football game Saturday.

With the seconds ticking away he frantically called for the center snap on Steve Alderfer's last-ditch 50-yard field-goal attempt.

"We wanted to pull them offside," Moylan said. "But we didn't have enough time to go through the cadence so I just said, 'Give me the ball, give me the ball.'"

But by the time Guillermo Isaac centered the ball to Moylan, the holder, time had expired, so that Alderfer's kick, which fell five yards short, would not have counted even if it had been long enough.

The South's Mike Doring and Tony Devine teamed up for the touchdown and 2-point conversion to give the South a 1-point edge with 2 minutes and 51 seconds left in the game, but Moylan still had time to rally the North.

Chris Pelczarski returned the following kickoff to the 30-yard line and Moylan took over with 2:37 left. On the first play he snapped off a quick pass to Todd Herrmann for 13 yards and a first down. But on the next three plays he overthrew an open Brett Ziegler, saw another pass broken up by the South's Scott Alt-

man and was forced to scramble out of the pocket for no gain.

Faced with a fourth-and-10 from the North 42-yard line, Moylan rolled to his left, turned and lofted a pass back to the right flat — right into the hands of Steve Schurr of Bishop Egan. The South had the ball back with less than a minute to play.

"Ziegler [the intended receiver] said he got hit at the line," Moylan said. "But I didn't see it. He has fast feet and I just overestimated where he was going to be."

Even facing a fourth-down play he had to convert, Moylan felt in control. "I thought I had the game in my hands ... but I overthrew it," he said.

Amazingly they got the ball back one more time, for Alderfer's desperation field-goal attempt, after the South turned the ball over on downs.

Although Moylan — who completed 50 of 105 passes for 794 yards and 11 touchdowns in leading Central Bucks West to a 10-0-1 record last fall — was slightly amiss late in the game, he was on target through the first three quarters.

Moylan marched the North to a 7-0 lead, driving 62 yards in seven plays on its first possession. He completed all three of his passes for 51 yards in that drive. The next time he touched the ball he again moved the team. The North took over at its own 41 and moved to the South 27, consuming the last 5 minutes, 15 seconds of the first quarter. Moylan either ran or passed the ball on five of the first



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Moylan rolls out looking for a receiver, pressured by South's Matt Kiernan of Pennsbury.

seven plays of that drive. The only pass he did not complete in his first eight attempts was a third-down pass dropped by Herrmann as the second drive bogged down at the South 25.

By halftime, Moylan had accounted for more than half of the North's total offense even though Mike Murphy of Quakertown, the North's other quarterback, had replaced him for two series. Moylan alone outgained the South, 89-80, in the first half.

In the second half, the North took the kickoff and Moylan took charge,

leading ball-control drive that consumed almost 5 minutes. This time Moylan snuffed out the drive himself when he was intercepted at the 2-yard line.

In the third quarter, Moylan made especially good use of Kevin Leamer, a 6-4, 210-pound tight end from Quakertown. Leamer caught 3 passes for 43 yards in the quarter, two of the passes going for first downs.

"Shawn's a great quarterback," Leamer said. "At practice we just ran patterns with different people; we didn't have a chance to develop a

rapport. But tonight was a pleasant surprise. I just told him if he's in trouble I'd put my hands up and get it to me."

For the game, Moylan, who is bound for Lafayette College, completed 11 of 18 passes for 133 yards and 2 interceptions; on the ground he picked up an additional 22 yards in 10 carries.

"This was a fun game to play in. It benefits the needy kids, and win or lose it's a fun game. So I'm not going to hang my head," he said.