

'How Can Anybody Pick 'Skins?'

By JACK KNARR
Courier Times Sports Writer

Neshaminy and Bishop Egan kids have always worked themselves into a lather about the season's opening football game.

It all started this year when four Egan players walked into a barber shop in the Windsor Shopping Center near the Fairless Hills school and asked a scissors-and-razor man named Ernie Moretti to shave some letters into their hair.

And now, their scalps say "Beat N.A.H.S."

Then, somebody got after the trees around Neshaminy's field and painted all kinds of pro-Egan propaganda on the bark in white paint.

Meanwhile, somebody "got in our fence," says Egan Coach Dick Bedesem, "and painted

Devlin Runs At Lafayette

Gerry Devlin, from Cornwells Heights and 1966 graduate of Bensalem High School is a promising sophomore on Lafayette College's cross-country team and is expected to play a big part for Coach Bill Donahue this year.

Donahue has five lettermen returning and says "This is potentially the best I've had in my four years here. But not without problems," he continued. "Preseason practice has indicated the boys have come back in excellent condition."

Besides Devlin, other promising sophomores are Keith Grove of Reading, and Jim Kuisma of Iselin, N.J.

The nine-meet schedule will open on September 20 when Lafayette travels to Iona for a 10:30 a.m. meet.

Croydon A.C. Sets Registration

The Croydon Athletic Club will begin football practice Monday evening 6 o'clock at the Croydon Acres Field located on Route 13 and Dorset Avenue.

All interested boys between the ages of eight and 15 and weigh between 80 and 125 pounds are eligible to participate.

There will be three divisions: 80-pound teams, 100-pound teams, and 125-pound teams.

The teams will compete against all Catholic Youth Organization teams, Trenton Police Athletic teams and Philadelphia Suburban teams.

The teams will also receive instructions from local high school coaches throughout the

our pads." The pads now say things like "Go, Neshaminy" and other slogans which could inspire an Egan football player to rip apart the first Redskin in sight.

"We can live with the red paint," Bedesem says. "I wish I would have thought of it — I would have done it. It sounds like one of my pranks, anyway. Some of the kids think I did it."

Did you? He was asked. "No," he says, quickly.

Uh-huh. Football teams usually LOCK UP their equipment after practice, don't they?

Neshaminy Victory? Anyway, amidst all of the tree- and pad-painting and hair-cutting, there are persons predicting a victory for Langhorne-based Neshaminy.

"They're entitled to their own opinions," Bedesem said. "I, personally, after looking over their roster, can't see anybody

predicting victory for Neshaminy.

"They don't have many seniors, and they seem to have a lot of underclassmen. But sometimes you can do it with underclassmen. I don't know. From what I've heard through the grapevine — I haven't talked to Jack personally — they seem to feel very confident."

'Up' For Game
Neshaminy Coach Jack Swartz admitted "My boys

seem to be 'up' for the game." And he admits that the starting lineup "could wind up with six or seven juniors, with the rest seniors. I only have 13 seniors on the club."

Swartz says the Neshaminy field (where the game will be played) is in pretty good shape despite the rain and that "We have our game plan and will stick with it. Yes, we might throw the ball."

Swartz didn't seem to place

much significance on the fact that Egan doesn't have an experienced quarterback at the helm. (Mike Friel is calling signals following the graduation of Jim Ryan.)

'Give Backs Ball'
"All their quarterback has to do is give the backs the football," he says. "And they've got the vets up front to make the holes."

The traditional showdown is one of two games tonight which open the 1969 scholastic season at 8 o'clock. Archbishop Wood of Warminster travels to Levittown Woodrow Wilson.

"Wood should be pretty tough," Wilson Coach Lou Sorrentino says. "They have a veteran team and a couple running backs. We don't look for an easy game."

Walt Snyder (Council Rock, Newtown, coach) scrimmaged them, and he said they did a good job. They were very spirited. He got me worried."

Sorrentino, it must be added, did not seem one-eighth as worried as he did a year ago at this time when Abington (shudder) was the opponent.

Wood To Pass?
Wilson might be looking for the pass from Wood.

"They've got good receivers and can throw the ball," Sorrentino said. But then he added, "And they've got two seniors in the backfield."

The Wilson strategy is "pretty much the same" as before, according to Sorrentino. Speed is still one of the things that Sorrentino wants.

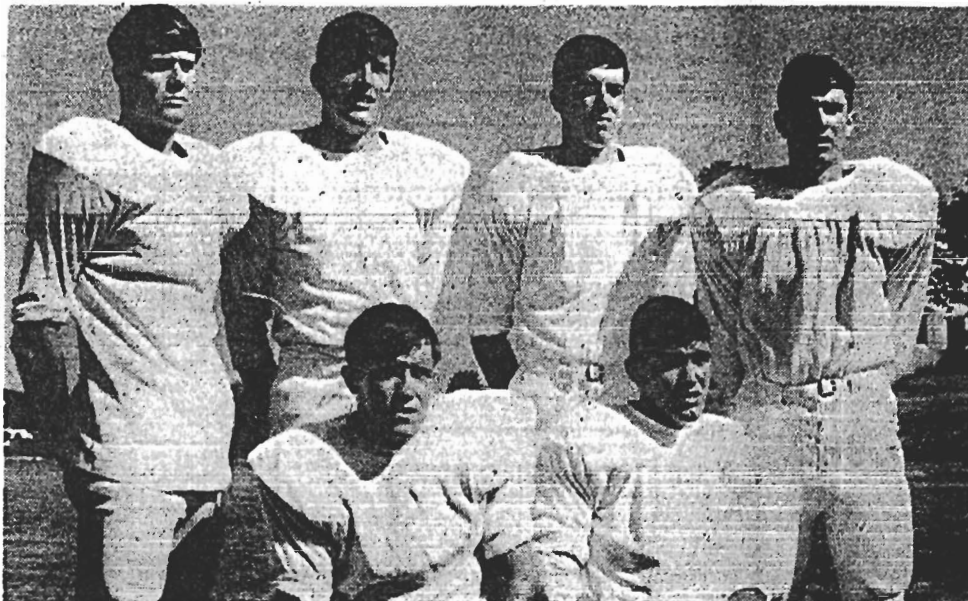
But — in getting back to Egan-Neshaminy, Bedesem had this to say: "This (Egan) team is as prepared as any team I've ever had." About his quarterback: "As a workman, Mike is unbeatable. He's been criticized, hammered down, and he's always come back stronger. Mechanically, he's always been an excellent quarterback. But the only thing we've been worried about is his strength. And we've worked with him on speed."

Consistency Sought
"I must be honest," he continued. "I'm still looking for consistency in our attack. But for total squad preparedness — I feel we're ready."

Meanwhile, tonight over on the other side of the field, Jack Swartz has a couple quarterbacks ready — his son, John, and Pete Cordell — who have apparently been tutored in throwing the football.

"No matter what they come out with (a running game or passing), we wouldn't RATHER see one or the other," Bedesem explained. "We're really prepared for any eventuality."

Jack Swartz feels the same way.



Courier Times Photo by Rudy Miller

IN ACTION TONIGHT — Archbishop Wood High School of Warminster will visit Levittown Woodrow Wilson tonight and the Vikings will depend on this veteran band of gridders. From left are (kneeling)

running backs Chip McErlane and Gary Baez; (standing) ends Bill Haggerty and Bob Stanton, quarterback Jimmy Flynn and end Al DiStefano.

Down The Alleys With Dick Amtmann

Cerino, Till Bowl The Best

It was the All-Star Classic League at Fairlawn that engulfed the Lower Bucks County bowling spotlight last night with an array of sensational performances.

Racing off with the top honors was Trenton's Joe Cerino, another kegling barber, with a sparkling 726 series. Cerino, one of the best in the area, had to settle for a first game of 182. But then things began to happen.

In his second game Cerino started with a spare, then popped the pins for 11 straight strikes — a perfect pocket hit — and a 290 total. In his third game he featured six in a row

Rockys Women's Classic: Elsie Baile, 570; Betty Nickle, 560; Jean Broczak, 197-173-524; Kay McClimans, 182-160-174-516; Yvonne Gahagan, 169-508; Rose Wenzler, 178-505.

LEVITTOWN BOWL — Penn Valley swingers: Len Tusone, 209-585; Steve Wahal, 250-583; Steve Alloy, 215-577; Sid Payne, 203-562; Elmer Shillingford, 207-560; Larry Grubb, 193-562; Vern Walderon, 209-559.

JUBILEE LANES — Trinity Methodist League: Ron Morder, 194-552; Barbara Burks, 199-514. Keglerettes on top were Sis Martindell, 163-164-444; Evelyn Ens, 186; Nina Musgrove, 172. Mixed League highlights: Skee O'Brien, 177; Carol Baiocchi, 161-460; Ann Meehan, 169.

BRISTOL PIKE LANES — Starring in the Majors were Tony Vanucci, 242-594; Jim Heckert Jr., 255-203-641; Sam

Santoro, 222-411. Pickers loop high singles: Russ Hain, 217; Andy Kondyra, 214; Frank McCombe, 213.

DELMOR LANES — Interstate Ladies: Marie Carter, 179; Jane Hable, 175; Ruth McClister, 172. Palmer League star-slingers were Steve Larcash, 219; Al Platt, 204. Best in the Scratch Doubles competition were John Verdel, 226; Cliff Young, 224; Woody Woodward, 224; Bob Lee, 213; Russ Halveson, 213; Ed "Sonny" Hippo, 212.

TULLYTOWN LANES — Tank League: Jeff Tiffany, 237-615;

And Soccer Players Too

Pennsbury To Sign