Rams Use Aerials To Upset Neshaminy In Opener

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SPORTS by Buzz Crossman

This is the time of year sports writers become football "authorities". Its a risky business, at best, this bit of picking **football possibilities**. For few things are more true than the old adage that the pigskin takes **crazy bounces**. But it's grid tradition in these parts. And the crystal ball here sees the league hardware counts back to the **Upper End** this year. It's been good all to long. After Friday night's opening win, **Pennridge** deserves its ranking as the **chief challenger** to the Bux-Mont title. And if the Ram's flip, the theory is here that **Souderton** is waiting to pick up the marbles.

One thing is sure **1969** should stack up as a **great season**. Years of a loss of stature through the departure of a champ (**Springfield**) to another circuit have no bearing. **Loss of class** through dilution of talent at **Central Bucks** and their two teams for the first time, apparently is no problem, either. Both the old **Central Bucks West** and the **Indal C. B. East** were impressively over the weekend. West scored over **40** points. So antipated problems are not developing. To the contrary, **Bux-Mont teams sparkled** over the weekend. **Pennridge** beat a great **Neshaminy team** that must wear the "good" label despite an almost horrible passing attack. **North Penn** held Easton to a tie (0-0), this game significant because Easton was rated second in the entire commonwealth last year. But now, on to the future.

There was a time when Upper End schools were the terrors of Bux-Mont football. **Perkiomen, Souderton, Quakertown** were the big guns. When they slipped **Upper Perkiomen** moved in from the wings. But then the picture changed. Time heals many things. And the time may be back for **Pennridge**. You can't give them anything but a triple 'A' rating off Friday's effort. People that deserve the 'authority' tag say Souderton is **"much better"** than last year. That means a good **running season** for the **Red. Central Bucks** can certainly score and **North Penn** may make it difficult for others to score. Based on these theories, here's how one guy sees the race:

1. **PENNRIDGE: Great defense, tremendous passing, lots of experience.** If they develop a **quick offense** attack an **undefeated season** is will within reach. Great depth and two veteran quarterbacks plus half-dozen others that can play several positions or both ways, offer **tremendous versatility** and insurance that injury will not wreck all promise.

2. **SOUDERTON**: 8-4 year ago, they start with **12 lettermen**. Had good opener against Abington despite eventual loss. **Bob Johnson** may develop into classic runner in model of **Barry Weshold**. Veteran quarterback available in **Jerry Nace (306 passing yards, 5 TD's last season)**. Indians always have **ability to score**. This year they have heftiest squad in coach **Drew Durrah's** history at Souderton. Defense could rule by many. Ram's most prevent Indians from spoiling Pennridge party, too.

3. **NORTH PENN**: Big rebuilding job necessary by coachmaps to offset **loss of 21 starters from last year's two platoons. Defensive**, Knights have already accomplished that part of job, witness their Easton effort. As rules on development of such backs as **John Weierman** and **Larry Fritz**, heir-apparent at quarterback. If Knights lack scoring, defense will place them in spoiler's role.

4. **CENTRAL BUCKS WEST**: Surprised everybody with 44-14 rout of Souderton in non-league opener. **Certainly** climax through district division but may add have depth for title try. **Don Huber** at quarterback is junior with passing promise. **Tom Duff (6-1, 175)** was top runner against **Souderton**. May have to go with some sophs at key rules. **Good winning spirit** to aid Bucs in meeting problems of a suddenly smaller school. But too many question marks would make them real surprise if they made real challenge on leaders.

5. **QUAKERTOWN**: May have problems climbing this high. Lost a lot since last year. **Squad** made up of comparatively some others. One of league's top linemen is **Bill Derrick**. Another **Youngblood** coming up (Todd) and **Tom Trigus** will be at center. **Jeff Burrell** is promising back. But from there on out, the word is "early development". And that will be **difficult** with the Panthers schedule.

6. **CENTRAL BUCKS EAST**: A finish like this may be tribute to any new school. But under coach **Tom Stricker**, Patriots (that's their new name) won upset over **Council Rock** which boasted something like an 8-3 log last year. C.B. district was **rich in football talent** in recent years division East good start. **Steve Lutz**, C.B. end last year, will be new team's fullback. Another end from last year is back, **Bob Leuzman**. Possibilities of team very difficult to assess.

7. **UPPER PERKIOMEN**: Probably should rate considerably higher for **Bill Keeny** is fine coach who has establish **great football program** at small school. Coach Keeny drafts depth problem this season but others say Tribe could be in title race. Should finish between **six and top** mark. Jim **Zepp** is back and he was last year's rushing leader for Indians. Sophs set for key roles and many players to go both ways. Winning big is difficult under these conditions.

8. **WISSAHICKON**: Might surprise since squad of over **60** includes **seventeen lettermen**. But team was only 2-6 last year and for the moment has left little impression they should be considered in the title picture.

9. **HATBORO**: Could easily escape the basement after winless season just a year ago. **22 lettermen** are back under coach **Rogers Fraasenni**. And early plans call for no less than 13 or 14 underclassmen as starters. But team **lacks experienced quarterback**. Probably a year away from making much noise.

So that's it. If one needs a license to publish such prognostications, we'll use last year's results. **North Penn** was posted first in this column a year ago. They finished as co-champs with **Springfield** (listed third). **Hatboro** was listed on the bottom. They finished dead last.

Jackets Split At Souderton

The Pennridge Greenjackets' two football teams split their opening games at Souderton Saturday night.

The 113 pound team lost to the strong Indians, who have been the class of the Bucks County League for years, 30-12. In the evening, the 103 pound Greenjackets 48 pound team beat the veteran Souderton eleven, 22-6.

113 Pound Game

Pennridge scored first when Bob Riddick scored on a one yard plunge on a pitch out from Phil Butler. The score was set up when Pennridge recovered a fumble on Souderton fifteen and Butler passed to Henry Boyd for ten yards.

Souderton came right back to score on an off-tackle play and their conversion gave them an 8 to 6 lead.

Shortly thereafter, Souderton scored again on a touchdown by Jeff Leidy.

Pennridge fumbled on the subsequent series and Souderton almost scored again, but Riddick intercepted a pass. Bill Rude picked up sizeable yardage and Phil Butler made a critical first down. Butler connected on a pass to Ken Transue in Pennridge threatened again but the ball ended hilling their chance.

Riddick opened the second half by taking the kickoff 68 yards. On a Pennridge touchdown

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Hollenbach to Roberts Passes Score as Rams Justify Contender's Role

Only seldom in its sixteen years of existence has Pennridge been recognized as a passing team. But lanky Jeff Hollenbach may change all that.

The sharp shooting 6-1 Junior from Perkasie's first ward scored Pennridge High in a 13-6 win over Neshaminy Friday night, in the 1st-letter at the consolidated campus and its citizens. Pennridge had its first title run on his gifted right arm and a solid, hard-hitting defense.

Head coach Wayne Heilman continues to resist any efforts by observers to minimize his team's running potential. But Friday night, much to the great satisfaction of many in the opening crowd of 4,300 fans, it was Hollenbach's wing and the solid Ram defense that brought about the gittemway win.

Hollenbach came up with two crucial interceptions in the evening with eight for sixteen in the passing department. But equally significant was the dynamic wide-open attack he directed. He threw several times on first down. Other times on third and short yardage. And he ignored the pressure. He went from a miserable zero for eight first half, in passing that might have left a dyspeptic, defeated attitude in many.

Instead, he came back to do no free in a second half scoring period. Two of them were to Jim Roberts for touchdowns and that was the margin of difference in the game.

Roberts first completion was for eight yards, and when Don Fisher kicked the point, Pennridge had a 7-0 lead early in the second half. Then Hollenbach hit Roberts with a 26 yard-er on a first down play to establish the final score.

While Hollenbach deserved all his plaudits, the Ram defense deserved hows, too, for Big D kept Neshaminy drive bottled cold in a brilliant goal line stand. And the Redskins, who had a giant stand team that was supposed to pass, passing, killed off another of their threats, themselves. With a first down near the ten, they had two fifteen yard penalties on one play—both for unsportsmanlike conduct. When they failed to score on these two threats, Pennridge knew it had the chance to make a big night of it.

Statistically, Pennridge picked up 217 yards, 113 on the ground and 104 in the air. Hollenbach completed in the ground game and Dave Slotter, destined to be the Ram's running workhorse with Terry Bleam out, collected 75 on five carries. Roberts added 18.

Get Break

Pennridge was both unlucky and lucky in the game's early minutes. On first play from scrimmage, Keith Grause fumbled on the Ram 35. Steve Scuba, a fine runner and star in Neshaminy's opening win ran four of the Indians next six plays, the last one for five yards, to the Pennridge 14.

But a fifteen yard penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct put a halt back on the action. And then when consternation on the field and at Neshaminy's bench followed, officials immediately stepped off fifteen more for the same reason. Instead of a first down on the one they wound up to the 36 where they never recovered.

Neshaminy destroyed its own chances for the second time all alone later in the game. With a second down inside the five and a chance to go ahead, they ran a wide play to the left instead of following the more conventional inside game while under the goal posts. By going left, they ran smack into the area of Dave Kern, perhaps the best defensive back in the Bucks. The play lost two yards as Big D dug in and held after the illconceived key second down last important yard.

Kern later made a big interception on the Pennridge 11 to thwart another Neshaminy drive.

The Ram attack was spotty in the first half as Hollenbach was slightly off in his aerials and their ground game mounted only one drive that stalled at the Redskin 10.

Score

But in the second half they came alive quickly, sparked by three passes, Hollenbach to Jeff Cook.

Neshaminy kicked off and the Rams went from their 31 to the Skins' 31 in 12 plays. Hollenbach hit Cook for 8-yard first down on the 16. It was the third Hollenbach cook completion of the same pattern. A delay of the game penalty then set the Rams back five.

But a short pass to Roberts settled two yards back and a defensive pass interference call was levied against the Skins. From the 18, Hollenbach optioned for a yard to put the ball just inside the nine.

Ram's Score

Cook was the pattern and cleared. Roberts went out and flared out. Hollenbach hit Roberts and Don Fisher's PAT was good for a 14 count with 3:32 left in the quarter.

After the kickoff, Neshaminy ran three plays and punted. Senior Ray Cherolle, primarily a hard-hitting defensive back, took the kick and zoomed up the left sideline, running past and, at times, over people. He was stopped by 38 yards, but a clipping penalty brought the ball back to the Neshaminy 38.

On the first play, a similar flare pattern to Roberts was called. For the second time, he went in untouched. A Hollenbach aerial was off on the extra point try, leaving it at 13-0 in the final minute of the third quarter.

Neshaminy had one last shot, a drive by Ramanowski's 14-yard pass to Charlie Bean for a first on the Ram seven with eight minutes left to play.

Andy Koch slammed for three, putting the ball on the four for Swartz and a yard and half back Dave Ferchetti lost four on Key tackles by Will Jordan and Cook.

Gama Notes: Pennridge had only one Neshaminy coach for the crowd but the race to have them escorted in time was closer than the football contest. The last half was fastened at 7:30 with twenty minutes before kickoff. . . . Punter Don Fisher, who has always an adolescent wing shot, kicked long and high all night. He was in top condition considerably better than many pros can get. . . . Neshaminy changed its procedures on punts and kicks from last year. Coach Renner burst in untouched to come within the proverbial whisker of blocking three. Later they pulled a lineman to slow down the Pennridge and Fisher job at the terminals was to keep all plays inside. How well they did it is emphasized in Will Jordan winning the top lineman's award for the night. He's the big D middle guard. Ron Linebackers, Ken Klingler and Brad Heisley piled up the tackles, too. But Klingler was injured and may be a doubtful starter this weekend.

Neshaminy	Pennridge
9 First Downs	11
0 By Rushing	5
9 By Passing	6
0 By Penalty	2
147 Net Yards Rushing	113
21 Net Yards Passing	104
168 Net Yards Total	217
17 Returns Yardage	79
4-13 Passes Completed	10-4
6 Passes Intercepted By	1
4-4	2-2
5-39.0 Punts Average	4-42.5
5-38 Penalties Yards	5-55

Neshaminy 0 0 0 6—6
Pennridge 0 7 0 13—20

Penn — Roberts, 5 yards from Hollenbach (Fisher Kick)

Penn — Roberts, 26 Pass from Hollenbach (Pass Failed).

Neshaminy

Rushing			
	tc	yg	yl net av.
Scuba	4	15	4 19 2.2
Gerhart	12	21	-3 22 2.5
Ramanowski	4	21	-2 19 4.7
Koch	5	15	-1 17 2.4
Swartz	3	3	0 3 0.0

	tc	cp	yg	yl	net av.
Pennridge Rushing					
Hollenbach	15	12	0	43	3.3
Slotter	5	3	0	75	7.8
Roberts	10	10	-0	18	1.8
Grause	2	1	0	3	1.5
Costello	2	2	-5	2	1.0

	tc	cp	yg	bd	int
Passing Neshaminy					
Swartz	14	4	5	3	1
Ramanowski	1	1	16	0	0
	15	5	21	3	1

	pp	yg	bd	bd
Pennridge				
Hollenbach	16	104	1	0
	16	104	1	0

Receivers

Neshaminy — Scuba 1 for 16 yards.

Pennridge — Roberts 4 for 46 yards; Cook 3-21, M. Hollenbach 1-26.

DAVE SLOTTER (23) pulls down one of Jeff Hollenbach's passes in the second quarter of the Neshaminy—Pennridge football game here. Jeff Cook (88), for Pennridge was also in the chase. He made the reception.
News-Herald Photo by Bosine

ANDY KOCH (33) Neshaminy back picks up a first down in Friday nights contest. Ken Klinger (21) on the ground has his hands around Koch's legs, as Bruce Renner (80), and Tom Stoneig (77) move in to aid on the tackle. News-Herald Photo

Langhorne Sets 200 Miler Oct. 12

The 200-mile National Open Championship Race for sports-man and modified stock cars will be stepped at Langhorne International Motor Speedway on October 12.

The 19th annual event will see 35 cars in the exciting lineup.

The championship event has grown into a three-day affair. Many fans will be on hand on Friday, October 10, to watch an all-day practice session. The following day, Saturday, more than 100 entrants will take time trials. In addition, there will be two special 20-mile races.

The weekend will come to a climax on Sunday, October 12, when the 200-mile title race will be staged. There will be a purse of $25,000.

Players of The Week

The Pennridge coaching staff has broadened its weeks' honors for outstanding play by members of the football team. In previous years, an outstanding offensive and defensive player were cited. This year there will be four awards, outstanding offensive lineman, defensive lineman, offensive back and defensive back.

Cited as players of the week for Friday's game with Neshaminy were:

—WILL JORDAN, middle guard, as defensive lineman. He was "in the middle of their backfield all night" said one of those making the selection. He made a tackle behind the backfield the line, broke up several others and forced plays deep all evening. He also threw Neshaminy's limping quarterback off.

—DAVE KERN, halfback, as defensive back of the week. His game included two interceptions, one open field tackles and fine direction for the entire Ram's secondary.

—JEFF COOK, offensive lineman of the week. Cook caught three Hollenbach aerials that set the stage for later touchdowns and served to give confidence to the Ram's attack after Hollenbach went zero for nine during the first half.

—JEFF HOLLENBACH as offensive back of the week. Hollenbach pitched two touchdowns that led to the win, ran the ball well and called a wonderful game for the Ram's offensive attack. He also provided good leadership to help launch the year on a winning note. This perhaps is the difference in the two teams. Hollenbach back honor over Rich Roberts who scored both Pennridge touchdowns.

Pennridge Hosts Slatington Friday

Slatington invades Pennridge for the second of the Ram's two nonleague exhibition openers Friday and in the city of many the Lehigh Valley team may be as good or perhaps better than Neshaminy.

Action is set for 8 p.m. at the Pennridge stadium.

Slatington had a 9-1 year last season although little is known of their 1969 potential. Last year their season was so successful, coaches felt they could be tough opponents Easton.

Those coaches have since left Slatington, however, for Lancaster, and an assistant last year is now the head coach.

After the Slatington tussle, Pennridge launches its Bux-Mont season Saturday, September 27, at 8 p.m. at Central Bucks West. Saturday games are necessary at Doylestown since the district's two football teams use the one stadium. Pennridge has a bye the week of October 3rd, then faces Hatboro, October 11.

Sports Calendar

FOOTBALL
Schlomit Games
Friday
Hatboro at Penn 8 (tie)
Abington 18, Souderton 14
Pennridge 13, Neshaminy 6
Central B. E. 40, Hatboro 14

Saturday
CB East 14, County Rock 8
Hat-Hor 14, L. Moreland 7
U. Perk. 12, C. J. Roberts 8

Friday, Sept. 19
Abington at North Penn
Upper Dublin at Souderton
Hatboro at Pennridge
Perkiomen at Quakertown
Emmaus at Quakertown

Saturday, Sept. 20
CB East at Doylestown, 7:30
Methacton at Wissahickon
William Tennent at Hat.-Hor
Ann Soc. Lansdale (Tie)

GREENJACKET FOOTBALL
Saturday
85 and 115 lb. games
Lenape at Pennridge, 6:45 p.m.
80 lb. games
Quakertown at Pennridge, 10:30 a.m.

SOCCER
Tuesday
Pennridge at Hellertown
Tuesday
Emmaus at Pennridge, 7:30 p.m.
Cross Country
Friday
Pennridge at North Penn
Tuesday
Pennridge at Cen. Bucks West

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