

After falling behind, 9-0

Neshaminy rallies to crush Wilson

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Woodrow Wilson High School's football team had to be sky-high last night. How else could one explain the Rams' incredible, explosive start against heavily-favored Neshaminy High School?

For nearly 10 minutes, Wilson had a "Homecoming Day" crowd of 5,000 in a stupor. The determined Rams jumped off to a 9-0 first-period lead and thoughts of an upset entered many minds.

But once-beaten Neshaminy reassembled its forces and roared back to whip Wilson, 34-9, in a Lower Bucks County League Section One contest.

Two interceptions by defensive halfback Bill Struble gave the fired-up Rams the necessary impetus to cause Neshaminy a great



WHO CAN I TURN TO — Woodrow Wilson High School football coach Pat Picariello appears to be seeking help from above in recent game. Picariello's Golden Rams could have used even more help last night, as Neshaminy earned a 34-9 victory.

STATISTICS

	WW	NH
First downs	6	15
Yards rushing	40	127
Passes attempted	16	18
Passes completed	3	7
Passes intercepted by	2	0
Yards passing	77	87
Net yards	117	214
Punts	38	5
Punting average	28	37
Fumbles recovered by	0	1
Fumbles penalized	52	70

s-includes one blocked punt.

deal of concern.

Struble's first interception at Neshaminy's 37 led to John McKenna's eventual 32-yard field goal. One minute later Struble pilfered a bomb, intended for speedy Joe Sroba, at the Wilson 27.

With quarterback Bob Hinton hitting McKenna on two passes covering 23 yards, the Rams moved to Neshaminy's 43. On the next play, halfback Mike Tenaglia,

on a draw, roared up right tackle 43 yards for a score against a stunned Neshaminy line.

But that's as far as it would go. The 'Skins defense went to work, led by the stellar play of tackle Mark Strawbridge, to continually shut the door on any further Wilson threats.

For that matter, the Rams recorded but one first down in the second half and Hinton, sacked on numerous occasions, was able to complete just one more pass the rest of the way.

Big Break

Strawbridge felt "we just weren't getting off the ball either way in the beginning. They (Wilson) were really up for this one. But once, we got that one break, things really turned around."

That one break Strawbridge made reference to came in the warning seconds of the opening period. A bad snap from center, which sailed over Wilson punter Bill Walsh's head, went into the

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end zone. Walsh tried to run it out, but was stopped cold by a host of Neshaminy tacklers just past the goal line. On the next play, Sroba scored his first of two touchdowns on a plunge off tackle.

"There's no question that play helped us. Sure I was concerned when Wilson had a 9-0 lead. I told the boys if they sat on their

haunches, we'd be in for a rough time," explained winning coach Jack Swartz.

"We just didn't come off the ball soon enough in the beginning. But with the bad snap and our regrouping the boys rose to the occasion to bounce back."

'Skins Seal Game

Sroba gave Neshaminy the lead for keeps taking a punt at midfield

midway through the second period and racing all the way for the score.

"I think that's all we really needed," added Strawbridge.

But Neshaminy wasn't through. Late in the first half, the 'Skins, highlighted by passes covering 23 yards from quarterback Bill Grupp to Sroba, stormed 63 yards for another score, with Mark Donahue going off tackle the final 11.

In the second half, Grupp connected on an eight-yard touchdown pass to Donahue, and later a 10-yard strike to end Tim O'Brien.

"They (Wilson) were concentrating on Sroba, especially on him going home. They gave us the short passes, and Grupp had the opportunity to go to Donahue, O'Brien or Gale (Steve)," ended Swartz.

'SKIN TALK — Neshaminy is now 2-0 in league play and has

won seven straight since bowing to Bishop Egan . . . The defeat for Wilson was its sixth in eight games and first in the LBCL . . . Sroba's two touchdowns give him 20, three ahead of his nearest competitor, Dale Delise of Pennsbury . . . Matt Bahr converted four of his five placements, failing on his final try.

Parents of Neshaminy's senior members on the team were on hand for Homecoming festivities . . . Gale was presented the second annual Robert J. Hurst Award in memory of the former Neshaminy player (1953-54) who passed away in June of last year . . . The award is given to the "most courageous and dedicated player." Ellen Klein was selected Homecoming Queen . . . The gala affair also consisted of 11 impressive floats . . . The game was Neshaminy's final one at home this year . . . The 'Skins finish on the road against Bethlehem Freedom, Council Rock and Pennsbury, respectively.

LINEUPS
WOODROW WILSON (9)
ENDS: McKenna, Weller, Gatto, McKellan.
TACKLES: Wagenseller, Stone, Smith.
GUARDS: D. Morgan, Volinski, Nelson.
CENTERS: Kahn.

BACKS: Hinto, Md. Tenaglia, Mk. Tenaglia, Yeager, Thompson, Chapman, Hannah, Thompson, Struble, Shaw, B. Morgan, Killian.

NESHAMINY (34)
ENDS: O'Brien, Gale, Cliver, Fox, Wills.
TACKLES: Watson, Strawbridge, Coniglio, Hayes, Zorn, Clark.
GUARDS: Boules, Rosenblatt, Miller, Romett, Cook.
CENTERS: Eccles, Lodge.

BACKS: Grupp, Donahue, Sroba, Barker, Conger, Stevenson, Connor, Smith, Correll, Orr, Shenelt, Bahr, Tyrell, Hallman, Miller.

SCORE BY PERIODS
Wilson 9 0 0 0 — 9
Neshaminy 7 14 7 6 — 34

SCORING
FIRST: W-McKenna 32 field goal; W-Mk. Tenaglia 43 run (kick wide); N-Sroba, run (Bahr kick).
SECOND: N-Sroba 50 punt return (Bahr kick); Donahue 11 run (Bahr kick).
THIRD: N-Donahue 8 pass from Grupp (Bahr kick).
FOURTH: N-O'Brien 10 pass from Grupp (kick wide).

OFFICIALS
Gerry Zeager, referee; Jim McInerov, umpire; Jack Ruane, head linesman; Joe Bvers, field judge.