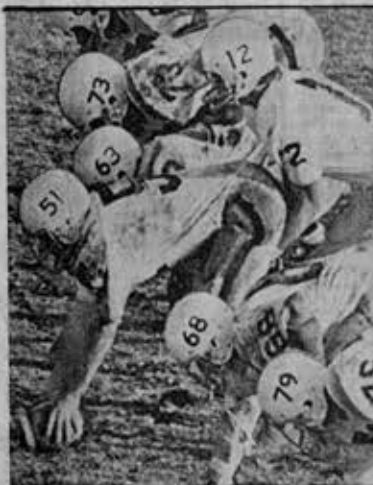


Getting off to a good start



Courier Times photos by Jay Cravath

ONE PLAY, ONE SCORE — Pennsbury High School's Dale Delise scored a touchdown on the first play from scrimmage in Saturday's 23-21 win over

Neshaminy. At left quarterback Gary Kutsmeda (12) gets set to take the snap from center Mike Page (51);

next, Delise (44) takes the handoff and starts uptfield; at the 40, following Kutsmeda, Delise sidesteps Nes-

haminy's Bart Smith (23); at far right Delise crosses the five-yard line with the goal in sight.

Pennsbury fans can savor win

By RAY DI LESSIO
Courier Times Sports Writer

What next? Just what can Pennsbury and Neshaminy do for an encore next year?

But until that next meeting, "Super Bowl" followers will re-live and rehash Pennsbury's thrilling 23-21 victory Saturday afternoon before 13,000 fans at Falcon Field.

Pennsbury fans undoubtedly will savor most of the events that took place. Events which led to the Falcon's first undefeated season ever, the Lower Bucks County League Section One and Big Seven Conference championships and, in all probability, the No. 1 rating among major schools in the Courier Times poll.

There'll be many significant plays recalled by Pennsbury rooters.

Some will look to linebacker Ron Dandala's nose-crushing tackle of Neshaminy's talented re-

| STATISTICS | | NESH | PENB |
|-----------------------|-----|------|------|
| First downs | 28 | 24 | 24 |
| Yards rushing | 38 | 234 | 214 |
| Passes attempted | 17 | 13 | 13 |
| Passes completed | 11 | 8 | 8 |
| Passes intercepted by | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| Yards passing | 147 | 82 | 114 |
| Net yards | 112 | 142 | 100 |
| Time of play | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Punting average | 30 | 26 | 26 |
| Penalties | 7 | 2 | 1 |
| Yards penalized | 15 | 15 | 15 |

ceiver Joe Srota in the waning seconds as the highlight of them all.

FG Planned

It was Dandala's hard hit, following Srota's reception at the Falcon 18, which capped the ball loose that thwarting the "Skins" final hopes. Pennsbury's John Larch promptly left on the field, and Neshaminy's plan for a game-winning field goal never was realized.

Others will look to Pennsbury's touchdown just before the close of the first half as most pivotal. The

"surprise" play, a six-yard jump pass over the middle from Gary Kutsmeda to end Terry Hoffman with 12 seconds left, gave Pennsbury a 17-7 lead and kept the Falcon's sky-high.

Some will turn their heads in the direction of the Falcon's explosive runner Dale Delise. The versatile ball-carrier ignited the spark nursing off tackle on a cutback for a 73-yard score on the first play from scrimmage.

Delise, who carried 22 times and picked up 141 yards, also provided Pennsbury with the decisive score on a one-yard plunge with 6:42 left in the game to climax a 44 yard drive.

Defense Excels

While Pennsbury's offensive machine, was significantly effective, particularly in the first half grinding out 182 yards on the ground, others will look to the Falcon's defensive performance as a most contributing factor.

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The pay of Dandala and tackle Tim Miller led the way as Pennsbury's ferocious defense permitted Neshaminy just 36 yards on the ground.

It was Miller who sacked quarterback Bob Grupp for a 10-yard loss, causing a fumble to set up the Falcon's winning score.

Neshaminy despite its inability

to give coach Jack Swartz a victory in his final outing, never there in the bowl.

"Skins Rally

The Redskins, whose only score in the first half came on a 62-yard pass-play from Grupp to Sroba (the latter shaking off two men to score), dominated the third period of play.

FALCON FINALE — The victory for coach Chuck Kane was his first win Neshaminy in three

years as head coach. Falcon kicker John Giordano's 25-yard field goal, after Pennsbury had eaten up eight minutes of the clock, in the first quarter was his sixth of the season, establishing a new LBCL record. The former mark was set by Pennsbury's Duke Baugher three years ago. Pennsbury (11-0) capped the Big Seven title outright for the first time ever. The Falcons shared the crown two other times.

The glories of the game was further enhanced by Homecoming Day festivities. Lynn Petrucci was selected Homecoming Queen. Members of her court were Sue Cotti, Shelly Darben, Laurie Schaeffer and Loretta Mero. The pre-game show by the Pennsbury marching band was dedicated to the late Russell Elliott, a member of the Neshaminy school board who passed away Thursday night.

Pennsbury pulled within three points (17-14) on a 56-yard drive in the final four minutes of the quarter with Grupp going around left end the final five. A 13-yard penalty (roughing the passer) and Grupp's 16-yard toss to Steve Gale highlighted the march.

Mark Donahue, after Delise's fourth-period score, took the ensuing kickoff and sped uptfield for an 83-yard score. Head Shenefelt's third successful placement cut the margin to two.

paralyzed in a swimming incident in September.

LINEUPS

Neshaminy (21)

ENDS: O'Brien, Fox, Felt, Clark

TACKLES: Eastberg, Condit, Erbes, Hayes, Grupp, Stravinsky, Watson

GUARDS: Rosenblat, Miller, Cook, Rosenblat

CENTERS: Sirovason

BACKS: On, Deigo, Grupp, Shoroff, Conell, Donahue, Smith, Lyman, Seika, Nathan, Barker, Casper

Pennsbury (25)

ENDS: Hultman, Hartman, Brown, Jones, McCook

TACKLES: Metrick, Goodson, Olson, Katsos, Miller

GUARDS: Nelson, Park, Knapp

CENTERS: Page

BACKS: Katsmeda, Gearty, Arma, Brown, Foster, Lerman, Fitzmaurice, DeLoe, Gish, Larch, Dandala

SCORE BY PERIODS

Neshaminy..... 8 7 7 7 - 21

Pennsbury..... 18 7 0 - 25

SCORING

FIRST: P — Delise 21 run (Giordano kick); Grupp 25 field goal

SECOND: N — Sroba 42 pass from Grupp (Shoroff kick); Hultman 6 pass from Katsmeda (Giordano kick)

THIRD: N — Grupp 3 run (Shoroff kick)

OFFICIALS

E. Jahnke, referee; T. Hayashi, umpire; C. Hahnke, head linesman; J. Straub, field judge

For Pennsbury's Chuck Kane

Third time's a charm

By JOE PETRUCELLI
Courier Times Sports Writer

There is a very common adage which concisely describes the spectacular climax to Charles (Chuck) Kane's third year as head

coach of the Pennsbury High School football team.

"Third time's the Charm."

After succeeding Erle Baugher, who retired before the start of the 1970 season, Kane had been frus-

trated in two attempts to win the big one. The Neshaminy game.

Baugher had beaten Neshaminy three successive seasons before Kane managed a 7-7 tie in 1970, and lost 21-17, in 1971.

But Saturday, Nov. 18, 1972 made what has been "A sometimes exciting, sometimes frustrating career," all worthwhile.

The 34-year-old, father of three, made it to the top. His team won the most exciting, dramatic, football game since Miami defeated Kansas City on Christmas Day, 1971.

He beat Neshaminy, 23-21. He won the Lower Bucks County League Championship. He won the Big Seven Conference Title. He won it all.

"I feel great," were the first words to come from Kane's lips in the mad-house locker room scene that followed the game. "It's a coach's dream."

Only As Good As Stall

Kane did not hesitate when asked if he took credit for the great success of his Falcon team. "Of course I take credit. Like the first play of the game. It was the first time we ran that play. We were working out at a stacked 'I' formation, slat left with motion, and ran off tackle. We usually throw from that formation."

Pennsbury's Dale Delise ran the off tackle play for a 73-yard touchdown, with only 36 seconds elapsed in the game.

"Of course a coach is only as good as his stall," added Kane. "and I have one of the best stalls in the area."

It was the first time Kane and his staff chose to use the off-tackle play, but they didn't just dream it up.

"At camp we practiced three times a day. We had the whole offense in it as camp. We just drew from it as we needed it during the year."

Jump Pass Turning Point

The off-tackle play wasn't the only new wrinkle Kane elected to use Saturday. He also employed a little jump pass over the middle which turned out to be, in Kane's estimation, the critical play of the game.

There were 12 seconds remaining in the first half when Pennsbury quarterback Gary Kutsmeda threw a little four-yard jump pass over the middle to Terry Hoffman in the Neshaminy end zone to put the Falcon in front, 17-7.

"That play took the steam out of their offense. Any time you score like that it has a great psychological value."

Neshaminy's offense had

enough steam left, however, to come to within two points of Pennsbury. And with less than a minute to play, Neshaminy was on the Falcon 14-yard line.

Praises Swartz

Everybody was anticipating the field goal attempt that was never to come. Neshaminy coach Jack Swartz elected to pass, the receiver fumbled and Pennsbury recovered.

"I would have thrown the ball if I were in his position," answered Kane when questioned about the decision. "They didn't have any time-outs left. If he throws incomplete it stops the clock. He needed a quick score, and he knew he couldn't run against us. Besides Bahr (Matt) hasn't had to kick a field goal all year."

Saturday's game was the last for Swartz, who announced at the beginning of the season he would retire after this year, and Kane is sorry to see him go. "We're losing a good coach. He's a real professional. We need people like him in this business."

When I look back

"When I look back I won't remember this game because of the loss, but rather for the way the kids came back," said Swartz who retires, after 22 years in coaching.

"They (Pennsbury) won the first half, we won the second."

Swartz, who posted a 43-11-4 record, won a pair of LBCL and Big Seven Conference crowns, and twice was named Courier Times "Coach of the Year" since taking the Redskins reins in 1968, could not say enough about "his boys."

Swartz isn't unhappy

By ED CHRISTINE
Courier Times Sports Writer

Despite the significance of Saturday's 23-21 loss to Pennsbury High School, Neshaminy head football coach Jack Swartz was far from disappointed.

The game was double important in that besides deciding the Lower Bucks County League Section One and Big Seven Conference championships, it was also to be Swartz's last as the Redskins head mentor.

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Courier Times photos by Jay Cravath

SPECIAL REWARD — Pennsbury head coach Chuck Kane receives a congratulatory kiss from his wife Myrna after directing Pennsbury over Neshaminy, 23-21.

recting Pennsbury over Neshaminy, 23-21.



Courier Times photos by Jay Cravath

HEADING HOME — It was a long day for the Neshaminy High School football team. Following a 23-21 loss to Pennsbury, Neshaminy's Ben Watson (left) and

Joe Sroba head for the parking lot. Both players missed the team bus going back to Neshaminy.

Neshaminy's offense had