

... Will it reverse trend or still be land of cotton?

By Wayne Fish
Courier Times Sports Writer

Countdown to kickoff.

The South has been waiting four long years for tomorrow night. The last time it won a Bucks County All-Star Football Game, Richard Nixon was still president, Steve Cauthen worked in a stable and Farrah Fawcett-Majors paraded around television with a mountain lion.

The North has won this classic, sponsored this year by the Lions Clubs, for the past three seasons, a fact which South head coach Bob Hart continues to stress as practice reaches its closing stages.

"I hope that we can bring respectability back to the South and to Lower Bucks County football," he said after yesterday's practice. "It's something we have continually brought up and I know it means a lot to the players."

Outcome

True, the outcome of the game means a lot to the South players but so does the honor of participating in such a game. Proceeds from the game benefit the blind.

Frank Kettles, Pennsbury: "I feel good about being able to play in a game like this. And I think we'll win."

Alec Puketza, Neshaminy Langhorne: "It's a real honor to help people like this. Anything to help people is important. The whole team has worked hard and I believe we're going to win."

Mark Seger, Bishop Egan: "I think we're ready. We're stronger and quicker than they are."

Bob Costantini, Delhaas: "I know two people who are blind. It does something for you on the inside when you're out there practicing. It gives you something extra to work for — a reason to do it. I look for us to win."



Mark Seger

Jim Turner

half, maybe on a big play like a pass to (Greg) Ellzy."

Chris Cechak, Neshaminy Langhorne: "It's like what Bob said, knowing what you're playing for makes you

try to do better. We want to give the best show possible. If we keep it a contest, more people will come out to see the game next year ... Predictions are predictions — we won't know anything until we get on the field."

Steve Tibbels, Neshaminy Langhorne: "I've met a few blind people. I knew a teacher who helped train seeing-eye dogs. The way I look at it is, I'm making money for people who can't do what I'm doing. That might make the difference for someone to see again in the future. They are people with one strike against them. We're doing it for them — that's why we've been out there working hard for

the past 13 days ... I don't believe in

predictions. All I can say is we'll be there and we'll be ready."

Jim Turner, Pennsbury: "I've known some blind people. If I can do anything to help them, I would. And being able to play football makes it that much better. I heard they made something like \$15,000 last year and that's great."

Jim Riley, Neshaminy Langhorne: "It's a chance to help and it's also a pre-college type game. A lot of coaches will be coming down to see us play ... I'm not going to take a guess on the game, we'll just see how it goes."

George Gatto, Delhaas: "It's probably the last game I'll ever play, I'd like to go out on a winning note. We



George Gatto

Chris Cechak

would like to turn this thing around. I think we are going to win."

Pete Miles, Woodrow Wilson: "I went out with a girl whose father was blind. Her name is Pamela Clark and

her dad (Thomas J.) helped me with football during the summer. So I have a personal involvement in this game ... I think we'll win by four touchdowns."

Starting lineup

The South starting lineup should look something like this:

Offense

Quarterback—Bob Dietz (6-0, 165), Bensalem Township; Fullback—Tom Calkins (6-2, 208), Neshaminy Langhorne; Tailback—Eric Price (5-11, 190), Bensalem Township; Wide Receiver—Mike Seger (5-9, 160), Bishop Egan; Tight End—George Freeman (6-0, 190), Delhaas; Tackle—Joe DiGiorgio (6-2, 220), Woodrow Wilson; Tackle—John Kreider (6-2, 218), Bensalem Township; Guard—Tom Betz (6-1, 200), Bensalem Township; Guard—Alec Puketza (5-8, 195), Neshaminy Langhorne; Kickoff—Gary Evans, (6-0, 160), Morrisville.

Defense

Cornerback—Mark Reid (6-2, 190), Delhaas; Cornerback—Frank Kettles (5-11, 190), Pennsbury; Strong Safety—George Gatto (5-6, 170), Delhaas; Safety—Mark Seger (6-1, 175), Bishop Egan; End—John Kelsey (6-1, 185), Bristol; End—Anthony Manzo (6-0, 205), Neshaminy Langhorne; Tackle—Betz; Tackle—Jim Riley (6-2, 220), Neshaminy Langhorne; Linebacker—Kreider; Linebacker—Pete Miles (5-11, 185), Woodrow Wilson; Middle Guard—Steve Tibbels (5-10, 205), Neshaminy Langhorne; Punter—Tom Calkins.

BETWEEN THE LINES—If Riley is unable to start at offensive tackle (currently nursing a fracture in his right hand), DiGiorgio will start in his place... Even though the South is the home team, it will use the visitor's side of the field because the North sold more tickets to the game ... Tickets for the game are still on sale at area schools.

... Helman not sure what to expect

By Mike Ferretti
Courier Times Sports Writer

Wayne Helman isn't sure what to expect when he takes his North squad to Bensalem High School Stadium Saturday night to meet the South in the Bucks County Lions' Club All-Star Football Game.

"This is one of those crazy things," the Pennridge High School coach said in a telephone interview last night. "We have no real background on the (South) team. I know some names, but I have no idea what to expect from the South. We're just sort of holding our breath and waiting to see what will happen."

That doesn't mean the North isn't prepared. Helman, looking for any edge that he can find, had his team work out under the lights at Central Bucks West last night. It was the only practice session for either team under the lights this year.

The game, naturally, will be played at night (7:30 p.m. starting time.)

Feel of lights

"It's always nice to get the feel of the lights," Helman said. "We were able to get under the lights at West and we took the opportunity."

"We practiced catching punts and passes. It was very helpful."

The hard work is over. Although the team held a light workout this afternoon at Delaware Valley College, the only thing left for Helman and his staff to do was engage in last-minute pep talks.

"We're ready to go out on the field and play the game," the coach said last night. "We've got people put in positions where we think they'll do the best. We've got a lot of good players and they've adjusted well."

Helman has tried to take a low-keyed approach to the game, however. "Sometimes you talk too hard at

getting people excited about a game," he said. "We haven't pushed it as much as we might have if it was a regular season game, where you really know the opponent."

"We haven't done that much pushing, but the kids seem to be very excited about the game. They seem to have built up to it. They seem to be peaking."

Helman hopes they will reach that peak tomorrow night.

The starting lineup for the North:

Offense

Tight end — Robin Stauffer (6-0, 180), Pennridge; Left tackle — Russ Becker (6-3, 216), Palisades; Left guard — Tom Fritz (5-10, 195), C.B. West; Center — Barry Stear (6-0, 190), Pennridge; Right guard — Barry Mikucki (5-10, 185), Quakertown; Right tackle — Pete Mill (6-5, 225), C.B. West; Split end — John Ludlow (6-0, 155), Pennridge; Quarterback — Jeff Lockett (5-10, 175), Pennridge; Left

running back — Barry Compton (5-11, 180), C.B. West; Right running back — Jim Andrusko (6-1, 201), Wm. Tennent; Flanker — Bob Beran (5-10, 170), C.B. East; Kickoff — Lee Martucci (5-8, 165), Council Rock and Pete Mill.

Defense

Left end — John Buesek (6-0, 191), Palisades; Left tackle — Dean Schoellkopf (6-3, 250), Pennridge; Middle guard — Mark Clayton (5-11, 180), Council Rock; Right tackle — Blaze Rohrer (6-1, 210), Arch. Wood; Right end — Steve Rivers (6-2, 190), Wm. Tennent; Inside linebacker — Dave Armstrong (6-1, 200), C.B. West; Inside linebacker — Kris Stillings (6-1, 195), Pennridge; Cornerback — Joe Wagner (5-11, 175), C.B. West; Cornerback — Dave Toporowski (5-8, 150), Arch. Wood; Safety — Brian Greenberg (5-8, 150), Wm. Tennent; Safety — Scott Stanley (5-8, 15), C.B. West; Punter — Barry Compton and Jim Andrusko.