



Sports Views

By Sandy Oppenheimer

Sports Editor

"By gosh, we would have had four touchdowns by now if it wasn't raining," muttered Neshaminy's coach Harry Franks Friday night. The score at the time was 7-0, in favor of Muhlenberg Township High School.

The rain hadn't stopped Neshaminy's famous passing attack. The Redskins had filled the few spots the raindrops had missed with footballs but Hurricane Edna's calling cards had destroyed some of the aerial attack's effectiveness.

From the first play from scrimmage Neshaminy had unloosed its air game with a long pass from Errol Faunce to Dan Cameron that just slid off Cameron's fingers. And with the field so wet it would have taken a Florence Chadwick to cross it Neshaminy stuck to its passes with Faunce, Cameron and Dick Wilt all tossing the ball.

Then Wilt hit Cameron for 28 yards and Neshaminy had its first TD of the 1954 season. That made the score 7-6 and the score changed once more and when the half was over it was 13-12 in Muhlenberg's favor.

But while the two teams showed remarkable courage in sticking to wide open play in the rain the soaked spectators showed even more in just staying to watch. It came down steady but light in the first half but during the second it poured.

You could hear many a spectator mutter as some of the water rolled down his back. Adding to the difficulties was the portable lighting system that often made the field look like one of those classy restaurants where atmospheric low lighting is more important than the food.

It was hard to distinguish the players because of the lights, mud and rain and because there is no scoreboard or clock many of the fans spent the evening asking what the score was and how much time was left to play.

Had there been a clock that Neshaminy goal line stand would have been even more exciting than it was. There was Muhlenberg on the Neshaminy ten with first down and needing only the score to win and only a minute and five seconds left. Most of the fans knew there wasn't much time left but few knew exactly how much.

Neshaminy showed they have its fortitude by refusing to budge and it stopped Muhlenberg's four plays and won the game 18-13. That stand plus its good passing attack proved the pre-season dope that Neshaminy will be the team to beat in the Lower Bucks County league.

The statistics might have showed more about the game but unfortunately the rain made it impossible to keep any. The rain turned all the papers to a pulpy mess. Observers and newspaper men had trouble in just spotting who scored the touchdowns.

The tendency had been to blast the high school authorities for having such a poor field and facilities. However, Neshaminy has plans for a large modern stadium outside of the new high school. Barring hurricanes everyone including the sports writers ought to be able to put up with the present field.

The only laugh of the wet evening came when one drenched spectator turned to another at the area's first football game and said through the rain, "When does basketball season start."

... Oppenheimer's assistant at