

# Cordelli Resigns Neshaminy Grid Post; Jack Swartz Is Successor

By GUY VALVANO

Pete Cordelli, a former Blakely High School athletic star, has resigned as head varsity football coach at Neshaminy High School, Langhorne, and named to replace him is one of his assistants, Jack Swartz, who ranks as one of the finest athletes ever turned out by Carbondale's Benjamin Franklin High School.

Cordelli, who distinguished himself in football at both Blakely High and George Washington University, held the Neshaminy post for one season during which time Swartz, a close friend, was in charge of the Redskins' offensive team.

Cordelli succeeded Tom McHugh as head coach. McHugh also put in one season at the helm of the Redskins, succeeding Old Forge native John Petercusk who resigned and eventually accepted a position as assistant coach at Dartmouth College.

Cordelli cited "personal



Pete Cordelli . . . resigns as coach

reasons" for his resignation, adding that he hoped to get back into coaching "real soon." Pete, who currently is teaching summer school classes at



Jackie Swartz . . . named as successor

Neshaminy, said he will remain as a mathematics and physical education instructor at the school.

Neshaminy suffered through a

3-7 record last fall. Three of the losses were by one point and another by two points.

"I felt that we were coming back despite our tough luck," Cordelli said Saturday. "Jack has some good sophomores coming up and the attitude and spirit of the team have been wonderful. He'll do a good job."

Swartz, who was an outstanding basketball and football player in high school and at East Stroudsburg State College, served as Benjamin Franklin's head football coach from 1951 to 1954 before accepting a position at Neshaminy in 1955. He formerly served as basketball coach at the Langhorne school. He was an assistant football coach under Petercusk but gave up the position when Petercusk left for Dartmouth. He returned as Cordelli's first assistant last fall and worked with the offensive backfield and ends.

Jack, who now resides in Levittown, graduated from ESSC in January, 1951, and also coached baseball at Benjamin Franklin. He played in the American Pro Basketball League and also starred with Navy teams during World War II.

Another member of the football coaching staff at Neshaminy is Ed Romanowski, former head coach at Lackawanna Trail High School.

Cordelli played football and baseball for two years at Blakely. He was elected captain of the 1944 football team but could not fill the position because he entered the Navy and served in the Pacific. He returned to Blakely in 1947 to finish his senior year and then entered George Washington University on an athletic scholarship.

After graduating from GWU, he was named to the Blakely faculty and served seven years as assistant coach at Blakely under his high school coach, John Henzes Sr. He went to Neshaminy in 1953 and served as assistant in baseball and football until last year.

Pete is married to the former Helen I. Popovich of Montdale. They reside in Langhorne with their daughter, Lisa, and three sons, Peter, Bruce and Mark.

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## DURSLAG: LA MAKING RUN AT CELLAR

# Solid Team Effort Has Dodgers' Rooters Recalling 'Bums' of Old

By MELVIN DURSLAG  
LOS ANGELES — In the 11 seasons they have inhabited Los Angeles, the Dodgers are able to report with great lucidity that this one is their worst.

They have achieved this station with no strings attached, nor with political connections. It has resulted from a solid team effort, heightened by a brilliant July during which, at the time of this composition, the boys have won a total of four games.

Better Julys have been experienced in Death Valley. Still the Dodgers can point out with understandable pride that they already have bettered Dizzy Dean's record of 20 for a season,

gers pretty much matches that of the Yankees. Over the years, both were able to rebuild during the time they were winning. The rebuilding was done partly with skill, but mostly with money.

What skill remains in either place isn't known. Certainly, the money is still there, only one no longer can rebuild with money.

In other words, if the Dodgers have \$100,000 in their pants and their tie is attracted by a young Frank Howard, they no longer can go out and buy him. They are bound by the ground rules of the football-tie draft.

Walter Francis O'Malley, the eminent capitalist, describes the system as socialism, a deterrent to free enterprise and an anchor around the neck of ingenuity. Others whose earnings are smaller don't find their ideologies offended.

Apart from the fact that building has been reduced at the bottom level, the Dodgers have

however, isn't geared to staggering. The overhead is the highest in baseball, and the ownership breaks out in heavy perspiration when the team feeds off the bottom like a halibut.

In season ticket sales, the Dodgers are still propelled by momentum from the 1965 and '66 pennant years. A drop was recorded at the start of this season, and another noticeably sharper will be felt when season tickets are offered next year.

Of course, if the Dodgers should draw 1,500,000 in 1968, they will not exactly have failed by major league standards today. But by the standards they have known they are plunging to latitudes they consider dangerous.

It is a hard truth, however, that in view of what they are putting on the field right now, they are lucky if anyone will merely inquire about them, let alone watch them.



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