

Chester 'forces' its way past Interboro

By GREG GREENDAY
Daily Times Correspondent

GLENOLDEN — It is simply called "The Force."

No, it isn't a new cop show on TV, nor is it a CB handle for a traveling vigilante group.

"The Force," you see, is the Chester High football team... no, at least not exactly. Well, it's kinda like... uh, all the guys who ever played for the Clippers were, er... uh, wait a minute. Here, let Chester head coach Earle Mosley describe it to you.

"The Force" is a unifying thought process that everyone associated with Chester High football is influenced by," Mosley said.

"It is the blood, sweat and tears of all those people and players who helped to turn our football program around. That includes all the players who have moved on to other things, too.

"It is discipline, teamwork and pride," Mosley continued. "The players you saw out here today are the new 'Force,' but the old 'Force' is equally important. It's simply a matter of thinking of the other guy."

So, in other words, "The Force" is a combination of the spirit of Chester High football past and present. Right, coach?

Whatever it is — or was — "The Force" was, ominously present Saturday morning as the Clippers belted Interboro, 23-13, and further delayed Buc's new head coach Dominic Scamuffa's first-win celebration.

Another factor involved in this Section Two clash was that good old All-American standby — revenge.

"Before the season started, there was a story written that said Interboro used Chester as a stepping-stone to last year's Section Two championship," Mosley said afterwards. "We didn't want the kids to forget that story. We wanted them to carry that thought with them into this game."

The Clipper coach went one better as he brought a copy of that story to the game and ripped it into several pieces in front of his victorious troops.

Senior running back Walter Thomas did a little ripping of his own as he blasted his way over, under, around and through numerous would-be Interboro tacklers en route to a 110-yard rushing performance.

Thomas' most auspicious carry of the day came with 4:50 left in the third quarter and Interboro clinging precariously to a 7-6 lead.

Following the second Buc quick-kick of the game, Chester set up shop on its own 35-yard line.

The Clippers closed the shop rather abruptly as Thomas broke several tackles at the line of scrimmage and then veered his sleek 5-8, 165-pound chassis around left end and motored to a 65-yard scoring scamper to put "The Force" ahead to stay, 13-7.

"As far as we're concerned," said the father of "The Force," Mosley, "Thomas is a legitimate All-Delco candidate. He's got 10 flat speed and he's going to get better as the season progresses."

Not a very comforting thought for Section Two rivals.

Sophomore quarterback Luther Roberts, who performed brilliantly in the absence of co-

captain David McClarin (injured ribs), put the Clippers on top with a 16-yard touchdown run early in the second quarter.

Interboro came back to take a 7-6 lead on a one-yard plunge by hard-running Bob Ciletti. The score was set up by a remarkable diving catch by Rick Waite on a 43-yard pass by QB John Pfander.

In the final period, Chester iced the win with a 21-yard field goal by Roberts and a two-yard bolt by Thomas.

Pfander's passing arm came alive much too late in the contest as he hit on six of eight aerials on the final Buc possession before scrambling in from the five for the last score of the morning.

"Everything was there for us," Mosley said. "We didn't execute very well in the first half, but we came out strong in the second."

"Our offensive line did a great job all day long," he continued. "The backs were tough and took advantage of the line's blocking. We took advantage of the Interboro mistakes, too."

Yup, you might say that the Clippers "Forced" Interboro into those mistakes.

CHESTER 0 6 7 10 — 23
INTERBORO 0 7 0 6 — 13
CHESTER — Roberts 1 run (kick failed)

INTERBORO — Ciletti 1 run (Sharpless kick)
CHESTER — Thomas 65 run (Roberts kick)

CHESTER — FG Roberts 21
CHESTER — Thomas 2 run (Roberts kick)

INTERBORO — Pfander 5 run (pass failed)

Cougars crushed

BY DALE WEBER
Daily Times Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD — "Conestoga is a very good football team...big and strong. They run right at you and their size just wore out my kids as the game went on," said Springfield High coach Rick Taylor, after visiting Conestoga defeated his team, 35-14.

"But we really beat ourselves today," said Taylor. "We made too many early mistakes. We just gave them too much in the beginning."

"About the only thing I can say I was pleased with before I look at the films was the play of some of my younger kids late in the game."

Conestoga is big and strong, as witnessed by its holding the Cougars to just 61 yards rushing on 26 attempts while gaining 285 on 36 attempts itself.

But, as Taylor pointed out, the early mistakes did indeed cost Springfield any chance it had to win the game.

On the opening drive of the game, Cougar quarterback John Pauling had his pass bounce off a receiver's hands and into the arms of Conestoga's Pat Paro, who raced 25 yards for a touchdown. Tom Spector kicked his first of five extra points and the Pioneers had a quick 7-0 lead.

After an exchange of punts, Pauling had another pass go off his receiver's hands and this time Doug Miller grabbed the ball and sped 45 yards for another score.

The first quarter ended with Conestoga holding a 14-0 lead despite having made no first downs.

Midway through the second quarter, Springfield backed Conestoga up to its 10 yardline, but quarterback Brian Holland, the 9.7 sprinter who surprisingly did not run much all day, broke loose for a 90-yard touchdown and Conestoga led, 21-0.

Late in the third quarter, Springfield defensive back Frank Groome, who had two interceptions and a fumble recovery during the game, picked off a Holland pass and returned it 36 yards to the Conestoga 22. Several plays later, George Schmidt bulled over from the two and Conestoga's lead was trimmed to 21-6.

However, Conestoga drove 42 yards in five plays for a touchdown on its next possession, with Rick Syrek scoring on a five-yard burst up the middle.

Conestoga's Miller intercepted his third pass of the day in his own endzone to kill a Springfield drive early in the fourth quarter, wrapping up the win.

The Pioneers were not through scoring, though, as reserve quarterback Gary Schofield engineered an 80-yard touchdown march which ended with Pat Paros' one-yard scoring plunge.

Springfield would not quit, however, and put together an 82-yard drive.

Con. 14777-35
Spr. 0068-14

C — Paro 25 interception (Spector kick)
C — Miller 45 interception (Spector kick)
C — Holland 90 run (Spector kick)

S — Schmidt 2 run (pass failed)
C — Syrek 5 run (Spector kick)
C — Paro 1 run (Spector kick)

S — Marone 17 pass from Pauling (Burdumy pass from Pauling)

Staying on ground

Lions kick Chi for second win

MIDDLETOWN — Penncrest High football coach Joe Moglia does not undervalue the importance of his kicking game.

The kicking game, says Moglia, was the key to Penncrest's 14-7 non-league victory over visiting Chichester Saturday.

Punter Brian McCutcheon had good height and hang time on his punts. Pete Alyanakian was the first man down on the punts and did not miss a tackle.

The result was a 35-yard net average (the punts, minus the returns) for McCutcheon, which prevented Chi from gaining good field position.

"It seemed like Chi was always in the hole," said Moglia.

"Our staff was pleased with the kicking game," Moglia added. "I think it was the key."

Early indications were that the game would be an offensive battle. Chi took the opening kickoff and drove the length of the field, scoring on a three-yard run by Bob Cirillo. Penncrest took the ensuing kickoff and also drove the length of the field, scoring on a five-yard run by Tom Nicholson.

Chi was forced to punt on its next possession. Penncrest then drove 80 yards and scored again, with Nicholson scoring on a 23-yard run and quarterback McCutcheon adding the two-point conversion on a keeper.

Nicholson, making his first start of the season, rushed for 100 yards on 12 carries, in addition to scoring both of Penncrest's touchdowns.

McCutcheon, who did not throw any passes, picked up 60 yards on eight carries.

"We didn't pass at all," said Moglia. "We were able to move the ball on the ground. On our first three possessions, we scored. One was called back."

The second half was highlighted by defense.

"Our defense was inconsistent, but it did come up with the big play when it had to," Moglia said. "In the third quarter, Chi put together a nice drive. It had the ball first-and-goal at the three and we got a super team effort from our defense in holding them. In the fourth quarter, Chi had the ball in respectable field position and our team came up with some nice plays."

"But on the whole, our defense was inconsistent, just like our offense. Our offense moved the

ball well in the first half, but couldn't move it in the second half.

"Right now, I'm concerned about our lack of consistency on both offense and defense," said Moglia. "If we're going to do anything in the Central League, we're going to have to play more consistently and come through with more clutch plays."

Moglia said his Lions beat a good team in Chichester.

"Chi played well," he said. "They moved the ball. We were fortunate they weren't able to score more than one touchdown."

Defensively, lineman Arch Owen, linebacker Jim Clary and safety Chris Cadden played well for Penncrest.

"I thought Cadden played the best defensive game," said Moglia. "He's a senior. He had some key tackles and there were times when Chi runners threatened to break away and Chris came up and made the hit. He also made some nice plays on passes, breaking them up."

Chi — 7000 — 7
Penn — 6800 — 14

Chi — Cirillo 3 run (Bruce kick)
Penn — Nicholson 5 run (pass failed)
Penn — Nicholson 23 run (McCutcheon run)

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Conservative Valley gets past Provvies

By GENE BARR
Daily Times Correspondent

NETHER PROVIDENCE — "Most of the blame is mine," Bob Fithian said. "I was really too conservative."

No, Bob's not running for any political office, nor is he spouting any political advice. What he is talking about is the game his Sun Vally High football team played Saturday against Section II rival Nether Providence.

Despite the statements, Fithian's team came out on top, 12-7, dumping the team many consider a serious challenger for the league championship.

What Fithian regretted was playing too close to the vest in the second half of the game, enabling the Bulldogs to almost salvage a victory.

"I really should have passed more in the second half," said Fithian. "(Quarterback Mike) Boccella threw pretty well in the first half, so I guess I should have kept it going in the end."

Due in part to Fithian's unwillingness to throw the ball, the Vanguards failed to improve upon a 12-0 halftime lead. The other reason was the awakening of the Provvies in the final two quarters.

"Someday we're going to put two good halves of football together," Nether Providence coach Jim McFadden sighed after the game. "That's when these kids will find out what they can really do."

Probably the biggest reason for the Vanguards' win was their defensive play. Nether Providence's only points came on

Mario Valori's return of a Boccella interception for a touchdown.

Nether managed just 129 total yards off the stingy Sun Valley defense and was forced into four turnovers. Dave Christopher and Matt Serge harassed Nether quarterback Bill Corey into a 5-for-15 day for 26 yards. Roger Zearloss, Tony Guasparini and Ed Lanciano shut down the outside running of the Bulldogs.

Nether's leading rusher was Graham Desmond with 85 yards.

SV 12000-12
NP 0070-7

SV — Owsley 3 pass from Boccella (kick failed)

SV — Taylor 25 pass from Boccella (pass failed)

NP — Valori 35 run with interception (Smetana kick)

Marple's Rice is right

By DICK BOWMAN
Daily Times Correspondent

Haverford — Coach Bob Kenig and his Marple Newtown Tigers seem ready to serve notice to the rest of the Central League that they are going to make a serious challenge for the championship.

Kenig has a lot to be happy about after the way his club maulled Haverford, 28-8, here Saturday.

Haverford was not able to get into gear in the first half as the Marple defense, led by tackle Eric Rice, limited the Fords to just 20 yards total offense.

Haverford got into trouble on the second play of the game when Rice crashed through the line and crushed quarterback Roger Wallace to the ground with a shattering tackle that put Wallace out of the game with an injured left shoulder. Wallace was taken to a nearby hospital.

Haverford assistant coach Jack Dougherty said, "Roger is not in much pain, and we are hopeful that his injury is not too serious."

Backup quarterback Joe Motta replaced Wallace and was greeted by the Tigers' Scott Lehman with another crushing tackle behind the line of scrimmage for a seven-yard loss.

The Fords were forced to punt and Marple promptly pushed the ball into the endzone on seven plays, capped by fullback Ed Mirra's 20-yard run.

Marple quarterback Jock Peterson hit split end Steve Tatios with a 24-yard touchdown pass on the Tigers' next possession to give Marple a 14-0 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Early in the second quarter,

Peterson hit tight end Craig Wolf with an 11-yard aerial for his second touchdown pass of the day.

Early in the third quarter, the Tigers put their final points on the board when halfback Joe

Wenner plunged over from the one.

Mirra led the Tigers' ground game with 94 yards on 12 carries.

Rice had five unassisted tackles and assisted on seven others in the first half.

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