



CB West Parents Club Newsletter

November 20, 2011

Week 11

Game 10 Recap

The CB West Bucks capped off their Suburban One Continental Conference regular season schedule with a reminder of what good old smashmouth football looks like. Although Hatboro-Horsham appeared to have the larger players on the field, more importantly the Bucks posted the larger number of points on the scoreboard – a 23-12 victory over the Hatters on a brisk evening that felt like the first night of the winter yet to come.

West had to succeed despite facing a quite opposing home-field advantage for Hatboro-Horsham. The Hatter student section was quite riled up as this was finally their team's inaugural game on their brand new Next Turf field. Nevertheless, the Bucks controlled 2nd half play as 5 of their rushers combined for 212 ground yards, and a hard-nosed defense kept the Hatters in check.

The Bucks offensive line of Nick Leible, Anthony Ponente, Cory Radkins, Justin Rowley, and Dan Sergeyev, set the tone of the game as despite a hefty size disadvantage they controlled the line of scrimmage. As the drive ground toward the Hatter goal line Sherrod Higginbotham took a toss right for a first down. This set up Kevin Duggan for a plunge off left tackle for the game's first touchdown. Kicker Nick Danilo's point-after made for a 7-0 lead.

H-H came right back with a touchdown of their own, but opted to go for a two point conversion. Sergeyev broke through the line to flush the quarterback from the pocket. A penalty on West forced a do-over, but again the Buck defense made a stop, this time with an interception in the end zone.

On the ensuing kickoff, Seth Ehlo stutter stepped his way for a 20 yard return. On 3rd and 7, Higginbotham took another pitch to pick up 6 ½ yards behind the crisp lead blocking of Player of the Game Oskar Duva, Cody Riemenschneider, and Sergeyev. Unfortunately West came up short when going for it on 4th and short. Getting the ball back a bit later, Higginbotham, the game's leading rusher with 132 yards, continued to work the edges. The Bucks were forced to punt though. John Fitz nailed a good one that the West special team was able to down at the Hatters' ten yard line. Nevertheless, the Hatters scored another touchdown and were able to head into the halftime break up by a score of 12-7.

It was a very good omen for the 2nd half as West received the kickoff and turned it into a steady, grinding touchdown drive to take the lead. On 2nd and 5 Fitz completed a short pass to Riemenschneider for a first down. Riemenschneider then ran on a sweep for a 6 yard gain. Jake Poeske burst up the middle for huge chunk of yardage, 27 in all. Then it was more Poeske, as he ran up the middle again and then took the next handoff for another first down. Higginbotham then took a turn as he sprinted up the middle, did a spin move and picked up a few more yards on 2nd effort. Leible, Ponente, Radkins, Rowley, and Sergeyev controlled the line of scrimmage to create wide running lanes for their backs. Higginbotham scored the touchdown and put West out to the 13-12 lead as the 2 point conversion failed.

Now it was the defense's turn. They forced a fumble but the Hatters managed to recover it. On 4th and 14 West forced a turnover on downs as they broke up the pass play on a 4th and 14. West kept the ball on the ground on offense. Higginbotham ran a sweep. Poeske then ran off tackle. On 4th and 4 four to go the

Bucks lined up to punt, but Fitz cleverly drew H-H offsides using a hard count to pick up the first down. But the Bucks were forced to punt after the next series.

Nevertheless, it did not take much time for the Bucks tenacious defense to get the ball back. Duva made a tackle and forced a fumble in the process. He scooped up the ball with nothing but a wide open field in front of him, and returned the fumble all the way down to the H-H 26 yard line. As often happens, the turnover resulted in points. Charlie Kuklinski fired the long snap back to Ehlo, who spotted the ball as kicker Nick Danilo then dropped the ball through the goalposts for a 37 yard field goal.

The defense held strong again and did not give up much. With six minutes left in the game and nursing the 16-12 lead, West kept the ball on the ground. It was time to chew up yards and chew up the clock. Most of the burden fell on that stout offensive line and the legs of Higginbotham and Poeske. Higginbotham ran with passion, refusing to go down. Poeske bolted up the middle for six yards. Then Poeske picked up the first down, running with a jump in his step. Higginbotham to the left. Poeske off tackle. Leible, Ponente, Radkins, Rowley, and Sergejev did their job asserting themselves at the line of scrimmage versus the larger Hatters and dictating the tone. On 1st and 10 Higginbotham made the first tackler miss and picked up another first down at the H-H 6 yard line. Poeske pounded the ball down to the 1 yard line. Fitz sneaked it in that final yard, and Danilo nailed the PAT to make the score 23-12 for West.

Playing all-around solid team defense the Bucks held the Hatters. Rowley and Ponente combined to bring consistent pressure that forced H-H to turn the ball over to West one final time. Fitz kneeled down twice in succession and the West nailed down their 3rd straight victory. Strong defense, control of the line of scrimmage, and a rushing attack kept this game in the Bucks' hands.

After falling into a hole during the treacherous middle part of their season, this 2011 squad rebounded in exemplary fashion to achieve a .500 season and a record of 5-5.

Game 10 Statistics

Passing	Fitz 5-10-0-0
Rushing	Higginbotham 24-132, Poeske 15-77, Riemenschneider 1-6, Duggan 1-4, Fitz 4-(-7)
Receiving	Poeske 1-11, Riemenschneider 1-7, Higginbotham 1-5, Ehlo 1-4, Ehlo 1-2
Tackles	Poeske 10, Sergejev 10, Ponente 5, Schott 5, Duggan 4, Duva 4, Higginbotham 4, McCormack 4, Radkins 4, Rowley 3, Logan 2, Ehlo 1, Piccone 1
Sacks	Sergejev 2, Rowley 1
Interceptions	Logan 1
Fumbles	Duva 1

West is Best!!

GO BUCKS!!!