



## CB West Parents Club Newsletter

October 27, 2011

Week 9

### Game 9 Varsity Preview

**Opponent: Quakertown**

2010 Record: 4-8

Colors: Blue & White

Nickname: Panthers

Head Coach: George Banas (4-8)

Last Game vs. West: 36-19 win (2010)

### Game 8 Recap

High school football games are 48 minutes long. However, Friday night's contest versus the Pennridge Rams felt like two different games. The first hard-fought and very even contest lasted nearly 47 minutes. The second which only counted for about a mere 60 seconds, was a runaway.

Pennridge got way more than they bargained for when they first marched out onto a sloppy but playable Poppy Yoder field. Coming in on a 4-0 winning streak they were pretty sure they would manhandle the Bucks. Nevertheless, the West defense was up to the task, holding the league-leading Ram rushing attack in check, and had West staked out to a 3-0 lead at halftime. With just a few minutes left in the contest, it was either side's game as West was driving to score what would have been the go-ahead touchdown. But a late interception and a subsequent 72 yard burst turned this close, edge of your seat game into a somehow comfortable 21-10 Pennridge victory.

The Rams knew it was going to be a game after their first offensive series. Kevin Duggan and Seth Ehlo read the pitch play going to the outside and had a tackle for a 5 yard loss. Kevin McCormack came up from his linebacker position to make several tackles. Pennridge went for it on 4<sup>th</sup> down, but Ehlo broke up the pass play by diving in front of the receiver.

John Fitz completed a screen pass to Duggan who ran for the first down. An inside pitch went to Cody Riemenschneider who picked up 5 yards. However, the Bucks were forced to punt. It was a quick – and surprisingly scoreless – first period.

Anthony Ponente made a tackle for no gain. Duggan broke up a pass play. Poeske read another toss play perfectly and came up with another tackle for a loss. Again the Rams gambled on 4<sup>th</sup> down, and again the play was stopped – this time with “a herd of bucks” gang tackle.

Sherrod Higginbotham ran straight up the middle for an 11 yard gain. The offensive line of Chris Bagnick, Trey Gunning, Nick Leible, Ponente, and Justin Rowley provided plenty of time for Fitz to drop back into the

pocket as he completed his pass to Poeske for 9 yards. Again Fitz found Poeske, this time streaking across the middle of the field for a catch and run and another first down. This led to West lining up for a 31 yard field goal. Charlie Kuklinski fired the long snap to Seth Ehlo, who spotted the ball safely. Nick Danilo then drilled the ball between the goalposts to get West on the scoreboard first and a 3-0 lead.

The Bucks continued to play strong team defense. On 3<sup>rd</sup> and short, Pennridge again chose to go wide and the whole front seven strung it out as they collapsed the end of the line. They made the initial stop on 4<sup>th</sup> and 1, but the Ram runner gained the 1<sup>st</sup> down on second effort. With time running out in the 1<sup>st</sup> half West held steady, forced a final incompleteness in the end zone, and trotted off the field with that 3-0 lead still intact.

Receiving the 2<sup>nd</sup> half kickoff, the Bucks aimed to maintain the momentum on offense. Higginbotham led the way for Poeske with some effective lead blocking, as the senior fullback then picked up the first down with his own second effort. Fitz picked up the 1<sup>st</sup> down by himself on 4<sup>th</sup> and 1, as he cleverly drew the Rams offside with a hard count. A later interception brought the drive to a sudden halt.

Despite a couple of hard stops by Corey Schott, Pennridge finally got on the board on their next drive with their own touchdown and climbed out to a 7-3 lead.

Later, Poeske had a sack on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6 to push Pennridge back to a 4<sup>th</sup> and 11. Duggan and Riemenschneider teamed up for the 4<sup>th</sup> down stop.

The next drive for West was a touchdown scoring drive. Facing a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 12, Fitz completed his first down pass to Ehlo. Poeske then picked up another first down on a 4<sup>th</sup> and 1. Continuing the pattern, Fitz dropped back on a play-action fake and completed his pass to Ehlo in the flat for a 39 yard completion that propelled the Bucks down to the Rams' 5 yard line. Poeske ran off tackle down to the 1. He then plunged over the right side of the line for a second time; this time scoring the touchdown. Danilo's conversion was good, and West led the game by a score of 10-7 with just 5:59 left in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

With their backs against the wall, Pennridge resorted to the only true offensive option they had. That was to hand the ball off to their star sophomore running back. Consecutive running plays powered the Rams all the way down to the doorstep of the West end zone. The Buck defense had a shot at a tackle in the backfield but just missed. A very deliberative touchdown call by the referees awarded Pennridge their touchdown to narrowly put them in the lead by just four points.

CB West had the ball with two minutes to play and went to the air. Fitz picked up 15 yards on a pass to Ehlo. Riemenschneider then ran his pattern across the middle of the field, and made a tough catch knowing he was going to take a pummeling hit. He held on for a 13 yard gain. Another completion to Ehlo moved the Bucks all the way down to the Pennridge 35 yard line as the senior receiver smartly ran out of bounds to stop the clock. Bagnick, Gunning, Leible, Ponente and Rowley held off a desperate Ram pass rush. A short pass to Ehlo was successful to continue the drive. Fitz dropped back and appeared to have Ehlo open again inside of the Ram 10 yard line, but this time the pass was just a bit underthrown and Pennridge came up with the game-saving interception.

The West defense took the field with the wind out of their sails. With just about a minute left in the game they knew their team effort had come so close to what would have been a stunning victory. They had moved the ball efficiently against a highly regarded Pennridge defense, and they also stymied an opposing offense that features the area's leading rushing attack. Knowing the game was likely over; they packed the middle figuring on a run into the middle of the line. Instead, the play was another pitch to the outside that led to that one last Pennridge touchdown and that deceiving final score of 21-10.

### Game 8 Stats

Passing: Fitz 8-11-102  
Rushing: Poeske 14-72 TD, Higginbotham 9-39 TD, Duggan 4-24, Riemenschneider 4-16, Fitz 3-(-13)  
Receiving: Ehlo 4-57, Duggan 1-19, Duva 1-10, Riemenschneider 1-8, Poeske 1-8  
  
Tackles: Poeske 13, Schott 13, McCormack 9, Duggan 5, Duva 5, Barbon 4, Ponente 4, Rowley 4, Ehlo 3,  
Radkins 3, Fortna 1, Piccone 1  
Sacks: Poeske 1

### **Game 8 Awards**

Axe Master: Corey Schott  
Big O: Jake Poeske  
Specialist: Seth Ehlo  
Trenchman: Trey Gunning  
Varsity Player of the Game: Kevin McCormack  
Varsity Practice Player of the Week: Sam Piccone  
JV Practice Player of the Week: Buddy Zanolini  
JV Player of the Game: Mike Miller

### **CB East Awards**

Axe Master: Dan Sergeyev  
Big O: Seth Ehlo  
Specialist: John Fitz  
Trenchman: Dan Sergeyev  
Varsity Player of the Game: Jake Poeske  
Varsity Practice Player of the Week: Entire Scout Defense  
JV Practice Player of the Week: Brian Dormer  
JV Player of the Game: Garrett Godshall

### **North Penn Awards**

Axe Master: Kevin Duggan  
Big O: John Fitz  
Specialist: Cody Riemenschneider  
Trenchman: Justin Rowley  
Varsity Player of the Game: Seth Ehlo  
Varsity Practice Player of the Week: Brian Hensel  
JV Practice Player of the Week: Mark Ciaudelli  
JV Player of the Game: Vance Sears

### **CB South Awards**

Axe Master: None  
Big O: None  
Specialist: Cody Riemenschneider  
Trenchman: Ian Fortna  
Varsity Player of the Game:  
Varsity Practice Player of the Week: Trey Gunning  
JV Practice Player of the Week: Galen Mulliken  
JV Player of the Game: No game due to poor field conditions

**Game 8 JV Recap**

Not available

**West is Best!!**

**GO BUCKS!!!**