

COL FOOTBALL

# PRINCELY DAY

## Tigers end a painful winless skid

By **NICK PERUFFO**

For The Trentonian

**COLUMBUS** — After a disastrous 0-10 season last year, the Princeton Tigers entered 2011 hoping the lumps they took during that grueling campaign would pay off in the form of experience and mental toughness.

So far, so good.

The Tigers jumped out to a 13-7 first-half lead yesterday afternoon at Northern Burlington, and instead of reverting to 2010 form, ground out a hard-fought 20-14 victory.

For seniors like quarterback Alex Mitko, the win was especially sweet.

“Coming off of last year was hard,” Mitko said. “We put in a lot of extra work in the summer, and it’s good to have that extra work pay off.”

The game was Princeton’s from the first play, when Tigers wideout Eric Shorter brought back the opening kickoff 90 yards to the Greyhounds end zone. Northern Burlington also made a number of mental errors, fumbling four times.

Mitko wasn’t spectacular, but did find Shorter for a 63-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter, and scored himself on a 1-yard goal-line dive.

In the second half, the Greyhounds fed senior tailback Tosin Adeyemo a steady diet of inside hand-offs. It looked for a moment as if Adeyemo would be able to single-handedly propel Northern Burlington to a comeback victory, pounding away for 108 yards on 28 carries and breaking a 90-yard kickoff touchdown of his own. The Tiger defense, however, stiffened on the right occasions, denying Adeyemo on multiple late third-

and-short situations.

“That’s something that’s happened in the past: where a big play would hurt us mentally,” head coach Joe Garigone said. “Coming out in the second half and not scoring a touchdown, the defense absolutely held their ground.”

Junior Ben Smallzman led Princeton on the ground with 28 yards on 23 rushes. Mitko finished 7-8 for 83 yards and a touchdown. The Tigers did not commit a turnover.

While the victory was important for the Princeton players, perhaps no Tiger was happier than the head coach.

“Words can’t describe how I feel, how the guys feel, how the coaches feel,” Garigone said. It’s the first win since the 2009 season, and I don’t know if a lot of the guys realized that. They played their tails off, and it was an all-around team effort.”

Garigone also knows, however, that the season has just begun. If Princeton wants to continue to win, it will need to refo-

“What we have to teach the kids is how to actually win,” Garigone said. “Obviously we showed a lot of emotion on the sidelines there, like we won the championship game. For the guys, it felt like that, having not won a game last year.

To snap out of an 0-11 streak feels great, so we have to keep the kids composed, let them celebrate today, but Monday it’s on to Burlington.”

### PRINCETON 20, N. BURLINGTON 14

Princeton (1-0) 0 13 7 0 — 20  
Northern Burlington (0-1) 7 0 7 0 — 14

P — Shorter 90 kickoff return (Bell kick)		
N — Fitzpatrick 1 run (Hornyak kick)		
P — Shorter 63 pass from Mitko (kick failed)		
P — Mitko 1 run (Bell kick)		
N — Harper 7 pass from Kollman		
N — Adeyemo 90 kickoff return (Hornyak kick)		
	<b>P</b>	<b>N</b>
Rushes-yards	37-67	36-117
Passing	7-8-0	4-10-0
Passing yards	23	45
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	4-3

#### INDIVIDUAL

**RUSHING:** Princeton: Smallzman 23-28, Schaefer 4-11, Mitko 6-15, Shorter 4-13  
North Burlington: Adeyemo 28-108, Moore 2-1, Fitzpatrick 3-(-)6, TD, Terry 1-6, Tillman 2-8  
**PASSING:** Princeton: Mitko 7-8-0, 83 yards, TD North Burlington: Fitzpatrick 4-10-0, 45 yards  
**RECEIVING:** Princeton: Helstrom 1-9, Shorter 3-58, TD, Schaefer 1-4, White 1-10, Smallzman 1-2 North Burlington: Dunbar 2-27, Moore 1-8, Palermo 1-10

# Allentown routs Hopewell Valley

By The Trentonian Staff  
**ROBBINSVILLE** — Allentown didn’t miss Ross Scheurman on this night.

Nick Palladino threw two touchdowns and the Redbirds scored on an interception and a blocked punt to help knock off Hopewell Val-

ley 30-6 last night.

**Caravel 31,  
Pennington 7**

**PENNINGTON** — James Anderson caught a 72-yard touchdown pass from Marcus Fulmore in the first quarter, but it was downhill from there for the Red Raiders.