



For The Inquirer / JON ADAMS

Neshaminy's Michael Kelly and Omar Harris (right) bring down Council Rock's Alex Wade on one of Wade's 32 carries. Wade gained 167 yards and scored both Indians touchdowns in a 17-14 victory.

Council Rock turning it around

By edging Neshaminy, the Indians kept their goal, a conference title, in their sights.

By Jay Nagle

INQUIRER CORRESPONDENT

NEWTOWN — Council Rock, which stumbled twice in its first three games this year, took a giant step toward turning its season around Friday night.

The Indians, in danger of losing contact with the Suburban One League's National Conference leaders, reestablished themselves as a team worth watching with a 17-14 victory over previously unbeaten Neshaminy.

The triumph, which evened CR's overall record at 2-2 (2-1 league), left the Indians one game behind Central Bucks West and North Penn in conference standings. Neshaminy fell to 3-1 overall (2-1 league).

"I wouldn't say that our season was slipping away, but our goals were," said senior tailback Alex Wade, who rushed for 167 yards and

two touchdowns on 32 carries.

"Our goal is to win [the conference championship]. If we had lost again tonight, you could say that goal definitely was in danger. We didn't want to let that happen."

On defense, Council Rock limited the Redskins' backfield tandem of Frank DiSandro and Chaz Hall to just 34 yards on 13 carries. Last week in a 35-13 win over Bensalem, they rushed for 265 yards.

And on special teams, the Indians received a big lift from senior place-kicker Justin Schacher, whose 26-yard field goal on the first play of the fourth quarter proved to be the margin of victory.

"If we didn't do something this week, you could have kissed it goodbye, probably," said Ortman.

"The bottom line is we felt all along that we were capable of doing something like this. Tonight, we did."

Neshaminy scored first on a 20-yard pass from quarterback Jim Dietz (19 of 32, 227 yards, two interceptions) to wide receiver Antione Lovelace with 1 minute, 53 seconds left in the first quarter. Josh Vetter added the PAT.

Council Rock tied it with 7:01 remaining in the second quarter on a 1-yard run by Wade, who capped a nifty 16-play, 82 yard drive. Mike Kahan added the kick.

After Schacher's field goal gave the Indians a 10-7 lead, CR extended its advantage to 17-7 on a 6-yard run by Wade with 3:35 to play.

Neshaminy closed to 17-14 when Hall tallied from 6 yards out with just 2:26 to go.

But the Indians smothered the ensuing outside kick and ran out the clock.

"I think it was in the back of everybody's mind that if we didn't win this one, all the hopes we had in the off-season pretty much would have gone down the drain," said senior linebacker Andy Wertz, who paced a swarming Indians defense with nine tackles.

"But we all kept a positive outlook this week, and came together as a team."

Neshaminy	7	0	0	7	—	14
Council Rock	0	7	0	10	—	17

N: Lovelace 20 pass from Dietz (Vetter kick)

CR: Wade 1 run (Kahan kick)

CR: Schacher 26 FG

CR: Wade 6 run (Schacher kick)

N: Hall 6 run (Vetter kick)