Pennsbury the powerhouse

Council Rock also contender in L. Bucks

By Don McKee Inquirer Staff Writer

Pennsbury, the Mount St. Helen's of District 1 football, may come to life again this fall.

After five years of quaking, rumbling and then expiring meekly in steam, the Falcons should finally erupt and play back to their glory years of the early '70s. That pounding you hear deep in the earth isn't a volcano — it's Pennsbury's line taking the field.

The Lower Bucks County League has been won by Council Rock in three of the last four years and the Indians ripped through their league sames undefeated.

It's hard to see Council Rock doing that again, but the program has become so solid under coach Walt Snyder, it's also impossible to rule it out. Neshaminy-Langhorne and Woodrow Wilson also have a chance to get into the race.

PENNSBURY: Chuck Kane has six defensive starters back from last year's 8-2 team, but the numbers that count are 260 and 225. Those are the respective weights of tackles Stan Czecai and George Darroch, Czecai stands 6 feet, 4 inches and Darroch scales the heights at 6-5. They are keeping sophs Paul Cieroscinski (6-4, 225) and John Vorhees (6-2, 240) on the bench. Top linebacker John Hackman, monsterman Jon Kolle. blue-chip cornerback Mark Nicholson and linebacker Tom Cahill also return. The Falcons got another boost when nose guard Mike Panozzo moved in from Illinois. On offense, three sets of backs led by returning wing back Glenn Obert will run behind Bob Malec (6-1, 225) and Scott Smith (6-3, 230). Sophomore running

School preview

Another in a series on football prospects at area high schools

back Donald Brown looks like a prospect, and Lou Menendez will move in at quarterback.

COUNCIL ROCK: The Indians are in the race, with five starters back from the 9-2 champion. Center Bill Richmond and receiver Stan Smolensky return on offense and promising quarterback Scott O'Neill will try to generate scoring power with running back Jeff Schreiber (a transfer from Archbishop Wood). Council Rock can put its own beef out on the field, with returning defensive tackle Dwayne Whisler (6-4, 255) and Jim Clody (6-5, 225). Safety Tom Bedesem and linebacker Andy Salvadore also return on defense.

NESHAMINY-LANGHORNE: The Redskins are another team dreaming of the good old days (Neshaminy and Pennsbury once won seven consecutive titles in the old Big Eight). With seven starters back on defense and a lot of talent at the skill positions, Langhorne could jump seriously into the race for the first time since the Neshaminy school district split. Kip Shenefelt (6-4, 205) is a fine quarterback and Scott Obringer, Bill Lennon and Todd McDonald are good receivers. Ed Elliott moves into the offensive line. Obringer also is an allleague defensive back and Chris Kross is an all-league defensive tackle. Dan Capristo, John Buchler, Chuck Powers and Tom Magdelinskas add to the defensive line and Bruce Apt moves into the secondary.

WOODROW WILSON: The Rams have, perhaps, the two most talented players in the league. John Lewis rushed for more than 1,100 yards as a junior and Steve Goldsmith (6-2, 235) may be the area's best linebacker. Wilson also has six starters back on each unit and could mount a serious challenge.

DELHAAS: Ten returning starters give the Tigers hopes of improving on last year's 3-7 record. Nelson Zamora, Mike Green, Kevin Martin and Steve Limone lead the offensive line, with Lloyd Fant, Cal Morrison, Roger Stone and Brett Colteryahn back on the defensive line. Colteryahn and Tom Kramer also return at running back, waiting to see who wins the quarterback duel among Don Bellerby, Dave Potena and Ron Tirpak.

BENSALEM: The Owls have 12 starters from last year's 4-7 team, lending optimism here, too. Milton Finn, Mark Gosik, Mike McGlashen and Joe Gardyan return on the defensive line, Bernie Kurtz and Brian McLaughlin return at linebacker, and Bernie Ward returns at defensive back. Glenn Shaup is a returning quarterback, Jeff Price is back at end and Clinton Winder returns at running back.

NESHAMINY MAPLE POINT: The Cougars have a defensive nucleus back from last year's 5-5 team, including two-way tackles Steve Smith and Doug Cummings, middle guard C. J. O'Neill and cornerback Dave Brown. There is an intriguing quarterback battle here. Senior Cosmo Ritrievi started two years ago then missed all of last season with operations to both knees. Bill Toner stepped in at sophomore and started seven games.