

Neshaminy trips C. Rock, 21-7

By Bob Weaver
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It was a night of redemption for Neshaminy's Ron Gorniak.

All eyes were riveted on him as he dropped back to punt midway through the first quarter in Friday night's tilt with Council Rock. The perfect snap from center went right through his hands. The miscue gave the Indians the ball on Neshaminy's 10-yard line and led to a CR touchdown four plays later.

But, as fate would have it on this misty evening, Gorniak got a chance to wipe the slate clean in the third quarter. With the score knotted 7-7, Gorniak picked off an errant Greg Young pass and returned it 46 yards for the go ahead and, as it turned out, the winning touchdown.

The 21-7 win, before a crowd of 2,000 at Neshaminy School District Stadium, keeps Dick Bedesem's Redskins atop the Suburban One League National Conference with a spotless 2-0 mark, 3-2 overall. Coach Walt Snyder saw his charges fall to 1-2-1 (0-1-1 SOL), despite a healthy edge in offensive statistics (189 yards to 103 for Neshaminy).

On his performance, Gorniak said, "The ball was wet, it just went through my hands. After that, I took some practice snaps on



Photo by Joe Dixon

The scoreboard tells the story for visiting Council Rock

the sidelines and it didn't happen again. On the interception, I was covering the flat and just stepped in front of the receiver."

While Gorniak's bobble enabled CR to get a Jamal Ferguson two-yard touchdown run, it was three CR turnovers which eventually proved to be most costly.

The first of them came after Neshaminy couldn't move the ball on its first possession of the second quarter. A Redskin punt pinned CR down on its own 10. On a second and nine, the Indians coughed up the pigskin and Nesh-

aminy was only 15 yards from paydirt. Tim Ford capped the three play drive with a five yard scoring run at 7:42.

"We felt we could move the ball on them. The key thing was the fumble. When you have a team down (7-0) like that... you just can't do that against a good football team," said Snyder.

The second CR turnover was Gorniak's interception. CR, on its first possession of the second half, was facing a third-and-12 situation on its own 46. Young threw in the neighborhood of Vince Czepukai-

tis, but Gorniak got there first.

"You can't throw a touchdown interception with the score tied at 7-7. That was a poor play," said Snyder.

Neshaminy went up by 14, 21-7, at the 7:36 mark of the final quarter. Ford did the honors again, this time from two yards out, ending a 10-play, 44-yard drive. The key to this score was the running of senior fullback Bill Clemens. Clemens, playing his first game this season, gained 26 of his game-high 72 yards during this drive.

"He just became eligible today. He's been bothered by shin splints but the way the adrenalin was flowing (tonight), he probably didn't feel a thing. He's the first legitimate fullback (6-0, 210) we've had. He helps to open things up for Tim (Ford)," said Bedesem.

CR threatened after the last Redskin score. The Indians drove from their own 20, mainly on Young's arm (five completions for 44 yards), to a first and goal at the Neshaminy six. But Butch Lange intercepted Young in the end zone (the third CR turnover) and the game was safely tucked away.

"They gave us our first two TD's. It just points out what a team effort it was. The defense gets the ball and gives it to the offense. The whole defense did a great job. We got good pressure from our linebackers and the secondary did super," said Bedesem.