



For The Inquirer / CHERIE KEMPER-STARNER

North ballcarrier Mike Schuckert, of Council Rock, is pulled down by Bensalem's Bob Neild. Schuckert was injured late in the game and treated at a local hospital for a concussion.

South pulls together, pulls apart North

Old rivalries were put aside as the South posted a 33-7 win in the Bucks County all-star grid classic.

By Ira Josephs
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WARMINSTER — The South forgot its old rivalries and focused on new ones.

And in doing so, it toppled the North, 33-7, in the 20th annual Bucks County Lions and Bob Sands Memorial All-Star Football Classic at William Tennent High on Saturday night.

The victory ended the North's five-game winning streak, and the points were the most scored by a South team in the history of the game, according to South head coach Jan Cechak of Harry S Truman.

"The most important thing is we came together as a team," Cechak said. "Past rivalries like Pennsbury-

Neshaminy and Truman-Egan were dead. I might have a kid who didn't like another kid. Kids don't forget that stuff."

The game ended on a sour note as North running back Mike Schuckert of Council Rock received a clean but hard hit with 2 seconds remaining in the action. Officials ended the game when he was slow getting up.

After players and coaches from both squads milled around the field for several minutes, it was announced that Schuckert had not been seriously injured but was being taken to a hospital for observation. It was later learned he had been diagnosed with a concussion and released.

From the beginning of the game,

the South was in control. Morrisville's Jason Bresnen scored on the game's first drive on a 3-yard plunge with 9 minutes, 25 seconds left in the opening quarter.

Although he carried the ball only six times for 15 yards, Bresnen added another touchdown midway through the fourth quarter to increase the South's lead to 27-7.

"We wanted to end their streak," Bresnen said. "We didn't want to lose. We worked our butts off for two weeks in practice."

While Bresnen was the South's leading scorer, Truman's Kevin Ingram was named the team's Most Valuable Player. He scored what turned out to be the decisive points on a slashing 66-yard punt return for a touchdown with 2:34 left in the first quarter.

"We expected them to have power and speed," said North head coach

Steve Curley of Quakertown.

While the South showed it could score almost instantly, the North was at its best when it was wearing down the clock and the opposition. Its lone touchdown was the result of an 85-yard drive that took 9:13.

With 5:21 left in the second quarter, Council Rock's Jodi Helmuth dove in from the 1 to pull the North within a touchdown. William Tennent quarterback Jeff Overberger completed a 37-yard pass to fellow Panther Jorge Hernandez during the drive, and also scrambled for 10 yards on third down to keep the momentum going.

The South responded right away behind the righty-lefty quarterback combination of Truman's Steve Slivka and Pennsbury's Matt Harrison. The righthanded Slivka, who completed 3 of 3 passes for 52 yards,

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South tops North, 33-7, in football

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hit Pennsbury's Timm Bromirski with a 22-yard toss to put the South in scoring position.

Two plays later Bromirski cradled another 22-yard pass — this one from Harrison — for another South touchdown with 1:19 left in the first half.

"It didn't affect me because they are both really good quarterbacks," Bromirski said of the quarterback change in mid-series. "They both can throw really well."

The defenses took charge through the final minute of the second half and the entire third quarter. Before halftime, Neshaminy's Steve Derry intercepted a pass for the South and Council Rock's Matt Cozza picked off one for the North. Cozza was named the North's MVP.

In the third quarter, Council Rock's Kevin McGee sacked Harrison for a 10-yard loss to ignite the North's comeback hopes. But the South put the game out of reach in the fourth. Bresnen burrowed for a 1-yard touchdown, and Conwell-Egan's Joe Ruggiero raced 11 yards for the final score with 2 minutes remaining.

Notes. The Sportsmanship Awards went to Pennsbury's Jeremy Erlich for the South and Central Bucks West's Randy Overstreet for the North. ... Pennsbury's Jon McFarland had five carries for 51 yards and two catches for 44 yards.

South	14	7	0	12	—	33
North	0	7	0	0	—	7

S: Bresnen 3 run (Whalen kick)

S: Ingram 66 punt return (Whalen kick)

N: Helmuth 1 run (Yencha kick)

S: Bromirski 22 pass from Harrison (Whalen kick)

S: Bresnen 1 run (kick failed)

S: Ruggiero 11 run (kick failed)