

# Council Rock's offense mixed against Neshaminy

By Frank Bertucci  
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After Council Rock's first two offensive series, a total of seven plays, it looked as though the Indians could name the final score of their home game with Neshaminy on Friday night.

The score was already 14-0 at that point, but Rock's offense stopped rolling. Still, the early charge made the difference in a 21-6 victory for the Indians over Neshaminy in the opening Suburban One National Conference game for both teams.

"We could have made it an easy game. Instead, we had to battle to the end," said Rock coach Mike Ortman.

Ortman had a similar complaint after Rock (2-0) opened the season with a 14-7 win at Bethlehem Freedom the week before, but his team is already beginning to show a very balanced attack, running 27 times, passing 21 for 276 total yards against the Redskins (0-2).

And he may have found a break-away runner to build the offense around.

Junior Mike Erlandson exploded for 144 yards and two touchdowns on just 10 carries, usually choosing to run over defenders rather than around them.

"You could see last year that he (Erlandson) was above the freshman-sophomore team level that he was playing," Ortman said.

Erlandson's first score came on Rock's third offensive play of the game, a 36-yard dash around left end. His second touchdown came midway through the third period, a 15-yard burst right through the middle of Neshaminy's defense that gave Council Rock a 21-0 lead.

"We're splitting the carries between me and 'Schuck' (Mike Schuckert)," Erlandson said. "Tonight, neither one of us would have had nothing without the offensive line. And on my first touchdown, the receivers did a great job of blocking downfield."

Schuckert scored the Indians' second TD on their seventh play of the game, leaping for a pass from quarterback Justin Wellen, then breaking away from the Redskins' defenders for a 19-yard scoring play.

Neshaminy, a 61-24 loser to Allen-

**Council Rock** 21  
**Neshaminy** 6

Suburban One National football

town Dieruff the week before, was looking at another disaster after Council Rock's early spurt, but regrouped to keep the game respectable for the last three periods.

"It really takes us a while to get started," lamented coach Dick Bodesam. "We're a young team, and they don't understand that you have to play the first and second play like you would at the end of the game."

"Tonight we missed too many tackles. We're there to make the play, but we're just not tackling."

Neshaminy's offense struggled, finally getting on the scoreboard with just 1 minute, 26 seconds left to play in the game on a two-yard dive by Lance Horwatt.

The game between the neighborhood rivals was played under one-night-only temporary lighting at Council Rock, and the experiment was a huge success. Rock athletic director Dennis Warg estimated a paid attendance of 4,500, but the stands on both sides of the field were completely filled by the opening kickoff.

Erlandson also caught three passes for 15 yards, giving him 159 yards of total offense.

Rock is back to Saturday afternoon home games beginning this week against Central Bucks East, while Neshaminy plays its third straight road game, at Central Bucks West on Friday night.

Neshaminy	0	0	0	0	—	6
Council Rock	14	0	7	0	—	21

OR: Erlandson 26 run (Ader kick)

OR: Schuckert 19 pass from Wellen (Ader kick)

OR: Erlandson 15 run (Becker kick)

NE: Horwatt 2 run (kick failed)

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