

The playoff:

Twenty-four years later

Neshaminy gets its chance

NEARLY A QUARTER of a century ago the Lower Bucks County Football League ended in a stalemate. Bensalem Township and Neshaminy Langhorne finished with identical 6-1 conference records.

The schools were declared co-champions and immediately after the game a cry for a playoff was heard nearly everywhere. Neshaminy fans were the most vocal. They clamored for another chance to meet the Owls, but there was no way it could come about. Bensalem forced the title tie with a stirring 7-6 upset win on Thanksgiving Day.

Neshaminy entered the contest with an 18-game winning streak and was 9-0 on the year. Bensalem's stunning conquest cost the Redskins an unblemished record and to this day the '53 game is hotly discussed. "In that game Neshaminy had three touchdowns called back," recalled junior quarterback Fred Sangillo of Neshaminy, now the owner of Freddie's Maple Inn in Langhorne.

Bensalem was satisfied with the outcome. The Owls left Langhorne in total jubilation with a share of the championship and an excellent 9-2 record, which stands to this day as a Bensalem record for victories in one year. "Everyone wanted to play it off," Sangillo said as his son Richie and sidekick Scott Obringer listened. Richie is a Langhorne sophomore who plays soccer and expects to become a kicking specialist for the Redskins next season. Obringer is a freshman quarterback who is being touted as a great one.

"Bensalem had a good football team that year though," Sangillo. "They had Scott (Dick), Frantz (Bob), Scioli (Charlie) and guys like them. They were good. I don't want to take anything away from them..."

Neshaminy waited a year to get even with the Owls. "We didn't need much incentive when we played Bensalem the next year," Sangillo told George (Butch) Keaton, a Neshaminy grad who joined the conference. "Neshaminy went into the game 9-0 and it ended big," Fred remembered. The Redskins finished perfect (10-0) in 1954 under coach Harry Franks. And in the shambles was a battered Bensalem, 55-6.



**dick
dougherty**

Sports Editor

and was a member of three championship teams at Neshaminy. The 'Skins shared the crown with Bensalem and won outright titles in 1954 and 1955.

"It is kind of ironic," Ned said after Langhorne handled Pennsbury, 20-7, Friday night to clinch a conference tie. "In my senior year we beat Pennsbury, 20-6."

Moyer, who locates underground cables for the Philadelphia Electric Company, was a fleet wingback in Neshaminy's powerful single-wing. "We lost our first three games in my senior year," Moyer recalled. "But we came back to win our next seven."

The playoff suits Moyer. "I don't know about the date because it could hurt in preparation for both teams. I think Bensalem will be hungry, and Neshaminy will be trying to prove the first time wasn't a mistake. I'm glad for a playoff."

Did Moyer believe a playoff should have been held when Bensalem and Neshaminy tied in 1953? "I don't know how that would have turned out... you would know better than I do, you were there..."

This corner has been asked that question a thousand times over the last 24 years. If there would have been a playoff in '53 our belief is Neshaminy would have been a convincing winner...

THE WOODROW WILSON TOUCHDOWN CLUB has booked its annual banquet for Dec. 11 at 6 p.m., at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Woodbourne Road in Levittown...

JOHN CHAUMP has been the head football coach at Neshaminy Maple

years to develop a winning program after Neshaminy split into two schools. "We do not insist on winning a certain amount of games," Franks said. "We want to develop a competitive program in three years. At the end of each season we sit down with the coach and see where we can work on improvement." Chaump's job is not in danger according to Franks...

TED SLOAN, athletic director at Council Rock High School, is looking for a qualified trainer for all winter sports. "Interested persons can reach me at Council Rock," Sloan said..

TWO AREA GRIDDERS are members of the 1977 Little Quakers. Warminster's Steve Perlstein is a defensive back and Trevese's Jim Rockenback is an offensive fullback.

Perlstein attends William Tennent's Intermediate School where he is a quarterback. Rockenback is a fullback on Archbishop Wood's freshman squad. Both youngsters are under the 140-pound requirement to make the Little Quakers.

The Little Quakers have a 24-year record of 107-12-4 which includes 11 bowl titles. Two games listed this year are in Tuscon, Arizona and Los Angeles, Calif. The Little Quakers play at home at Philadelphia's Franklin Field...

BOB and JIM DUMONT, the defensive standouts at Neshaminy Maple Point High School who are twins, had interesting comments about Bensalem Township quarterback Bob Dietz after Saturday's 14-7 loss to the Owls.

Bensalem's first touchdown came on a 24 yard pass from Dietz to senior Gregg Ellzy. "I just about had him (Dietz) sacked. I was oh-so close. But give them both credit. He (Ellzy) was wide open (beating Jim Parsons in the left corner)," Bob said, Bob is a 6-1, 180-pound defensive end.

Jim, a 6-2, 185-pound linebacker, said, "Everytime I hit him (Dietz) he came up smiling. I'll tell you this—he can take a shot 'cause we were giving him some." The Dumont brothers are juniors...

EVERETT L. (TOM) FARR JR. of Ivyland is commissioner of the Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Football Association. Farr, the former athletic director at Warminster William Tennent High School, recently assigned