

# Neshaminy finishes with its 7th victory

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LANGHORNE — Regardless of what happened in Neshaminy's season finale Friday night against Pennsbury, the 1996 season was going to be remembered as an amazing campaign for the Redskins.

But just for good measure, Neshaminy put a great ending on its surprising season.

Senior Lester Wiltz rushed 28 times for 241 yards and four touchdowns to lead the host Redskins to a 39-21 Suburban One National Conference triumph over visiting Pennsbury.

The win topped off the area's most impressive turnaround this season, as Neshaminy finished 7-3 (7-2 league) after going 1-10 in 1995. It was Neshaminy's first winning season since 1989.

"I'm so proud of this team," coach Mark Schmidt said. "We've got a great bunch of hardworking kids, and I also think I have the best coaching staff in the league. It took a great group of coaches to turn this team around."

Friday's opening quarter was fairly even, as Wiltz sandwiched 25-yard and 8-yard touchdown runs around an exhilarating 97-yard kickoff return by Pennsbury's Tutu Smith with 4 minutes, 31 seconds left in the period.

The Falcons (5-5, 5-4) dominated

the second quarter, taking the lead 7:40 before halftime on Dave Schimpf's 16-yard pass to C.J. McKenna. A 5-yard touchdown scamper by Rick Mendenhall (22 carries, 104 yards) and the point-after kick pushed Pennsbury to a 21-12 halftime lead.

Neshaminy's first second-half possession was a 12-play, 80-yard drive that culminated with a 7-yard scoring run by Nick Durnin. Its next drive covered 78 yards in 15 plays and chewed up 7:26, and Wiltz's third touchdown put the Redskins on top, 25-21, with 4:23 left in the game.

After Schimpf overthrew Smith with a deep pass from the Falcons' 8-yard line on fourth and 8, the Redskins regained possession and Wiltz scored on the next play.

Smith was looking to break off another return on the ensuing kickoff, but he fumbled the ball to Neshaminy at the Pennsbury 11. The Redskins needed only one play again, as Durnin bolted in for his second touchdown to seal the victory.

Pennsbury	7	14	0	0	—	21
Neshaminy	12	0	7	20	—	39

N: Wiltz 25 run (kick failed)

P: Smith 97 kick return (Christenson kick)

N: Wiltz 8 run (pass failed)

P: McKenna 16 pass from Schimpf (Christenson kick)

P: Mendenhall 5 run (Christenson kick)

N: Durnin 7 run (Miller kick)

N: Wiltz 9 run (run failed)

N: Wiltz 8 run (Miller kick)

N: Durnin 11 run (Miller kick)