

Redskins' Coleman makes Ghosts disappear

By Rick O'Brien

INQUIRER SUBURBAN STAFF

Playing its fourth consecutive home game, Neshaminy again enjoyed the comforts of Harry E. Franks Stadium.

Senior tailback George Coleman led the way as the Redskins racked up 346 rushing yards and dismantled Abington, 45-7, last night in the Suburban One League National Conference opener for both teams.

Neshaminy, ranked No. 9 in Southeastern Pennsylvania by *The Inquirer*, improved to 4-0. Abington dropped to 2-2.

Last season, after a 2-0 start, the Redskins suffered a 28-21 home defeat versus Abington. From there, they won only one more game and finished a disappointing 3-7.

"The kids talked about that loss," Neshaminy coach Mark Schmidt said. "That was the start of a really bad slide for us."

The quick-footed Coleman car-

ried the ball 19 times for a career-high 195 yards and two touchdowns. He scored on the game's first play from scrimmage, darting off right tackle and racing 74 yards.

"The offensive line did a great job," Coleman said. "They opened up a lot of holes for me."

Overall, Coleman accounted for 255 yards. The 6-foot, 180-pounder returned four kicks for 31 yards and completed a 29-yard, halfback-option toss to set up a second-quarter score by fullback Dominic Cundari.

Abington coach Tim Sorber said Coleman reminded him of Jamar Brittingham, Neshaminy's former star tailback. In 2001, Brittingham rushed for 2,585 yards and 30 TDs while leading the school to a 15-0 record and the PIAA Class AAAA state championship.

"Coleman jukes and jives, cre-



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ates a lot of things," Sorber said. "He's a phenomenal back."

For the season, Coleman has rushed 83 times for 628 yards (7.6 yards per carry) and six touchdowns.

Neshaminy took a 24-0 lead

when fullback Abe Brooks dove in from the 1 with a little over eight minutes remaining in the second quarter. The scored capped a 13-play, 66-yard drive.

Neshaminy's offensive line

lauded by Coleman included center Andy Marino, guards Tom Smith and Marcus Smith, tackles Tom Coia and Tom McEwen, and tight ends Chris Diano and Chris Eccles. Maurice Jones also saw time at tackle.

Brandon Collins

(27) of Abington is about to be met by Neshaminy defender Chris Daino (84). The Redskins' defense kept Collins off the scoreboard and limited Abington to just a fourth-quarter touchdown after building a 45-0 lead. With the win, 9th-ranked Neshaminy improved to 4-0.

"They did a great job of coming off the ball," Schmidt said. "I saw a bunch of guys really getting after it."

The Ghosts averted a shutout when quarterback Kevin Morton and wideout Mike Martucci, both reserves, hooked up for a 15-yard score with less than two minutes left to play.

Kevin Kelly booted a 43-yard field goal in the first quarter. The left-footed senior, who drilled 6 of 7 kickoffs into the end zone, has scholarship offers from Penn State, West Virginia, Syracuse and Delaware.

Abington	0	0	0	7	—	7
Neshaminy	17	7	14	7	—	45

N: Coleman 74 run (Kelly kick)

N: Cundari 1 run (Kelly kick)

N: FG Kelly 43

N: Brooks 1 run (Kelly kick)

N: Coleman 36 run (Kelly kick)

N: Jared Kinney 13 run (Kelly kick)

N: Ervin 8 run (Kelly kick)

A: Martucci 16 pass from Morton (Small kick)

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