

High Schools

Little big man comes through for Neshaminy

Jarred Kinney might be short in stature, but he proved once again yesterday that he's no little guy where and when it matters most.

In leading No. 3 Neshaminy to a stunning 41-13 rout of No. 2 North Penn in what many considered to be the decisive game in the Suburban One League's National Conference race, Kinney rushed for 217 yards and four touchdowns.

He also joined Jason Kinney, his fellow defensive back and twin brother, in helping a heady Neshaminy defense shut down the Knights.

To Jarred Kinney, that was just as important as his remarkable offensive performance.

"I only worry about the team and what I can do to help the team," he said.

"Everybody else can worry about whatever they want."

The great concern at Neshaminy before the season was who was going to step up and replace Georg Coleman, a fancy and physical running back.

"That was it," coach Mark Schmidt said.

"That was the big question.

"People would say [Kinney] is not big enough and he's not this or that and how were we supposed to give him the ball because he's so small."

"Well, I kept giving him those questions, too, and all he kept doing was getting into the weight room. He might be small, but he's really very tough. This kid squares 170 pounds."

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Neshaminy running back Jarred Kinney drives through North Penn defenders Alex Johnson (44) and Mike Katch to score the Redskins' second TD.

SCOTT S. HAMRICK/Inquirer Suburban Staff

Rob Parent

Neshaminy bowls over N. Penn

Behind tough defense and Jarred Kinney's four TDs, the Redskins took sole possession of first place.

By Rob Parent
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

In the space of one crazy playoff game to arch-rival North Penn, Neshaminy gave up 413 yards on 40 Knights charges.

That Neshaminy victory was nearly a year ago, but apparently a few large-sized Redskins with long memories have barely spent a day since without thinking about it.

"We're a football team with a lot of pride, and our guys were embarrassed by that," Neshaminy coach Mark Schmidt said yesterday. "There was some making up to do."

So in the space of one rainy makeup game against the Knights, Neshaminy's determined defensive line held what essentially was the same North Penn backfield to 50 yards rushing, laying the groundwork for a 41-13 Redskins victory.

With a triumph so sound as to be shocking, Neshaminy (7-1, 5-0), which entered the home game ranked third in The Inquirer's Top 10 in Southeastern Pennsylvania—right behind No. 2 North Penn—took sole possession of the Suburban One League's National Conference lead.

The Knights (7-1, 4-1) fell into a second-place tie with Penshurst,



Neshaminy's Max Parkhomchuk fumbles the football as he is tackled by North Penn's Tyrece Ervin (left) and Mike Katch. The Redskins recovered.

which beat Pennridge, 14-7, yesterday and plays Neshaminy in two weeks.

Neshaminy's Jarred Kinney had a career day. The diminutive senior back piled up 217 yards rushing and four touchdowns.

"They took it right to us, and we let them," said Knights coach Dick Beck. "But we'll bounce back next week."

One thing the Knights will have to correct is their grip on wet footballs.

Two punt snaps were blown by North Penn, one leading directly to one of Kinney's four touchdowns. North Penn was also slowed by a couple of bad snaps out of shotgun formations, and a fumble by receiver

Jim Levens not only wiped out a 46-yard North Penn gain but led directly to another Kinney touchdown.

Among the glaring North Penn weaknesses that were revealed in this one-sided loss was a complete lack of ground game. Pete Stoll, who as a junior rushed for 287 yards against the Redskins in a loss in the District 1 championship game last year, rushed just five times for 13 yards.

Stoll politely declined to comment after the game but confirmed his lack of production had nothing to do with an injury and everything to do with Neshaminy.

"It's like we knew what they were going to do," said Neshaminy line man Tom McEwen.

Before North Penn even tried to move the ball, it fell behind. Neshaminy opened the game with a 10-play drive capped by a 6-yard Kinney touchdown.

He added a second touchdown two plays after one of those had North Penn punt attempts.

Reeling, the Knights faced a fourth and 3 at their own 43 and forgot about trying to punt. Instead, Kyle Feiser hit fleet-footed tight end Josh Neuhert in stride for a 57-yard touchdown strike to cut the lead in half.

But Neshaminy drove right back down, with Andrew Fiegel hitting Jason Kinney with a 6-yard pass and a 21-7 lead at intermission.

A 4-yard burst by brother Jarred made it 28-7 midway through the third quarter, but North Penn then took advantage of a bad shotgun snap by Neshaminy, with Neuhert picking the ball up and racing 43 yards to make it 28-13.

Neshaminy barely broke a sweat, and before North Penn knew it, Jarred Kinney was off again on a 24-yard touchdown romp to put the game out of reach.

North Penn	0	7	0	0	7
Neshaminy	14	14	14	14	41
N. Jarred Kinney 6 run (Curran kick)					
N. Jason Kinney 5 run (Curran kick)					
KP: Michael 13 pass from Feiser (McEwen kick)					
N. Jason Kinney 6 pass from Fiegel (Curran kick)					
N. Jason Kinney 4 run (Curran kick)					
KP: Michael 43 yards return (kick blocked)					
N. Jason Kinney 54 run (Curran kick)					
N. Dave Lortie recovery in end zone (kick blocked)					

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