

Redskins' Ulmer runs past Ghosts



GLEM MURRAY / Inquirer Staff Photographer

By Rick O'Brien
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

For Neshaminy's Jason Ulmer, a major commitment to off-season training is paying big dividends.

Ulmer, a 6-foot, 185-pound senior tailback, ran track and field last spring, competing in the 100- and 200-yard dash events. He also spent time with Steve Wilmont, the football program's strength and conditioning coach.

"I was lifting weights, doing agility drills," Ulmer said. "It definitely helped me. I feel a lot stronger."

Ulmer showed his increased strength and improved speed in last night's Suburban One League National Conference opener against Abington. He rushed 28 times for a season-high 211 yards and three touchdowns as the visiting Redskins downed the Ghosts, 38-26, at Schwarzman Stadium.

"He made a decision to be 'the guy' this year," Neshaminy coach Mark Schmidt said

of Ulmer. "He set some pretty big goals, and he's achieved them all."

The Redskins, ranked No. 2 in Southeastern Pennsylvania by *The Inquirer*, improved to 4-0 overall. Abington, which last season made a surprise run to the semifinal round of the PIAA District 1 Class AAAA playoffs, slipped to 2-2.

Ulmer has rushed 86 times this season for 746 yards, an average of 8.7 yards per carry. He has scored six touchdowns. The 17-year-old from Feasterville ran for 208 yards in the season-opening win at Coatesville.

Quarterback Justin Kinney also played a key role in last night's victory. He completed 12 of 16 passes for 149 yards and two scores.

Neshaminy took a commanding 24-7 lead midway through the third quarter. Kinney delivered a 27-yard TD pass to wide-out Kevin Steinberg.

Abington's top two offensive threats, quarterback Kevin Morton and tailback Khalil Pitt-

Neshaminy's Bob Reece (5) leaps high to block a punt by Abington's Anthony Hensley (16) in the second quarter. Neshaminy recovered the ball and went on to kick a field goal.

man, combined for 305 yards. Morton connected on 14 of 25 passes for 220 yards, including a pair of scoring strikes to wideout Keith Jones. Pittman rushed 14 times for 85 yards and two TDs.

"Abington is a good football team," Schmidt said. "I think they're going to win a lot of games this year."

The Ghosts scored on their first series. Jones got behind two defenders and caught a 20-yard TD pass from Morton.

On Neshaminy's next play

from scrimmage, Ulmer went around right end and sprinted 70 yards to the end zone. A blocked punt deep in Abington territory set up the Redskins' next score, a 20-yard Jeffries field goal.

Neshaminy went 80 yards on six plays to go ahead, 17-7, with just over a minute remaining in the first half. Kinney, who completed three passes for 71 yards on the drive, lofted a ball over a defensive back's head and into the hands of 6-4, 240-pound

tight end Paul Carrezola for a 26-yard scoring strike.

Neshaminy	0	17	7	14	—	38
Abington	0	7	7	12	—	26

- N: Ulmer 20 pass from Morton (J. MacMillan kick)
- N: Ulmer 70 run (Jeffries kick)
- N: FG Jeffries 20
- N: Carrezola 26 pass from Kinney (Jeffries kick)
- N: Steinberg 27 pass from Kinney (Jeffries kick)
- N: Pittman 14 run (J. MacMillan kick)
- N: Ulmer 24 run (Jeffries kick)
- N: Pittman 10 run (kick failed)
- N: Ulmer 3 run (Jeffries kick)
- N: Jones 25 pass from Morton (pass to foot)

Contact staff writer Rick O'Brien at 610-313-8019 or robrien@phillynews.com.