

High Schools

Football: Neshaminy 31, North Penn 7

Kinney's interception, TD highlight a big win

By Rick O'Brien

INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Justin Kinney usually displays his running skills while quarterbacking the Neshaminy football team.

In yesterday's Suburban One League National Conference showdown against visiting North Penn, Kinney's biggest run came as a defensive back. In dazzling fashion, he returned a late second-quarter interception 59 yards for a momentum-changing touchdown that helped catapult the Redskins to a convincing, 31-7 victory over the top-ranked Knights at Harry E. Franks Stadium.

Kinney picked off an errant pass at the Neshaminy 41-yard line and, with a wave of blockers in front of him, somehow zig-zagged his way past a swarm of would-be tacklers and into the end zone.

"I really don't know how I didn't get tackled," said Kinney, who was playing free safety, of the score that put Neshaminy ahead by 17-7 at halftime. "After I caught it, I saw nothing but red-colored jerseys. The guys in front of me did a great job."

The Redskins, ranked No. 5 in Southeastern Pennsylvania by *The Inquirer*, dominated the previously undefeated Knights on both sides of the ball. Neshaminy opened the game with a 10-play, 80-yard scoring drive.

Rebounding from a 26-21 loss to fourth-ranked Central Bucks South, the undefeated leader of the National Conference with two games to play, Neshaminy improved to 7-1 overall and 4-1 in the league. The Knights also stand 7-1 and 4-1.

"I think it all started when we got on the bus today," North Penn coach Dick Beck said. "The kids were joking around, laughing. We're not good enough to not play hard and battle guys."

The 5-foot-7, 180-pound Kinney completed 5-of-10 passes for 103 yards. In the third quarter, his 37-yard pass to wideout Gary Renson, who made an incredible diving catch along the right sideline, set up Kinney's 3-yard TD scamper.

On the scoring play, which upped Neshaminy's lead to 24-7, Kinney escaped a near-sack at the 9.

Kinney's older twin brothers, Jason and Jarred, played football at Neshaminy. Both 2006 graduates are playing for Tem-



Neshaminy's Jason Ulmer (26) dives over for a touchdown in the first quarter against North Penn. Ulmer finished with 88 yards rushing on 20 carries and two touchdowns in the victory.

ple, mostly on special teams. Jason is a wide receiver and Jarred is a running back.

"My brothers taught me pretty much everything I know," said Justin Kinney, a resident of Feasterville. "I can't say enough about what they mean to me. I have a lot of love for them."

Kinney's interception return for a TD was the first of his high school career. He has two interceptions this season and had three last year.

"Justin is a real winner," Neshaminy coach Mark Schmidt said. "He really took [losing to C.B. South] personally. He shouldered it a lot."

Tailback Jason Ulmer (20 carries for 88 yards) accounted for the Redskins' other TDs, scoring from the 2 and 1.

Defensively, the Redskins were paced by linebackers Greg Martell (eight tackles) and Dave Daino (six), end Jay Colbert (five) and tackle Chris Gettis (five).

"Everyone out there did his job," Kinney said. "We watched a lot of film of North Penn during the week, and we knew what was coming."

North Penn	0	7	0	0	7
Neshaminy	10	7	7	7	31

N: Ulmer 2-run (Julius kick)
 N: F.G. Jeffery 19
 N: Katch 4-run (McDonnell kick)
 N: Kinney 59 interception return (Julius kick)
 N: Kinney 3-run (Julius kick)
 N: Ulmer 1-run (Julius kick)

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How the Football Top 10 Fared

No. 1 North Penn	7	Neshaminy	31
No. 2 Ridley	27	Upper Darby	14
No. 3 St. Joe's Prep	16	Cardinal O'Hara	7
No. 4 C. Bucks South	55	Truman	12
No. 5 Neshaminy	31	North Penn	7
No. 6 Souderton	38	Norristown	20
No. 7 Conestoga	28	Haverford High	13
No. 8 Father Judge	56	Monsignor Bonner	7
No. 9 Roman Catholic	30	Archbishop Ryan	7
No. 10 Chestnut Hill	28	Penn Charter	7

Football: St. Joseph's Prep 16, O'Hara 7

Smothering defense lifts Hawks to win

By Chris Goldberg

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

On a day when the normally potent St. Joseph's Prep offense was shut down, the Hawks' defense grabbed the spotlight.

The host Hawks held upset-minded Cardinal O'Hara to 75 yards of offense yesterday and made a key defensive stand in the final quarter to spark a 16-7 victory in a Catholic League Red Division game at windswept Plymouth Whitemarsh.

The tense win kept St. Joe's (6-2), ranked third in Southeastern Pennsylvania by *The Inquirer*, in first place in the division with a 5-0 mark.

O'Hara fell to 4-4 overall and 3-2 in the division.

The Hawks had scored 93 points in their previous two wins, but the Lions' defense held St. Joe's Prep to 155 total yards and intercepted quarterback Aaron Haas (1 of 11 for 9 yards) three times.

Cardinal O'Hara trailed by just 9-7 early in the final quarter when Mark Wedderburn and Billy McMonigle made consecutive sacks and forced the Hawks to punt from their end zone. O'Hara took over from the St. Joe's 27-yard line, but failed to move the ball. Freshman Ryan Laughlin's fourth-down pass from the 22 fell incomplete.

The Lions had two more possessions in the final six minutes, but managed just two first downs, as Hawks senior defensive end Ryan McGinn posted two of his three sacks.

"The offense was moving the ball, but couldn't get it in, so we knew the defense had to step it up," said McGinn, whose effort was extra special because both his parents and all eight of his

aunts and uncles attended O'Hara. "The front four and the linebackers knew we had to get to the quarterback."

Laughlin, filling in for the injured Tom Savage (broken bone in his foot), was held to two completions and 23 yards in 11 attempts. The Lions managed just 52 yards rushing and six first downs.

Still, O'Hara stayed in the game due to its defense, which kept the dangerous Jamir Livingston from breaking loose. Livingston, who entered yesterday's game with more than 800 yards and an average of better than 7.0 per carry, lugged the ball 34 times for 309 yards. He iced the game with a 5-yard TD run in the final minute.

St. Joe's Prep took a 9-0 lead when Tim Edger booted a 25-yard field goal and Haas scored on a 4-yard run midway through the second quarter. The touchdown came after a Greg Castillo interception deep in O'Hara territory.

O'Hara had trouble moving the ball, but took advantage of the wind as Dennis Musherush's 43-yard punt pinned the Hawks inside the 15 late in the half. Three plays later, Mike Grunde picked off a Haas pass and went 20 yards for the Lions' only score.

Edger, one of the team's top receivers, also contributed a 47-yard punt against the wind in the fourth period.

"The wind affected our ability to throw, and field position was important today," Edger said. "I know I was open sometimes, but it was hard for Aaron to throw into the wind."

Cardinal O'Hara	0	7	0	0	7
St. Joseph's Prep	3	6	0	7	16

SJP: Haas 4-run (pass to kick)
 O'H: Grunde 25 interception return (D. Bold kick)
 SJP: Livingston 5-run (Edger kick)