

Redskins survive major mistakes, edge Abington

By Gary Miles
Inquirer Staff Writer

The Neshaminy Redskins fumbled the ball on the last play of their only touchdown drive yesterday, then muffed the extra-point hold on the very next play.

But both mistakes were turned into scores, and the Redskins held on to defeat Abington, 8-7, their hosts in a nonleague game.

"It was a mistake-riddled win, but I'll take it," said Neshaminy coach John Chaump, whose Redskins, the No. 3-ranked team in *The Inquirer's* Southeastern Pennsylvania Top 10, improved to 3-0.

Neshaminy fell behind by 7-0 in the second quarter when Abington's Tar Orlina, a junior tailback, concluded a 13-play, 79-yard drive with a 4-yard run. Abington collected four straight first downs on the drive, which was highlighted by a 13-yard run by junior fullback Steve Gaskins and a 14-yard run by Orlina. Most of the blocking on the drive was handled by linemen Derek Culbreth, Tim Sorber, Ken Begley, Rich Rambo and Jon Mishkin.

On the ensuing series, the Galloping Ghosts (0-2) forced Neshaminy to punt.

On Abington's next drive, however, Neshaminy senior linebacker Brian Moser picked up a Gaskins fumble — one of five fumbles by Abington yesterday — and the Redskins took possession at the Abington 33-yard line.

Abington, which ran the wishbone last week in a loss to Plymouth-Whitemarsh, was operating out of the option offense yesterday.

"We expected some mistakes," said Abington coach Doug Moister of the fumbles. "We have had the option offense for just one week, and we're still working with it. But we are

getting better."

At first, it appeared as if the Abington defense, led by senior linebacker Rob Farmer and senior end Mark Parish, would keep Neshaminy from scoring. But Neshaminy senior quarterback Dan McClave gained 6 yards on a critical fourth-down play at the 29-yard line to keep the drive alive. Five plays later, junior running back Jon Hall fumbled the ball into the end zone, and his teammate Keith Butler, a senior wide receiver, fell on it for the touchdown.

On the extra-point attempt, which, if good, would have tied the game, holder McClave failed to handle the low snap. Instead of trying to set up for the kick, McClave rolled to his right and threw back across the field to a wide-open Joe Ramos, a senior tight end.

"There is no doubt that that was the key play of the game," Chaump said. "We were fortunate that we kept our heads. Abington's defense played great today. But so did ours, and it was our defense that won the game."

The Redskins' defense, anchored by Moser, tackles Dale Edborg and Chris Teti, and end Bill Claubs, held Abington to 158 total yards, although Gaskins ended with 86 yards on 19 carries.

Abington's defense played just as well. The Ghosts held Hall to 44 yards and senior running back Jeremy Horton to 57. Overall, Neshaminy gained 144 yards.

"I was glad to see our intensity and aggressiveness return," Moister said. "Last week, we played without those traits, and it showed. We've learned a lot in these two games."

Neshaminy	0	8	0	0	—	8
Abington	0	7	0	0	—	7

A: Orlina 4 run (Godfrey kick)

N: Butler recovered fumble in end zone (Ramos pass from McClave)