

Red Raiders cop fifth straight by 20-7 score

By DWIGHT FRADY
Gazette Sports Editor

LINCOLNTON — South Point threw a Big Red blanket on Lincolnton quarterback John Lawing here last night and the Red Raiders rolled on unbeaten, beating the Wolfpack 20-7 for their fifth straight win.

The Raider defense stopped Lawing, had a tough time containing 5-8, 160-pound halfback Greg Stroup, but utilized a long distance journey by Ronnie Boyles, the passing of Bill Hannon and sensational punt returns by all-everything Scott Crawford to zip to number five.

The Raiders and Shelby are leading Division Two of the Southwest 3-A Conference with identical 4-0 loop marks.

South Point has Chase and R-S Central on tap at home for the next two weeks before Oct. 23 rolls around. They play you-know-who that night.

Lincolnton, keying on Crawford, saw Boyles from the other halfback post skip through the line, past tacklers, and outlie everybody on a 70-yard touchdown scamper in the second quarter on the second play of the period.

Hannon passed to Crawford all alone for the two-point conversion after Joey Metz faked a kick from placement. Metz and Hannon won Academy Awards for their acting on that one.

It was an 88-yard maneuver in three plays with Boyles lighting the fuse, then exploding. Lincolnton, which in the first quarter moved to the Raider 12 before Bill Murphy fumbled and Jim Forbes recovered, was on the march again in the second quarter after the SP touchdown.

Stroup, son of former Shrine Bowler Cecil Stroup (1943 edition), was the workhorse, as he was all night.

Lincolnton, to make it short and sweet, was double-teaming South Point's ends. But on a fourth and two at the Raider 32, South Point's defenders, dressed out in all-red, hit Lawing back at the 44.

CRAWFORD'S 60-yard punt return to the Lincolnton 37 set up South Point's final score just 42 seconds before the first half gun. The touchdown came on a 29-yard pass from Hannon, extremely effective on short passes, to Crawford, who raced untouched into gloryville. The Toe missed the PAT and it was 14-0 at the half.

Crawford took the second half kickoff on his five, did his thing, got some blocks and raced to the Lincolnton 25 before being hit. He lost the ball, picked it up after a bounce and was hauled down on the 16. But the Raiders flubbed that one on a fumble.

Again the double-teaming of the ends turned Stroup loose. He led a surge of 78 yards in 12 plays, scoring from the three. Jeff Weaver's PAT at 6:12 left it at 14-7. Stroup carried 11 times in that drive, gaining good yardage each trip.

But the Raiders weren't giving Lawing much time to pass, and the secondary blanked his receivers as well.

Lawing, who normally throws a lot, passed only four times and had two of them intercepted to thwart drives, the chiefs being Crawford, a top defender, and Curtis Moss. Lawing didn't get to throw his first pass until 8:35 remained in the third quarter.

THE RAIDERS drove 63 yards in five plays to clinch it. Hannon on a third and eight hit end Jerry Conrad on the three and Conrad carried it over at the 5:57 mark. Key runs in that drive came from Don Davis, a 33-yarder and Crawford, a 28-yarder to the 12.

Penalties hurt the Raiders, leaving them both in bad field position at times on offense and giving Lincolnton good shots on 15-yard defensive penalties.

Lincolnton's next-to-best chance came on a Stroup to Rick Blackwell handoff on a punt return, the play good for 45 yards before Blackwell was bumped out on the 37. A 15-yard personal foul on the play put it

on the 22, but Crawford's interception stopped that one.

The best chance came when Crawford got a bad snap on an attempted punt and was hit on his 18. But Moss intercepted Lawing's pass at the goal, ran it back to the 12 and the clock ran out.

Stroup gained 149 yards in 28 carries to lead everybody rushing. He was the only man the Raiders couldn't deal with.

South Point hosts Chase next Friday.

Isaac gets pole spot for Wilkes

NORTH WILKESBORO, N.C. (AP) — Bobby Isaac of Catawba, N.C., roared around North Wilkesboro Speedway Friday at 105.406 miles per hour to win the pole position for Sunday's Wilkes 400 NASCAR Grand National stock car race. It was the third straight event here in which the 1969 Dodge driver has won the pole position.

Donnie Allison of Hueytown, Ala., won the No. 2 spot with a speed of 104.351 in a 1970 Ford owned by Junior Johnson. Allison was subbing for LeeRoy Yarborough, who is not entered.

Richard Petty of Randleman, N.C., was third in a 1970 Plymouth at 103.931 m.p.h.

Isaac, who has never won here, picked up \$500 for winning the pole.

Petty is the favorite for the \$30,000 race, which starts at 2 p.m. Sunday over the banked, five-eighths mile asphalt track. It will be over 250 miles — 400 laps.

Petty has won six major events here and has won his last three Grand National races. He won his 16th of the year at Raleigh last Wednesday night.

The 22 other starters in the 30-car field will be determined in more trial Saturday afternoon. A record 44 cars seek places.

Statistics

	S. P.	Line.
First Downs	12	10
Net Yards Rushing	211	180
Passes	4-6	0-4
Passing Yardage	69	0
Passes Intercepted by	2	0
Fumbles Lost	1	1
Punts	3-35	4-41
Yards Penalized	80	33

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Teams	1	2	3	4-T
South Point	0	14	0	14
Lincolnton	0	0	7	7

Scoring South Point: Boyles (70-yard run); Crawford (29-yard pass from Hannon); Conrad (10-yard pass from Hannon).

PAT: Crawford 2 (passes from Hannon).

Scoring, Lincolnton: Stroupe (3-yd. run).

PAT: Weaver (kick).

Gibson signs