

Enter Association finals

Raiders rip Newton, 41-0

By DWIGHT FRADY
Gazette Sports Writer

HICKORY — South Point's blistering Red Raiders continued to run amuck on the gridiron here Friday night.

The big Red Machine blasted Newton-Conover 41-0 in the WNCSSA playoffs. It advances Jim Biggerstaff's forces into the association finals next week against the winner of last night's Salisbury-East Rowan game.

Shrine Bowler Scott Crawford sparked the Big Red to their 12th consecutive victory of the campaign. Crawford scored two touchdowns on long distance runs of 53 and 73 yards and gained 223 yards rushing in 18 carries.

The Shrine Bowler has now scored exactly 200 points on the season. South Point as a team has now scored 444 points compared to the opposition's 74. Biggerstaff's chargers have won 23 of their last 24 games.

Late in the second quarter South Point threatened by driving to the Newton-Conover 34, but that drive was stopped when Greg Corpening intercepted a Bill Hannon pass in the end zone.

But South Point began to show its waves in the second quarter. They put 21 points on

the board against the stunned Red Devils.

SOUTH POINT started a drive at the end of the first quarter, starting on its own 27. The methodical Big Red Machine went 73 yards in 8 plays. The big ground gainers were Crawford and senior halfback partner Dean Ivester. The Big Red picked up five first downs in the drive, with fancy quarter back Hannon went the final 21 yards on a beautiful keeper play, going wide left.

Hannon's touchdown, which caught Newton-Conover unawares came at the 9:46 mark. Dennis Grier booted the first of his five extra points from placement.

While the rugged South Point defense was completely halting the Red Devils, South Point marched 77 yards the next time it had the ball. The touchdown came in seven plays with Crawford streaking down the sidelines from 53 yards out. That made it 14-0.

A couple of fine defensive plays made South Point's third touchdown of the second quarter an easy one.

End Mike McWhirter hit Robert McCorkle at the two, McCorkle fumbled and tackle David Gibson recovered at the

one yard line. After Crawford was stoppef for no gain, Hannon bucked over, giving the Red Raiders a commanding 21-0 lead at the 3:21 mark.

Newton-Conover failed to register a first down in the first half and had only four yards rushing. All Conference Corpening had only one yard in five rushes during the first half. It was one of the flashiest South



SCOTT CRAWFORD
Scores 200th point

Point first halves performances of the year.

THE BIG RED didn't slow down very much in the second half. After Newton-Conover failed to gain, South Point went 65 yards with fullback Danny Clawson, going the final 24 yards on a nice run.

The very next time the Raiders had the ball, they were on the scoreboard again. South Point took over on its own 23 and on the first play, Crawford electrified the crowd at Lenoir Rhyne College Field racing 77 yards down the right sidelines. That made the margin 34-0 at the 3:16 mark of the third quarter.

South Point's final touchdown was set up by Hannon. He returned a Red Devil punt from the Big Red 35 to the Newton-Conover 22.

Hannon then made his only pass completion to McWhirter carrying to the Newton-Conover 2. Ivester in two carries was in the end zone, the touchdown coming from the one with two plays deep in the fourth quarter.

That was all the scoring as Biggerstaff cleared the bench and played the reserves all during the fourth quarter.

THE DEFEAT was only

Newton-Conover's second in 12 games. Corpening wound up 38 yards in 9 carries to lead the Red Devils. His longest run was for 25 yards late in the third quarter.

Crawford, of course, led South Point's awesome offense which gained 381 yards rushing. In addition to Crawford's 223 yards, Ivester gained 54 yards in 12 carries, Hannon picked up 51 in six attempts and Clawson gained 36 in five totes.

For the evening, South Point had 401 yards total offense. Newton had 71 yards total offense.

South Point had many stars on defense, led by McWhirter and William Clark at ends, along with tackles Tony Beale and Gibson.

South Point Newton

First downs	16	5
Net yards rushing	381	37
Passes	1-4	2-12
Passing yardage	20	34
Passes intercepted by	3	0
Fumbles lost	0	1
Punt	3-33	5-34
Yards penalized	77	42

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Teams	1	2	3	4	T.
SOUTH POINT	0	21	13	7	41
NEWTON-CONOVER	0	0	0	0	0

SCORING SUMMARY

Belmont: Crawford 2, runs of 53 and 73 yards; Hannon 2, runs of 21 and 1 yards; Ivester 1 yard run; Clawson 24 yard run;
PAT: Grier (5) placements