

Lions stop Raiders, 17-7

By DWIGHT FRADY
Gazette Sports Writer

It was indeed a gallant effort and the game wasn't decided until the last 59 seconds, but South Point's Red Raiders are out of the WNCSSAA playoff running.

Shelby's undefeated and untied Lions took advantage of two Raider fumbles and three pass interceptions at Lineberger Stadium last night to hand the Big Red a 17-7 Southwestern 3-A Conference playoff defeat.

Gerald Allen's Lions, now 11-0, will next take on the Northwestern 3-A Conference winner in Shelby next Friday night. For the Raiders, they'll have to wait for another year, but the Big Red next year should be the Big Red Machine again with practically the entire cast back.

The Raiders played a much better game last night than in the regular season meeting when Shelby won 28-12. In fact, they had a chance to forge ahead in the third quarter and possibly win the game but bogged down on the Lion six-yard line.

Time and again a gallant Raider defense held off Shelby penetrations, but in the end, the running of senior Tommy London and junior Larry Eberheart proved to be the difference.

London, the workhorse, carried the ball 24 times for 88 yards and Eberheart toted the pigskin 12 times for 70 yards. The Lions had only 55 yards rushing at halftime but finished the game with 189.

Shelby's steady running game offset another fine performance by sophomore Doug Davis of the Big Red. Davis entered the game with 912 yards passing and went over the 1,000-yard mark for just eight games with seven completions in 14 attempts for 156 yards.

DAVIS FINISHED the season with 1,068 yards through the air and the 15-year-old youngster will be at the Raider controls for the next two years.

South Point stunned the Golden Lions with an early touchdown for a 7-0 lead in the opening quarter.

The Raiders, in fact, scored from 73 yards out in just three plays. A seven-yard run by sophomore halfback Jerry Auten put the ball on the Raider 34.

The Davis hit halfback Wayne Fewell in the right flats and Wayne was off to the races. He galloped down the sidelines before the home stands and got all the way to the Shelby 10 before he was pushed out of bounds by Eberheart, who along with London is also a fine defensive player.

On the first play, fullback Dennis Grier, the Raider workhorse along with Auten during the night, went off left tackle for the touchdown from 10

yards out and when the junior converted from placement, the Raiders held a 7-0 lead with 7:16 remaining in the quarter.

The next time it had the back, South Point threatened again. They started a move from their own 28. Davis hit Fletcher Williams on a 34-yard pass completion to the Shelby 38. However, on a third and seven play, guard Mark Harmon of the Lions intercepted a pass by Davis and carried all the way to the Raider 15.

But, there was a clip way back upfield on the play, and

the Lions were penalized back to their own 30, but importantly, had the ball.

Then, one of the Raider errors cost dearly. Junior halfback Bobby Mann fumbled—a Mike Dover punt on the Big Red 37, with guard Harvey Ramsey of the Lions recovering.

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THE LIONS went the distance in seven plays early in the fourth quarter, picking up two first downs in the short march to paydirt. London made the touchdown run on an

eight-yard scoot, bouncing off and over tacklers like a will-o-the-wisp. It looked like he was down but he kept digging to paydirt and Dover converted to tie the game at 7-7 with 9:08 left in the second period.

Grier's fumble recovery of a London bobble gave the Raiders another second quarter shot at the Shelby 47. Fewell was stopped for no gain, but Grier broke loose for a first down at the Shelby 28.

However, the Lions rose up

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Photo by Kermit Hull

CHASING A QUARTERBACK — A pair of Shelby Golden Lions chase South Point quarterback Doug Davis here Friday night during playoff game at Lineberger Stadium in Belmont. Raiders lost 17-7, but Davis

went over the 1,000-yard mark in passing in just eight games with seven completions in 14 attempts for 156 yards. He finished with 1,068 yards on the campaign and is just a sophomore.



Photo by Kermit Hull

A LION TOUCHDOWN — Tommy London, the senior workhorse of the Shelby backfield, holds the ball high in the South Point end zone after scoring a touchdown against the Raiders in the Southwestern 3-A Conference playoff game last night at Lineberger Stadium. The referee at the left signals a six-pointer. London and mates downed the young Raiders, 17-7.

Foyt takes Texas pole

COLLEGE STATION, Tex. (AP) — Super Texan A. J. Foyt drove his red and white Mercury at 170.273 miles per hour Friday to capture the pole position for the \$106,000 Texas 500 stock car race.

The durable Foyt, auto racing's all-time money winner and a legend in his own time, had never driven an official lap on the \$6 million Texas World Speedway, located only 100 miles from his home base at Houston.

But he quickly mastered the two-mile oval in the Glen Wood car that carried him to successive 500 mile wins at Ontario, Calif., and Daytona Beach, Fla., earlier in the year. He will be at the head of a 40-car lineup for Sunday's final major Grand National race of the year.

The other front row position for the two-abreast start went to Buddy Baker, whose Dodge was just a click of the watch off Foyt's speed at 170.100 mph.

Richard Petty's Plymouth and Bobby Allison's Chevrolet made the second row with speeds of 169.571 and 167.482 respectively.

	Shelby	S. P.
First Downs	11	8
Net Yards Rushing	189	77
Passes	1-3	8-15
Passing Yardage	14	180
Passes Intercepted by	3	0
Fumbles Lost	1	2
Punts	4-30	6-35
Yards Penalized	60	80

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Teams	1	2	3	4-T
Shelby	0	7	3	2-17
South Point	7	0	0	0-7

SCORING SUMMARY

Scoring touchdown, South Point: Grier (10-yard run).
PAT: Grier (placement).
Scoring touchdowns, Shelby: London (8-yard run); Eberhart (10-yard run).
PAT: Dover 2 (placements).
Field Goal: Dover (37-yards).

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and tossed the Big Red back to the 34 and South Point punted.

London's second half kickoff return from his 21 to the South Point 49 set the Lions in motion. But Dover later missed two field goal tries getting the second shot on a penalty against South Point), and the Raiders took over at their own 20.

The Raiders then saw another error cost them three points. Fewell's fumble was recovered by Virgil Petty at the South Point 28 and Dover kicked a 37-yard field goal at 6:39 for a 10-7 Shelby lead.

South Point promptly started a march from its own 20, with a 15-yard penalty against Shelby after an 18-yard pass completion putting it on the Lion 46.

An 18-yard pass from Davis Fewell put in on the 26 and four plays later the Raiders had a first and 10 at the Shelby six. But after Auten gained seven to the six, a Davis pass was incomplete. Fewell got no gain and Davis to Tim Williams in the end zone was incomplete.

Shelby used up much of the clock in its last touchdown drive of 48 yards. Eberheart went the final 10 yards with 59 seconds left and school was out for the battling Big Red.

South Point finished with a record of 8-2-1 on the year. It was Gerald Allen's fourth win in five meetings with Jim Beggarstaff-coached clubs and approximately 7,000 fans viewed last night's attraction.