



HELP SPARK RAIDERS HOME — Wayne Fewell, left, and Jim Stowe, right, helped South Point win its 10th straight game and finish the regular season unbeaten last night at Lineberger Stadium as the Big Red won a 46-0 decision over North Gaston. Fewell was tops on offense and Stowe paced the defensive charge. Raiders now have 381 points on the season as they enter the playoffs next week.

Big Red Machine in unbeaten year, 46-0

By CHARLIE HALL
(Special to the Gazette)

The South Point Red Raiders methodically pounded out a 46-0 win over outclassed North Gaston at home last night to finish their regular season at 10-0 and now Jim Biggerstaff's club will move into the WNCCHSAA playoffs against Crest next Friday night.

Crest, a club which fell to the Big Red Machine 33-13 during the regular season, grabbed off the second playoff spot in the Southwest Conference last night with a 42-26 win over East Rutherford.

That playoff game will be played next Friday night at the Chargers home field in Crest.

South Point's Dennis Grier, who had been hobbled by a knee injury for the past three games, came on to test that knee last night before a wind-chilled gathering at Lineberger Stadium and scored both times he carried from scrimmage.

That set the mood for the evening as the Red Raiders ran

almost at will against the Wildcats of Joe Eller, rolling up 335 yards on the ground and adding another 115 in the air as quarterback Doug Davis hit 10 of the 13 passes he attempted for 115 yards.

★★★

FOR GRIER it clinched the area regular season scoring title, with his pair of scores giving him 90 points for the season.

Teammate Butch Rankin, who scored on a 12 yard run in the third quarter and also booted four extra points during the evening, finished with 10 points for the game and 71 for the regular season gaining the runnerup spot behind Grier in the area.

Grier, Rankin and mates wasted little time getting on the board against the Wildcats, driving 54 yards in 10 plays on their first possession of the evening.

Wayne Fewell, who scored again later, took it in from eight yards out, flipping over two tacklers into the end zone with 5:59 left in the first quarter and

Rankin's boot made the score 7-0.

★★★

WHILE THE SOUTH Point defense was holding North without a first down until four minutes left in the first half, their offensive unit was moving in and out of big holes opened by the front line to put 20 points on the board in the second quarter alone, running the halftime count to 27-0.

Quarterback Davis capped an 81 yard drive early in the second period, going over from the one yard line to make the score 13-0.

After North was unable to move, a 23 yard run by Don James set up Grier's first entrance into the game. The smooth-running senior then rambled seven yards through the Wildcat defense to make the score 20-0 and then returned to the sidelines.

Rick Crosby, who finished with 57 yards in six carries, padded that score moments later with an exciting 36 yard TD scamper, in which he was hit at the line of scrimmage, spun away and later left two would-be tacklers sprawled on the turf at the 10 yard line before easing into the end zone and a 27-0 lead.

★★★

NORTH MADE its only threat of the night just before the half, moving from its own 40 to the South Point three before a fumble stalled their efforts.

Runs of 18 yards by Carroll Poarch and 32 yards by Andrew Moses sparked that drive.

In the second half, Grier again entered the game on offense, this time carrying six yards for a score. Fewell added a 31 yard scoring run and Rankin tallied from 12 yards out to complete the scoring for the Raiders, who have now captured 43 of their last 46 games under Biggerstaff.

★★★

FEWELL FINISHED the game with 144 yards rushing on just 12 carries, while Moses topped the Wildcat running attack with 48 in seven carries.

North finished their initial season in the Southwest Conference with a 4-5 conference mark and a 4-6 overall mark.

As said, the Red Raiders finished the season unbeaten, their second unbeaten regular season in the last five years and they'll no doubt continue as the number one ranked 3-A team in the State going into the WNCCHSAA playoffs.

Said Biggerstaff after the game: "We were looking for momentum going into the playoffs and we got it. I was pleased with our very good play and I think we're ready now for the playoffs against an excellent Crest team."

"Fewell had an exceptional night, his best of the year and I thought Jimmy Stowe had a banner night too on defense. It was just a good night for everybody. I'm very pleased to have finished 10-0 for the second time in three years. This is an outstanding group of boys."

STATISTICS

	N. Gaston	S. Point
First Downs	5	14
Net Yards Rushing	93	335
Passes	0-3	10-13
Passing Yardage	0	115
Passes Intercepted by	0	1
Fumbles Lost	2	0
Punts	6-31	2-32
Yards Penalized	18	35

SCORE BY QUARTERS

TEAMS	1	2	3	4	T
North Gaston	0	0	0	0	0
South Point	7	20	13	6	46

SCORING SUMMARY

South Point — Fewell 2 (31 and eight yard runs) Davis (one yard run) Grier 2 (runs of six and seven yards) Crosby (36 yard run), Rankin (12 yard run)
PATs — Rankin 4 (kick)

Gibby bad but retains first

PINEHURST, N.C. (AP) — Gibby Gilbert, author of an almost incredible opening effort, blew five strokes in one stretch of three holes but retained the lead Friday through two rounds of the richest golf tournament the world has ever seen.

Gilbert, who had a record-setting 62 in the first round, slipped 12 strokes to a three-over-par 74 in the second round of the 144-hole, two-week World Open, a \$500,000 tournament that offers \$100,000 to the winner.

His 136 total was six under par. But his leading margin dwindled to two strikes when he stumbled through water and woods, traps and trouble, cold and winds in a worrisome string in which he went double-bogey, bogey, double-bogey.

Ron Cerrudo, with a second 69, and young Allen Miller, at 71, were tied for second at 138.

Gilbert, a 32-year-old who almost quit the tour in disgust earlier this year, and Cerrudo played the 6,905-yard No. 4 course at the Pinehurst Country Club and Miller played the No. 2

course, a demanding, 7,007-yard layout in the Carolina sandhills. Both play to par 71.

The international field of 240—some 20 countries are represented—is alternating between the two layouts for the first 72 holes. At the end of Sunday's fourth round the field will be cut to the low 70 scorers and ties for the last four rounds next week, all at No. 2.

Veteran Gay Brewer, a former Masters champion who has a habit of winning the big-money events, and rookie Tom Kite matched 72s and were at 141.

The group at 142, par for two rounds, included Miller Barber, Homero Blancas and Jerry Heard.

Arnold Palmer had a 70 and, at 143, was seven strokes back.

"In a tournament like this, over eight rounds, seven strokes really isn't very much," the 44-year-old Palmer said.

Generally, scores were high in the chilly, 40-degree temperatures made more uncomfortable by gusty winds.

R-S Central puts wallop on Yellow Jackets, 40-14

With Scott Melton and J.G. Keeter scoring a pair of touchdowns apiece, R-S Central rolled to an easy 40-14 Southwest 3-A Conference decision over Bessemer City last night at Bessemer City.

Melton scored on runs of 60 and three yards while Keeter, the league's leading scorer, racked up two touchdowns on runs of 40 and two yards.

Bruce Scoggins scored on a 10-yard run for the Hilltoppers and Pat Burrette tallied on a 37-yard pass from Scoggins while Burrette kicked four extra points.

It was just 20-14 at the half, favor of R-S but the Toppers put it away with a 20-point second half.

Scoring for BC were Skip Franklin on a two-yard run and Bobby Williams on a 50-yard

run. Williams ran for a two-point conversion.

R-S had 322 yards rushing to 153 for Bessemer City. Bessemer City finished with a 1-9 record.

STATISTICS

	R-S Central	Bess. City
First Downs	12	3
Net Yards Rushing	322	153
Passes	1-5	3-8
Passing Yardage	35	30
Passes Intercepted by	0	0
Fumbles Lost	1	4
Punts	3-25	3-50
Yards Penalized	100	45

SCORE BY QUARTERS

TEAMS	1	2	3	4	T
R-S Central	20	0	13	7	40
Bessemer City	0	14	0	0	14

SCORING SUMMARY

Scoring touchdowns, R-S Central: Melton (on runs of 60 and 3 yards); Keeter 2 (runs of 40 and two yards); Scoggins (10-yard run); Burrette (37-yard pass from Scoggins); PAT: Burrette 4 (on kicks).
Scoring touchdowns, Bessemer City: Franklin (2-yard run); Williams (50-yard run); PAT: Williams 2 (on runs).