



JAMES ON THE LAM FOR RED RAIDERS — Halfback Donnie James churns for first half yardage here in South Point's homecoming game at Lineberger Stadium Friday night against R-S Central. An unidentified Hilltopper seeks to stop James with a flying tackle. Number 72 at right for

the Big Red Machine is tackle Roger Parker. The Raiders blanked Hilltoppers, 19-0, handing R-S its first loss while South Point got its sixth straight win without defeat. SP has now won 46 of its past 52 games with three ties and three losses. (Kermit Hull Photo).

Big Red blanks Central by 19-0

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE
SPORTS

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Ironmen rack Jackets 32-0, level record

By RONALD KISER

Cherryville scored in every quarter to smash Bessemer City 32-0 at Bessemer City last night to level their record at 3-3.

The Ironmen ground out 18 first downs and totaled 329 yards rushing while their defense limited Bessemer City to three first downs and minus 16 yards rushing.

The Ironmen opened the scoring in the first quarter, driving 65 yards in eight plays, with Eric King going over from the 10 with 1:24 to go.

King's kick was not good. In the second quarter, a 17-yard pass from quarterback Gary Powers to split end Carl Bridges climaxed an 82-yard march with the point again missing.

In the third quarter, Dino Little, who picked up 218 yards on the night in 20 carries, ran in from the 24 and King kicked the point-after for a 19-0 lead.

IN THE FOURTH quarter, with 4:44 to go in the game, Carl Bridges intercepted a Tim Noblett pass on the 12 and went in for the score with King again kicking true.

With just 30 seconds remaining, Wayne Patterson danced 10 yards, climaxing a 40-yard drive and the PAT missed.

Rick Owens, Doug Sigmon and Robert Wylie played great defensive ball, holding the Jackets to minus 16 yards rushing.

Cherryville, now 3-3, plays host to Chase next Friday night. With this victory, it marked the first time a Cherryville team had won three games in a row since 1958.

STATISTICS

	Cherry	BC
First Downs	18	3
Net Yards Rushing	329	16
Passes	4:17	1:9
Passing Yardage	61	26
Passes Intercepted by	2	1
Fumbles Lost	3	1
Punts	0-0	2-22
Yards Penalized	105	49

TEAMS	SCORE	BY QUARTERS
Cherryville	3	2 4 12
Bessemer City	0	0 0 0 0

SCORING SUMMARY
Scoring touchdowns, Cherryville Bridges 2 (17 yard pass from Powers, 12 yard pass interception); Patterson (10 yard run); Little (24 yard run); King (10 yard run); PAT King 2 (placements)

The Autens stole the show last night as South Point defeated R-S Central, 19-0 before over 5,000 homecoming fans in Lineberger Stadium.

Jerry Auten, senior Raider halfback, scored two touchdowns, picked up 118 yards in 18 carries and caught two passes for an additional 12 yards as the Big Red won its sixth straight game to remain undefeated and atop the Southwest Conference standings.

Miss Melanie Auten, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Auten of Belmont, was the other half of the Auten show as she carried off the honors as homecoming queen. Don Honbarrier, student government president, crowned Miss Auten during halftime before a cheering crowd.

The Raiders wasted no time in handing the Hilltoppers their first defeat of the season.

R-S received the ball to begin the game. J.G. Keeter returned the ball from the four yard line to the 15. Three running plays netted no gain and Andy Wells punted out to the 40 where Robin Ratchford fielded the ball and returned to the 11 yard penalty put the Raiders back on the Hilltoppers 44 yard line.

FROM THIS POINT it took the Big Red just 11 plays to cover the distance with Auten going in from one yard out. Chuck Rankin kicked the point after and the Raiders held at 7-0 lead with 5:45 left in the first quarter.

Big plays in the drive were runs of nine and eight yards by Donnie James and an 11 yard pass from Doug Davis to Auten.

The Raiders defense continued to bottle up the Hilltoppers as the Raider offense ground out the yardage on the fine running of Auten, James and Carl Middleton but were unable to mount a scoring drive.

Late in the second period junior center Eric Horsley fell on a Ricky Ledbetter fumble at the Central 21, but two running plays and an incomplete pass gained only nine yards as the Hilltoppers took over at the nine.

UNABLE TO MOVE the ball, Wells was forced to punt from his own end zone. The ball carried out to the 45 where Rankin was caught as he fielded the catch.

From this point, the Raiders mounted another drive, covering the distance in seven plays with Auten again taking the ball in, this time from nine yards out on fourth down. The big play in the drive was a 13 yard carry by Middleton for a first down at the third. The score came with 2:00 left in the half and when Rankin's attempt conversion was blocked South Point went to intermission with a 13-0 lead.

After the colorful halftime ceremonies, South Point came back to receive the opening kickoff and cover 67 yards in four plays for the final score of the night. The scoring play was a 48 yard screen pass and run from Davis to Middleton. Again Rankin's attempt placement was blocked as the score went to 19-0 with 9:35 remaining in the third period.

THE HILLTOPPERS defense continued to play tough throughout the rest of the game turning back two more Raider thrusts. Keeter intercepted a Davis pass in the end zone to stop one Raider drive and on another occasion a 15 yard penalty stopped another drive.

The Big Red defense played another of its patented games as it held the Hilltoppers to only 37 yards rushing and one pass completion in eight attempts for six yards.

The longest gain by the visitors from the line of scrimmage was six yards, on a run by Ledbetter and Ledbetter's pass to Robert Bannette. Keeter was the workhorse for the visitors, carrying 17 times for only 30 yards.

Although scoring only three times the Raiders completely dominated the statistics, picking up 215 yards rushing and adding 142 through the air.

Davis hit on nine of 21 passes, but an alert Hilltopper secondary, led by Keeter picked off three of Doug's passes.

AUTEN'S 118 YARDS led the Raider ground game with James picking up 42 yards in 15 attempts, Middleton getting 23 in seven carries and Terry Boyles adding 32 in four rushes.

The Raiders picked up 14 first downs to only four for Central, three coming by the penalty route. In addition to his two touchdowns that counted, Auten had one of 13 yards nullified by a clip on the third play of the second period. The Raiders will travel to North Gaston to battle the Wildcats next Friday while the Hilltoppers will entertain Bessemer City and should add win number five to their 4-1 record.

STATISTICS

	South Point	R-S Central
First Downs	14	4
Net Yards Rushing	215	37
Passes	9-22	1-8
Passing Yardage	142	6
Passes Intercepted by	3	1
Fumbles Lost	1	1
Punts	2-43	6-20
Yards Penalized	4-36	6-60

TEAMS	SCORE	BY QUARTERS
South Point	1	2 3 4 12
R-S Central	0	0 0 0 0

SCORING SUMMARY
Scoring touchdowns, South Point Auten 2 (13 yard run, 9 yard run); Carl Middleton (48 yard pass from Doug Davis); PAT Rankin 1 (kick)