

# Raiders whip Shelby, 10-6

By RICHARD SOWERS  
Gazette Sports Editor

Red Raider fans found it out Friday night, and the rest of the Southwest 3-A Conference had better beware. The "Rat Patrol" is back.

The South Point Red Raiders, upset by Chase and unimpressive in a victory over Cherryville, whipped archrival and preseason conference favorite Shelby, 10-6, at Lineberger Stadium, used a powerful ground game and the vaunted gang-tackling "Rat Patrol" defense that has led Coach Jim Biggerstaff's Big Red into the playoffs the past five campaigns, to defeat the heavily-regarded Golden Lions, now 1-2.

The Raider defense, led by Mark Lineberger, Willie Cobb, David Willis, Kenny Champion and Ron Stowe, never let Shelby cross its own 43-yard line during the first half.

On the other hand, the Red Raiders, led by the brilliant playmaking of converted halfback Donnie James, playing his first complete game at quarterback, marched 77 yards for a touchdown on their initial possession.

Fullback Carl Middleton, who led the Raider rushing attack with 66 yards in 14 carries, and halfback Terry Boyles, did most of the damage during the drive, but James decided to go to the air when the drive reached the Golden Lion 25 after a 15-yard Shelby penalty.

Keith Stone lost a yard in between two James incompletions, leaving the Raiders with a fourth and 11 at the Lion 26.

But the undaunted James dropped back to pass and found Cotton McCollough at the 15. McCollough sidestepped a defender and raced into the end zone for the lone Raider touchdown with 1:59 remaining in the first period. John Lamkin kicked the point after, and the 7-0 lead stood at the half, with the Raiders mounting the only other threat, which ended when James attempted to find McCollough in the end zone from the 15 midway during the second stanza.

The Rat Patrol, which yielded a deceiving 151 yards, all on the ground, continued to hold the Golden Lions throughout the third quarter.

On the first play of the final quarter, South Point's Lamkin booted a 32-yard field goal to give the Raiders a 10-0 lead.

On the third play of the final period, Shelby's Hicks Beam, who led all rushers with 101 yards on 15 carries, broke loose for 27 yards to the South Point 38, where James made a touchdown-saving tackle.

A 15-yard personal foul penalty against the Red Raiders moved the ball to the 23, then Dockery Youngblood, who

gained 78 yards in 15 carries, got three more for the Lions.

Beam then bucked the line for six and 13 yards to move the football to the one. On the next play, Lion quarterback Mark Lackey, who lost 12 yards rushing for the night and was incomplete on all eight of his passing attempts, completed the 71-yard scoring drive with a one-yard quarterback sneak.

The two-point conversion try failed when South Point's Stowe crashed in to bat down and intercept a Lackey pass.

After the TD, Boyles fumbled the football over to Shelby on the first play from scrimmage, giving the Golden Lions a golden opportunity at the South Point 40.

The Lions drove to the Raider 18, but on fourth and three, a Lackey pass to Brian Dorsey found the intended receiver's foot rather than his hands to return the football to the Raiders.

The Golden Lions got the ball back with 1:47 to play, but Lineberger intercepted for the Raiders, who ran out

the clock.

"It's not fair to single out anybody," Biggerstaff said when asked who his outstanding players were.

"It was a total team effort. There's no doubt about it. The guys decided to go out and play."

"Something about Shelby always brings out the best," Biggerstaff said of the team that eliminated the Raiders from the '74 playoffs after South Point had won in the regular season.

STATISTICS		Shelby	South Point
First Downs	.....	9	11
Net Yards Rushing	.....	161	141
Passes	.....	0-8	2-12
Passing Yardage	.....	0	33
Passes Intercepted by	.....	0	1
Fumbles Lost	.....	1	2
Punts	.....	4-37.8	4-30.8
Yards Penalized	.....	30	40

SCORE BY QUARTERS		1	2	3	4	T
TEAMS	.....	0	0	0	6	6
Shelby	.....	0	0	0	6	6
South Point	.....	7	0	0	3	10

SCORING SUMMARY	
SP — McCullough, 26-yd. pass from James (Lamkin kick)	
SP — FG, Lamkin, 32-yd.	
S — Lackey, 1-yd. run (Pass failed)	

## Wolves beat Mustangs

By CHARLIE GRISSOM  
Special to the Gazette

DENVER — The Lincolnton High School Wolves defeated the East Lincoln Mustangs on the Mustangs' home field last night, 14-0. It was a hard fought battle with each team's defense forcing turnovers and yielding little total offense.

After a scoreless first quarter, the Wolves, under Head Coach Von Harris, intercepted a Denby Crisson pass and returned it to the East Lincoln 45. It took only one play, with John Shuford hitting Karl Lawing with a 45-yard touchdown pass. Greg Bradley split the goal posts with the point after touchdown kick and the score was 7-0. That was all the Wolves needed.

The second half was another hard hitting affair. The third quarter was again scoreless. Each team had the opportunities to score, having the ball in good position on the turnovers. The hard hitting defenses gave up little yardage.

Lincolnton got the ball in good field position, forcing the Mustangs to punt

from deep in their own territory.

Taking the ball on the East Lincoln 34, the Wolves took only three plays to score with Greg Bradley bulling over from three yards out. Bradley then kicked his second extra point and the score stood for the remainder of the contest at 14-0.

Each defense forced the other team to give up four interceptions and three fumbles. The Wolves rolled up 125 yards on the ground and 77 in the air. Their defense held the Mustangs to 39 yards rushing and 76 passing.

STATISTICS		Lincolnton	E. Lincoln
First Downs	.....	6	9
Net Yards Rushing	.....	125	39
Passes	.....	3-7	5-13
Passing Yardage	.....	77	76
Passes Intercepted by	.....	4	4
Fumbles Lost	.....	3	3
Punts	.....	5-36	6-26
Yards Penalized	.....	55	35

SCORE BY QUARTERS		1	2	3	4	T
TEAMS	.....	0	7	0	7	14
Lincolnton	.....	0	7	0	7	14
East Lincoln	.....	0	0	0	0	0

SCORING SUMMARY	
L — Lawing, 45-yd. pass from Shuford (Bradley, kick)	
L — Bradley, 3-yd. run (Bradley, kick)	

## Pirates club Cards, 7-1

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Ed Kirkpatrick, inserted in the game after Willie Stargell was stunned in a collision, hit a three-run homer to help the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the St. Louis Cardinals 7-1 Wednesday night.

Astros 6, Dodgers 5  
Ken Boswell's two-out pinch single in the 12th inning trimmed Los Angeles for Houston.

Phillies 4, Mets 2