

Witzke boots SP to 9-6 win over Wave

By NEALE PATRICK
Gazette Sports Writer

Karl Witzke kicked three field goals of more than 30 yards to provide the South Point Red Raiders with all of their points in a 9-6 victory over Ashbrook on a rainy night in Lineberger Stadium in Belmont Friday.

Witzke, a 200-pound soccer-style kicker who is playing his first year of football after moving to Belmont from Maryland, booted three-pointers from the field of 32, 31 and 36 yards.

The three field goals lifted the Red Raiders back from a 6-0 deficit and provided South Point with the edge for its fourth win of the season against one loss. The defeat was the third against two wins for the Green Wave.

Witzke's booming soccer-type kicks more than erased the only touchdown of the game, a 22-yard burst by Ashbrook's Ray Rainey late in the second quarter.

The touchdown capped Ashbrook's only serious threat of a game in which both teams controlled the ball for long stretches and each punted only one time in the contest. Ashbrook punted once in the first half and South Point late in the game.

The only Red Raider threats were climaxed by Witzke's field goals, which came with scrimmage lines at the 11, 14 and 19-yard lines.

Witzke's first field came with one second remaining on the clock in the first half and cut the Wave's lead in half, to 6-3.

He tied the game late in the third stanza after his team drove the second-half kickoff from its own 30-yard line to the Wave. The boot came with 3:34 left in the third stanza, meaning that the Raiders had controlled the ball for eight-and-a-half minutes in the quarter.

Ashbrook, in fact, ran only three plays in the third stanza, and one of those was a fumble which handed the ball back to the Raiders and set up the winning field goal with 10:34 remaining in the game.

The Green Wave used up the bulk of the second quarter with an 86-yard, 17-play drive which netted the only touchdown of the game.

A pass interception by Mark Wornack set the drive in motion in the early moments of the second stanza, with the Wave taking over on its own 14-yard line.

Ashbrook kicked up six first downs

in the methodical surge down the field and actually had to gain an extra 15 yards, as result of three illegal procedure penalties, which pushed the distance of the drive to 101 yards.

Rainey was the workhorse of the march, carrying eight times for a net of 72 yards, capped by a 22-yard burst off the left side for the TD with 1:10 remaining in the half.

The senior halfback also had runs of 15, 12 and 11 along the route to the score. Rainey, in fact, accounted for the necessary yardage on every one of the six first downs and also registered the six-pointer.

South Point stormed back from that score for the first Witzke field goal. A 48-yard pass completion from quarterback Joe Shepherd to halfback Steve Davis carried down to the Wave 20-yard line, and after a short gain and two pass incompletions, the soccer-style kicker alarmed his first one through the uprights.

The long third period surge and the

fumble recovery set Witzke up for the tying and winning boots.

Ashbrook made one more big threat after South Point went into the 9-6 lead. On first down from its own 22-yard line, Randy Smith broke off the right side of the line and galloped 44 yards to the South Point 34-yard line where he was overtaken by Davis from behind.

Four running plays, however, failed to produce the necessary first down, and the Raiders ate up much of the remaining time with two straight first downs. The other two Wave opportunities in the final minutes came deep in their own territory.

Rainey topped the century figure in yards gained with 2 in 19 carries. Smith had his best game of the season with 79 yards in 10 totes.

South Point had a balanced attack with Shepherd netting 49 yards, Dennis Isles and Fernandez Grier 47 each. Shepherd also completed two passes for 61 yards.



SHEPHERD ON THE MOVE—Quarterback Joe Shepherd of South Point breaks through the Ashbrook line for a gain during the Raiders' 9-6 victory over the Wave at Lineberger Stadium Friday night. Shepherd led the Raiders in yards gained with 49 in 16 carries, but it was soccer-style kicker Karl Witzke who

booted the Wave with three field goals for the victory margin. In the above picture, Kenny Champion (63) of the Raiders moves in on the play and Sherman Mason (60) of Ashbrook gives chase. (Gazette photo by Tom Reed)

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

Sports

10-A—Sat., Oct. 2, 1976

Huskies destroy North Gaston

BY DWIGHT FRADY
Gazette Sports Writer

Records and raindrops fell at Hunter Huss Stadium Friday night as the unbeaten Hunter Huss Huskies turned North Gaston of the Southwestern 3-A Conference every way but loose in a 62-0 romp.

It was the most points ever scored by a Huskie football team, eclipsing the 45 points scored last season at Huss in a 45-0 win over Asheville.

The Huskies scored a record nine touchdowns in a game which started 30 minutes late because the city of

Gastonia had to come and turn the lights on.

Almost as soon as the game started, the lights went out for the winless Wildcats, who have scored only 18 points in five games while surrendering 173.

The point-happy Huskies, on a school record nine-game winning streak and 14 wins in their last 15 games, have scored 94 points in the past two weeks alone as Coach Don Saine's Western 4-A Conference powerhouse continued to coast.

The Huskies ran up 27 points in the

second quarter to hold a commanding 34-0 halftime lead. After Robert Gilmore returned the second half kickoff back 86 yards for a 41-0 lead, Saine put in end Peanut Parks at quarterback and used his second team backfield the rest of the way.

Starting quarterback Ricky Postell had his best night passing, Postell, filling in for the injured Lee Mincey at that position, completed four of five passes for 102 yards. He threw three touchdown passes.

The Huskies, taking advantage of numerous Wildcat turnovers, piled up

256 yards rushing. The normal leaders, Arnold Floyd, Greg Floyd and Gilmore, did all of their gaining in the first half.

It was the second unit which piled up the yardage. Tommy Quick gained 47 yards in six carries, while Thomas Davis picked up 51 yards in only three carries and Wayne Dale 45 yards in five carries.

North Gaston didn't threaten until the final minutes of the game. The 'Cats got as far as the Huskie five before finally being halted at the seven as the gun sounded. Dennis

Neely's 41-yard run against the Huskie reserves gave the 'Cats their only scoring opportunity. Neely finished as the game's top ground gainer with 83 yards in 11 carries.

The Wildcats had only 94 yards rushing, and most of them came in the fourth quarter drive from their 25 to the Huskie five.

Tackle Melvin Brice set up the first Huskie touchdown on the first scrimmage play of the game when North Gaston's Neely fumbled and Brice recovered at the Cat 22.

Arnold Floyd scored the first of his two touchdowns from one yard out, and Mincey booted the first of his eight successful extra points.

North Gaston, which lost six fumbles, lost another at its 39 when defensive back Richard Foy made the first of his two fumble recoveries as Bobby Lutz coughed up the football.

Postell ran in from nine yards out on a bootleg play as Huss moved the 39 yards in nine plays after just a minute and seven seconds had elapsed in the second quarter.

Greg Alger's recovery of another Lutz fumble gave Huss another opportunity, but after two first downs, an 11-yard loss by Postell forced Parks to punt to the NG seven.

It set up the third score. Gilmore returned Don Brice's punt from the



STATISTICS	
Ashbrook	SP
First Downs	9 14
Net Yards Rushing	204 158
Passes	6-3 2-7
Passing Yardage	0 61
Passes Intercepted by	1 0
Fumbles Lost	2 0
Punts	1-31 1-31
Yards Penalized	35 40
SCORE BY QUARTERS	
TEAMS	2 3 4 T
Ashbrook	0 6 0 0 6
South Point	0 3 3 3 9
SCORING SUMMARY	
Ashbrook—Rainey, 22 yard run (kick failed)	
SP—Witzke, 32 yard field goal	
SP—Witzke, 31 yard field goal	
SP—Witzke, 36 yard field goal	
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
ASHBROOK	
RUSHING—Rainey 18-102; Smith 10-79; Higgins 6-24; McCurry 4 for minus 1; Totals 204	
PASSING—McCurry 6-3-0	
SOUTH POINT	
RUSHING—Shepherd 16-49; Isles 13-47; Grier 12-47; Davis 6-14; Painter 1-1; Totals 158	
PASSING—Shepherd 2-7-63 yards	
RECEIVING—Davis 1-48 yards; Clubb 1-13	