

# Painter, SP put blast on North Gaston, 55-0

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South Point's Red Raiders appear to be picking up momentum as the Southwestern 3-A Conference football race heads into its final three crucial weeks of play.

The Big Red blitzed North Gaston's Wildcats for four first quarter touchdowns Friday night at North Gaston Stadium and went on to rout the Wildcats, 55-0.

In a so-called rebuilding year, Coach Jim Biggerstaff's Big Red team has already won one more game than in '75, and it is currently

embroiled in a four-way tie for first place.

The Big Red is 5-1 in SWC play and 6-1 overall, the non-conference win coming over Ashbrook. Previously unbeaten Kings Mountain was felled by Shelby Friday night at Shelby, 20-0, which means that Kings Mountain, South Point, Shelby, and Chase are all tied for the number one position with 5-1 marks.

The Raiders entertain Kings Mountain in a big game at Lineberger Stadium next Friday.

South Point had many standouts against the 'Cats Friday, but the biggest red star who shined the

brightest was 170-pound halfback Mitch Painter, who took over the backfield position vacated when junior Steve Davis was injured against Ashbrook.

Painter made SP fans forget Davis and put himself on their memory list. Although Dennis Isles was the game's leading rusher with 97 yards in 12 carries while seeing limited action, Painter picked up 66 yards in eight carries, scored on a 14-yard run for SP's second touchdown, intercepted two North Gaston passes from his linebacking position, and recovered a 'Cat fumble.

The home team had little to cheer about after the opening kickoff when the Big Red marched 43 yards in seven plays after Fernandez Grier had returned the ball from the SP 10 to the 'Cat 43. Quarterback Joe Shepherd went over from the five at the 8:27 mark and the first of Karl Witzke's five successful kicks made it 7-0.

After driving 50 yards in just three plays to score again at the 5:54 mark with Painter running the final 14 yards, Grier broke the game open when he returned a Wildcat punt 75 yards to paydirt.

Painter's pass interception gave SP a good shot at the 'Cat 12 when he returned the interception from the 'Cat 40. After a penalty put the ball on the 16, Shepherd hit Jerry Clubb in the end zone among two 'Cat defenders at the 1:59 mark and Isles ran the two-point conversion for a 28-0 SP lead.

Painter's fumble recovery at the 'Cat 20 enabled the Raiders to score in two plays early in the second quarter, with Isles going over from the six.

Biggerstaff used his second team from the 11:36 mark on, with the Raiders holding a 35-0 lead. The Raiders marched 62 yards in 10 plays the first time they had the ball in the third quarter, with Grier going over from the three at the 5:13 mark.

North Gaston moved from its 32 to the Raider 10 for its longest march of the night, but on a fourth down and seven play, that man Painter was on the scene again, intercepting Greg Russell's pass at the 'Cat six-yard line and returning it to the NG 43. On the first play of the fourth quarter, Shepherd hit Rick Lawing with a three-yard scoring pass, making it 48-0.

The final Red Raider touchdown came on a short 27-yard drive following a 15-yard penalty against the 'Cats for interfering with the receiver on a punt, and sophomore quarterback Robbie Suggs pushed in from the two at the 8:20 mark.

The 'Cats moved from their 47 to the Raider 12, but a fourth down pass was intercepted by Randy Moss in the end zone.

SP completely dominated the game, handing the 'Cats their worst defeat in their four meetings. The Big Red had 251 yards rushing and 70 more passing for 321 yards total offense. NG had only 31 yards rushing and 93 passing.

## Chase scores 37-15 win over Ironmen

**CHERRYVILLE** — Cherryville scored first in each half Friday night but visiting Chase put 37 points on the board to claim a 37-15 Southwest Conference victory off host Cherryville.

Chase now 4-1 in the SWC and involved in a four way tie for first place, rolled up 22 first downs, 308 yards rushing, and added 101 yards in the air.

With the game only two minutes old Steve Buff returned a Trojan punt 65 yards for the TD. Tim Abernathy's kick made it 7-0 but that only served to stur up the Trojans, the Southwest Conference top offensive machine. With 3:19 to play, Keith Crenshaw dashed 76 yards to score and Tony Green tied it with his placement. A moment later Sidney Lipscomb scooped up a loose ball and rambled 25 yards for a tally. Green's kick was again good.

With 6:36 remaining in the first half, Tony Green went over from the two for another Trojan marker, and he converted. Just before the halftime whistle, Cherryville quarterback John Devine was trapped in the end

zone for a safety.

With 5:39 to go in the third period, Buff threw 18 yards to Devine. Wayne Patterson tallied the two pointer, but the victorious Chase outfit, after threatening three times in the third quarter without a score, hit the boards for 14 points in the fourth quarter for the 37-15 final.

Cherryville is now 3-4 overall and 2-4 in the SWC.

STATISTICS		Chase
First Downs	.....Cherry	31
Net Yards Rushing	.....	308
Passes	.....4-12	6-10
Passing Yardage	.....42	101
Passes Intercepted by	.....1	3
Fumbles Lost	.....2	1
Punts	.....38	31.2
Yards Penalized	.....14	80
SCORE BY QUARTERS		
TEAMS	.....1 2 3 4 T	
Cherryville	.....7 0 8 0	-15
Chase	.....14 9 0 14	-37
SCORING SUMMARY		
Cherryville-Buss - 65 yard punt return (Abernathy kick)		
Chase-Crenshaw - 76 yard run. (Green kick)		
Chase-Lipscomb 25 yard with recovered fumble (Green kick)		
Chase-Green - 2 yard run (Green kick)		
Chase-Devine tackled for safety.		
Cherryville-Devine-18 yard pass from Buss (Patterson run)		
Chase-Owens recovered fumbles in end zone (Green kick)		
Chase-T. Green - 9 yard pass from Stroud (T. Green kick)		

## East Gaston wins over Burns, 27-6

East Gaston broke away for all four of its touchdowns before Burns could scratch and defeat the visitors, 27-6, in a Southwest 3-A conference game at the Warriors' field Friday night.

Richard Dill put the Warriors on the board in the first quarter with a 45-yard scamper for a touchdown and Coyte Patterson kicked the first of three extra points.

Ricky McDowell added another

STATISTICS		Burns	EG
First Downs	.....	10	12
Net Yards Rushing	.....	155	292
Passes	.....3-13	5-14	
Passing Yardage	.....59	180	
Passes Intercepted by	.....2	1	
Fumbles Lost	.....2	1	
Punts	.....3-30	3-25	
Yards Penalized	.....34	105	
SCORE BY QUARTERS			
TEAMS	.....1 2 3 4 T		
Burns	.....0 0 0 6	-6	
East Gaston	.....7 14 6 0	-27	

**SCORING SUMMARY**  
EG-Richard Dill, 46 run, (Patterson kick)  
EG-Ricky McDowell, 4 run, (Patterson kick)  
EG-Tommy Crisp, 9 pass from Grant Hoffman (Patterson kick)  
EG-Coyte, 21 pass from Hoffman (kick failed)  
Burns-Curst, 1 run (kick failed)

score on a run and Tommy Crisp hauled in a pass from Grant Hoffman for two more tallies in the second period. The same passing combination teamed-up for another TD in the third stanza.

The victory squared East Gaston's record in the conference at 3-3 and lifted its overall mark to 3-4 on the season.

## Cherryville has alumni contest

Cherryville High School alumni will stage their third annual "odd vs even" football game at Rudisill Stadium Saturday at 8 p.m.

Players who graduated in "even" years will meet a team composed of players who finished in "odd" years. Proceeds from the game will go to the school scholarship fund.

STATISTICS		SP	NG
First Downs	.....	16	8
Net Yards Rushing	.....	251	31
Passes	.....4-7	5-12	
Passing Yardage	.....70	93	
Fumbles Lost	.....2	1	
Punts	.....4-30	7-34	
Yards Penalized	.....25	35	
SCORE BY QUARTERS			
TEAM	.....1 2 3 4 T		
South Point	.....38 7 6 14	-65	
North Gaston	.....0 0 0 0	-0	
SCORING SUMMARY			
South Point-Shepherd, 5-yard run (Witzke kick)			
South Point-Painter, 14-yard run (Witzke kick)			
South Point-Grier, 5-yard run (kick failed)			
South Point-Clubb, 16-yard run (Isles, pass from Shepherd)			
South Point-Isles, 6-yard run (Witzke kick)			
South Point-Grier, 5-yard run (kick failed)			
South Point-Lawing, 3-yard pass from (Witzke kick)			
South Point-Suggs, 3-yard run (Witzke kick)			