

Davis leads Raiders over Wave

By DWIGHT FRY
Gazette Sports Writer

Steve Davis is apparently going to make up for lost time.

The 175-pound South Point Red Raider senior scored three touchdowns and gained 141 yards rushing in 20 carries Friday night at Lineberger Stadium as South Point came back from a 7-0 halftime deficit to hand the Ashbrook Green Wave their second straight defeat, 28-7.

Davis, who had to sit out his sophomore season after transferring from the Ashbrook school district, played only half of last season before being injured in the fifth game against Ashbrook.

He was a blur, particularly in the second half, before over 5,000 fans Friday night in Belmont.

It was Davis who had fumbled the ball away during South Point's first possession. The Red Raiders of Coach Jim Biggerstaff had driven for three straight first downs after a Steve Harris punt, and had had first and goal to go on the Ashbrook two-yard line. The drive had begun on the SP 38.

Davis fumbled, with Ashbrook's David Dreher recovering on the Green Wave three-yard line.

On the last play of the first quarter, South Point quarterback and punter Joe Shepherd booted the ball dead on the Ashbrook 17.

After quarterback Mike McCurry was dropped for a yard loss on the first play, halfback Reggie Hoyle of the Green Wave broke loose on an 84-yard scoring run down the far sidelines in front of the Green Wave fans.

Hoyle broke a tackle about five yards from the line of scrimmage and was long gone. The 155-pound senior wasn't touched once he got past the Ashbrook 20-yard line. Tim Ballard's conversion gave the Green Wave, who had lost to Chase in their opener last Friday, 32-14, a 7-0 lead.

The Red Raiders came right back, moving from



their 29-yard line on four straight first downs to the Green Wave 20.

The Green Wave rose up and held, however, stopping the Red Raiders on the 13.

The second half was a different story entirely. Davis, who had gained 57 yards in the first half in 12 carries, riddled the Green Wave line off right tackle.

On South Point's third possession in the third quarter, Davis dashed off tackle on the second play from scrimmage from 45 yards out, making a fancy turn-around move to elude an Ashbrook defender at the 10. The first of Tommy Bain's four extra points from placement tied the game at 7-7 with 3:50 remaining in the third quarter.

Linebacker Mitch Painter, outstanding on defense all night for the Big Red, set up the go-ahead touchdown for the Red Raiders.

Painter intercepted McCurry's pass at the Ashbrook

28 and returned it to the 20.

After fullback Fernandez Grier, who had an outstanding night in the second half, gained three yards, Davis again broke loose on a 17-yard scoring run with 1:24 remaining in the third period. Bain's conversion was true again, despite a five-yard penalty against the Red Raiders for being off-side.

In the fourth quarter, Ashbrook's Mark Womack got loose on a 33-yard run to the South Point 47, but the Green Wave was penalized 15 yards on the play in a dead-ball foul.

A fourth down McCurry pass fell incomplete, with South Point taking over on its own 41 following a short Harris punt.

Grier was the big man in South Point's 59-yard touchdown drive. In that series of plays, he shook loose for one 16-yard run and two more for 12-yard gains.

Grier's last 12-yard run gave the Big Red of the

Southwestern 3-A Conference a first and goal on the Ashbrook eight.

Four plays later, Davis went over from the one at the 3:06 mark to put the game out of Ashbrook's reach.

Ashbrook failed to move the ball in four downs after the third South Point touchdown. The Red Raiders took over on the Ashbrook 20 on downs. Two plays later, junior halfback Rodney Friday broke loose on a 16-yard scoring scamper.

South Point completely dominated the second half.

Ashbrook defensive back Arttruer Wilson was injured early in the game when he was blocked hard on the sidelines on a 16-yard scamper by Davis.

The Red Raiders, who won their first opening game since the '74 season, played without the services of two starters.

Starting tackle Darryl Russell and defensive back Graylyn Faulkenberry were both out of the lineup with injuries.

Behind Davis' 141 yards rushing, Grier picked up 83 yards in 12 carries for South Point. South Point, which had only 73 yards rushing at the half to 106 for Ashbrook, finished the game with 246 yards rushing.

The Green Wave had 156 yards rushing, with Hoyle the leading ground-gainer with 97 yards in six carries. Womack picked up 49 yards in eight carries.

McCurry failed to complete a pass in eight attempts, although three of his passes were dropped by Ashbrook receivers.

Shepherd passed only six times, all in the first half, for 25 yards on three completions.

Next week, Ashbrook will play its first game in its brand new stadium. They meet another Southwestern 3-A Conference power, Kings Mountain.

South Point will open its Southwestern 3-A Conference season on the road next Friday night in Forest City against East Rutherford, which opened its season last week with a 14-7 win over McDowell County.



CHASING A QUARTERBACK—South Point's Johnny Fitch (86) goes after Ashbrook quarterback Mike McCurry (14) during the South Point-Ashbrook game Friday night at Lineberger Stadium before over 5,000 fans. The Red

Raiders, behind the three-touchdown performance of Steve Davis, overcame a 7-0 halftime deficit to defeat the Green Wave, 28-7. (Gazette photo by Jeff Ashe)

Shelby hands Huskies loss

By RICHARD SOWERS
Gazette Sports Editor

SHELBY — All good things must come to an end.

Unfortunately for the Hunter Huskies Friday night, the celebration of the end of a 21-year era by the Shelby Golden Lions was more comforting for Shelby fans than the end of Huss' 14-game regular-season victory streak, as Shelby posted a 21-9 victory over the Huskies at George Blanton Memorial Stadium here.

Shelby Coach Jim Taylor's debut was a happy one, but he received a handy assist at halftime from the Golden Lion fans, who presented a new automobile to Gerald "Pearly" Allen, who announced after winning his fourth Western North Carolina High School Activities Association championship a year ago that he was ending his coaching career with a 175-69-17 record, with many of those victories coming over Gaston County opponents.

After the emotional ceremony, the fired-up Lions quickly hammered the nails in the coffin of the Huskies' 14-game regular-season winning streak, the longest among 4-A schools in the Tar Heel State.

Allen Burris, a 160-pound fullback who ripped his way through the Huskie defense for 133 yards on the ground in but 13 carries, raced to paydirt from 65 yards away with only 1:04 expired off of the third-quarter clock to give the Lions a com-

scoring drive. Webber scampered around left end for the final 11 yards with 2:36 remaining in the first period, giving Shelby the lead exactly four minutes after the Huskie three-pointer.

The Huskies got a couple of breaks on their next possession, but they could not score.

Wayne Miller was forced to punt, and after a bad snap, he luckily got the kick away despite a hard Shelby rush, and Shelby's Lester Jamerson fumbled the kick, and Huss's David Deal recovered at the Shelby seven to give Huss a golden opportunity early in the second quarter.

An offensive holding penalty helped push the Huskies back to the 28, but Deal made a circus catch of Postell's 21-yard pass on third down to give Huss a fourth and goal — the seven. Webber then intercepted Postell's fourth-down toss to stop the drive.

After Burris's TD, which came on the second play of a 70-yard drive early in the third quarter, Postell led the Huskies on their finest drive of the night.

The Huskies covered 80 yards in only eight plays, with senior fullback Raynard Moore crashing over from the line and Deal scoring for the score.

The key to the drive was a 56-yard toss from Postell to Deal, one of Deal's three catches for 81 yards.

Postell completed six of 13 passes for 116 yards, and several of his tosses were dropped.

Football

High school

SCORE BY QUARTERS

TEAMS	1	2	3	4	T
Ashbrook	0	7	0	0	7
South Point	0	0	14	14	28

SCORING SUMMARY

Ashbrook — Hoyle, 84-yard run (Ballard kick)

South Point — Davis, 45-yard run (Bain kick)

South Point — Davis, 17-yard run (Bain kick)

South Point — Davis, 1-yard run (Bain kick)

South Point — Friday, 16-yard run (Bain kick)

STATISTICS

	Ashbrook	South Point
First Downs	5	14
Net Yards Rushing	156	246
Passes	0-8	3-6
Passing Yardage	0	25
Passes Intercepted By	1	1
Fumbles Lost	2	1
Punts	8-29	4-35
Yards Penalized	35	35

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing

Ashbrook: Hoyle, 6-87; Wornack, 8-49; Dreher, 9-21; Johnson, 4-3; Harris, 1-2; Wilson, 1-for-minus 1; McCurry, 3-for-minus-12.

South Point: Davis, 20-141; Grier, 12-63; Shepherd, 6-20; Friday, 6-16; Fewell, 1-for-minus-4.

Passing

Ashbrook: McCurry, 0-8 for 0.

South Point: Shepherd, 3-6 for 25.

Receiving

Ashbrook: No receptions.

South Point: Clubb, 2-18; Friday, 1-7