South Point remains unbeaten with 33-0 win

By David Poole

SHELBY — South Point's Red Raiders brought Crest's domination of the Southwestern 3-A Conference to a screeching halt Friday night with a 33-0 blowout victory over the Chargers.

Crest had won the SWC title in each of the last four seasons, a streak that began after South Point's state championship team finished first in 1979.

Technically, Crest could still salvage a share of the league title even though the Raiders' victory Friday ended its hopes for a Division I playoff berth.

But in order for that to happen, South Point would have to lose both of its final two SWC games. And after seeing how the Raiders destroyed Crest, the chances of that don't look too good.

South Point's record is now 7-0 in the SWC and 8-0 overall. A win in either next week's home game against East Ruther-

ford or the next week against Chase gives South Point the SWC title.

The Raiders were ranked fourth among the state's 3-A schools last week.

Biggerstaff was ecstatic after the win, comparing it to the feelings he last enjoyed in the 1979 season.

"This team tonight was in playoff form and is as good right now as the 1979 state title team," Biggerstaff said. "I'm extremely, and I emphasize extremely, proud of this football team."

Friday night's win came behind a tough defense, a big play attack and the considerable talents of the Red Raiders' backfield.

Leading the way once again was quarterback Mark Young, who rushed for 122 yards, passed for 63 yards, scored two touchdowns and threw for another.

Tailback Tonja Watson had 69 yards rushing and scored on a 75-yard punt return to start the scoring. Fullback Chris Wooten added a touchdown and had 48 yards on the ground.

The Raider defense intercepted three passes and hopped on three Crest fumbles to keep the Chargers off the board and set up their own scoring opportunities.

"Our defense did an outstanding job," Biggerstaff said. "We really held them in check. "Everybody played well tonight. The defense was super after such a poor showing last week."

South Point jumped on the Chargers early, moving inside Crest territory on its first possession.

That drive stalled when a fake punt pass fell incomplete, but the Raider defense held and forced a punt.

Watson took Maurice Haynes' kick on his 25, went to the right sideline and then cut back about 20 yards downfield. It was off to the races, and nobody could catch Watson.

Mike Dudko's extra point made it 7-0 with 5:22 left in the first quarter.

Crest threatened as the first quarter

ended, but a halfback option pass on fourth-and-seven from the Raider 25 was broken up nicely by Chip Wilson.

South Point took over and four plays later Young set off on his weekly long touchdown run. This one came on a 59-yard dash around left end after the talented Raider quarterback did a nice reverse pivot on the option.

Dudko missed the extra point this time and, with 9:16 left in the half it was 13-0.

South Point's final score of the half was set up when James Feaster fumbled on the first play after the Chargers had taken a South Point punt.

The Red Raiders got the ball on the Crest 26 with 2:13 left in the half. Watson got four on the first play and Young hit Keith Robbins for 10 more to make it 1st and 10 on the 12.

Enter Young once again, who sprinted left on the option and coasted into the end zone for the third South Point TD of the half.

Dudko's extra point made it 20-0 with

1:21 left before the half.

One of the interceptions, this one by Steve Cornwell, got the ball back for the Raiders after Crest had taken the second half kickoff.

After a fake punt kept the ensuing drive alive near midfield, the Raiders moved into position and scored when Young hit Keith Robbins with a 10-yard scoring nass.

"The reason we threw the ball more tonight was that they were giving us the pass by stacking up against our run," Biggerstaff said.

That came with 3:58 left in the third quarter, and there was no more scoring until Wooten plunged over from the one with 1:23 left to cap a 39-yard drive.

"I told them this would probably be the last time we'll be playing Crest," Biggerstaff said. "And I also mentioned that we were humiliated here (41-13) three years ago.

"It was a sweet, sweet win."

South Point 33 Crest 0

South Point

Crest
O 0 0
SP — T. Watson 75 punt return (Dudko kick)

SP — Young 59 run (kick failed)
SP — Young Strun (Dudka kick)
SP — Robbins 10 pass from Young

SP — Robbins 10 pass from Young (pass tailed)
SP — Wooten 1 run (Dudka kick)