

Burns blasts Raiders

From staff reports

LAWNDALE -- The Burns Bulldogs left no doubt here Friday that they deserved a playoff berth in the Southwestern 3-A Conference, ending South Point's season with a convincing 34-13 victory.

The Bulldogs outscored the Raiders 27-0 in the third and fourth periods, overcoming a 13-7 deficit to take their sixth SWC win against a single setback.

The loss eliminated the Raiders, who finished at 4-3 in the league and 4-5-1 overall. Shelby will enter the playoffs as the top seed from the league, Burns the second seed, and East Rutherford number three.

"There's no doubt as to had the better team tonight," said Raider Coach Jim Biggerstaff.

"They played harder than we did. We just don't have any excuses. They dominated play after we had taken the 13-7 lead. Their fullback had hardly carried the ball this season, but tonight he as one of the differences."

Burns did an excellent job of defending South Point's leading scorer, Willie Strain. Strain, who entered the game with 17 touchdowns on the season, and well over 1,000 yards rushing, was held to just 58 yards in 20 carries.

The Bulldogs got on the board first when Chris Melton retuned a pass interception 60 yards in the second period.

South Point retaliated for a 7-7 halftime score when Chris Medlin hooked up on a 60-yard scoring bomb to Jamie Boyd.

Boyd scored his second touchdown on a 53-yard run in the third period, pushing South Point ahead, 13-7. But the Bulldogs scored the next four touchdowns, two of them by halfback Monty Pryor.

Pryor scored on a 20-yard run and Burns held a 14-13 lead. On the ensuing line-drive kickoff, the ball hit a Raider up man and Burns recovered at the South Point 44. From that point, Burns marched in, with quarterback Tim Gilbert going over from the 1.

Burns finished its scoring as Pryor scored from 10 yards out and Gilbert, who had 207 yards passing on the night, hit Doug Merritt on a 48-yard scoring bomb.

South Point 13

Burns 34

South Point	0	7	6	0—13
Burns	0	7	13	14—34

Burns — Chris Melton 60 interception return
(Michael Turner kick)

SP — Jamie Boyd 60 pass from Chris Medlin
(Boyd kick)

SP — Boyd 53 run (kick failed)

Burns — Monty Pryor (Turner kick)

Burns — Tim Gilbert 1 run (run failed)

Burns — Pryor 10 run (Turner kick)

Burns — Davy Merritt 48 pass from Gilbert
(Turner kick)