

Missed conversion fells Raiders

By Mike Cearley

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BELMONT — No playoffs, not even a winning season was on the line Friday night at Lineberger Stadium — a rarity when old rivals South Point and Shelby meet.

The two teams played like there was no tomorrow anyway. And it was Shelby that came away with the hard-fought victory, 17-16 over the Red Raiders.

South Point coach Phil Tate, in a crucial call, decided to try for two points after T.O. Wilson scored on a 1-yard dive with 6:47 left in the game.

Wilson was stopped dead on the goal line and the Golden Lions held on for their one-point

win.

"What we came here to do was win," said Tate. "If we had that situation 1,000 times more, we would do the same thing. I wasn't real sure that we could stop Shelby, so we had to go for the win."

But the Red Raider defense did stop Shelby after the Golden Lions charged to the South Point 45. Moe Crawford, who rushed for 66 yards on offense to eclipse the 1,000-yard barrier for the season, blocked a Shelby punt which the Raiders recovered at the Shelby 37.

After Crawford ran for two first downs, the Lion defense stiffened. Facing a fourth-and-9 at the Shelby 24, South Point quar-

terback Hunter Armstrong was brought down just short of the 20.

"The blocked punt gave us a chance, we just couldn't move the ball," said Tate.

South Point (1-6, 2-8) scored first in a mistake-filled first half. After Shelby's Johnny Brooks fumbled at his 22, the Red Raiders set up a 32-yard field goal by Ryan Werner which came at the 4:32 mark of the first period.

Shelby (2-5, 4-6) tied the game when Brent Pasco booted a 26-yard field goal early in the second quarter.

Crawford ignited the South Point crowd when he nearly broke the ensuing kickoff. Crawford ran through the Shelby cov-

erage, scooting 65 yards to the Shelby 31, but he fumbled after being tackled from behind.

The Lions powered the ball straight ahead, scoring after 11 plays when Brooks blasted in from the 1.

Pasco's conversion made the score 10-3 Shelby and that's the way it stood at halftime.

The Raiders tied the game on their first possession of the second half. Crawford bounced off several tacklers for a 5-yard score, capping a 43-yard drive. Werner's kick knotted the score at 10.

It took Shelby only four plays to regain the advantage. The Lions moved 60 yards before Brooks bowled over from the 6.

A — Carl Ruff 3 run (Hux kick)

Shelby 17

South Point 16

Shelby	0	10	7	0	—	17
South Point	3	0	7	6	—	16

SP — Ryan Werner 32 field goal

Sh — Brent Pasco 26 field goal

Sh — Johnny Brooks 1 run (Pasco kick)

SP — Moe Crawford 5 run (Werner kick)

Sh — Brooks 6 run (Pasco kick)

SP — T.O. Wilson 1 run (run failed)

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