

Armstrong, Raiders bounce Enka

By Dean Lowman
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BELMONT — Enka took away South Point's big gun Friday night. But the Jets didn't count on the Red Raiders' hidden weapon.

Quarterback Shannon Armstrong, the Red Raiders' second-leading rusher this season, ran for three scores and threw for another, guiding South Point to a 41-0 romp over visiting Enka in the first round of the state 3-A football playoffs.

"They took Courtney (Williams) away from us," said South Point coach Phil

Tate. "But they can't take it all, I guess, unless they're Alabama or somebody like that."

The Red Raiders (10-1) travel to Canton Pisgah, a 22-7 win over Burns, next Friday. Enka ends its season at 9-3.

Armstrong, who finished with 150 yards on 11 carries, did most of his damage in the first half, going around the left side on the quarterback option twice for scores, first from 52 yards, then from 74.

Moments before the second score, the Red Raiders had their only disappointment on the night.

Kicker and wide receiver Kirk Crawford broke his right leg just above the

ankle when he landed awkwardly after colliding with Enka's Brandon Holloway, who had just dropped an apparent 49-yard TD pass from Jamie Ball.

The Jets, who came no closer than South Point's 23 the rest of the game, were forced to punt following the incomplection, with Armstrong's second TD coming four plays later.

In between, Williams scored on an 8-yard jaunt. He finished with 63 yards on 17 carries, less than half his 140-yard per game average.

"Armstrong was the best player we've seen all year. Obviously, he was the dif-

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OTHER GAMES



- ▶ **Tuscola 21, Ashbrook 14**
Mounties score with 18 seconds left./8C
- ▶ **W. Charlotte 53, Huss 0**
Benny Council: 197 aerial yards./8C
- ▶ **Shelby 10, E. Lincoln 7**
Omar Roberts: 127 yards rushing./8C
- ▶ **Lincolnton 41, Owen 15**
Anwar Wyatt: 321 all-purpose yards./8C

RAIDERS

FROM 1C

ference," said Enka coach Jeff Conner. "Armstrong put us in the hole early and then, it just snowballed."

Snowballed, and got uglier by the minute.

The Jets grew more and more frustrated as the game went on, getting called three times for 15-yard penalties in the third quarter. One of those was an unsportsmanlike conduct call against quarterback Jamie Bell, who was ejected when he pushed the referee after knocking Williams out of bounds.

"That was the dirtiest, cheapest, most renegade bunch I've ever seen," said Tate. "You don't expect that in the playoffs and you don't expect that from a 9-1 team."

The Red Raiders quickly turned the game into a rout after the ejection.

Armstrong flipped an 8-yard scoring pass to Wesley Gibson to make it 27-0 after three periods, then scored on a 6-yard dash midway through the final period. Kevin Lynch capped the scoring, returning an interception 44 yards for a touchdown.

Jeff Pflaumbaum paced Enka's offense, carrying 15 times for 106 yards, including 42 yards on a draw play in the final minute.

"Our passing game helped us out a little bit tonight," said Tate. "I think it opened up our running game."

Armstrong completed six of 8 passes for 65 yards, helping the Red Raiders rack up 325 yards of total offense.

Enka	0	0	0	0	-	0
South Point	7	13	7	14	-	41
SP— Shannon Armstrong 52 run (Kirk Crawford kick)						
SP — Courtney Williams 8 run (Crawford kick)						
SP — Armstrong 74 run (kick failed)						
SP — Wesley Gibson 8 pass from Armstrong (Williams kick)						
SP — Armstrong 6 run (Williams kick)						
SP — Kevin Lynch 44 interception return (Williams kick)						