



Craig Bell/The Gazette

South Point's Kyle Richardson (right) tries to tackle Burns' Tony Scott after Scott picked off a Red Raiders' pass in the end zone.

# Revenge burns South Point

By Andy Jasner

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FALLSTON — South Point High's 26-0 loss to Burns in the second round of the N.C. 3A state playoffs can be traced to two factors.

The Red Raiders (7-5) failed to capitalize on three opportunities inside the Bulldogs' 25-yard line. After that, Tony Scott took care of the rest.

Burns' senior tailback tormented South Point with 157 yards rushing and four touchdowns — runs of 3, 79, 8 and 4 yards. He was just as devastating on defense, recording three interceptions.

But Scott refused to take credit for the victory, which sent the Bulldogs (10-2) to the third round of the playoffs for the first time in school history.

"It was a team effort," said

Scott, who was recently selected to participate in the prestigious Shrine Bowl. "Coach told us we had to put pressure on them."

Did they ever.

South Point's offense sputtered at times and seemed to frustrate Courtney Williams. He rushed for a minus 19 yards on 9 carries and completed just 5 of 17 passes for 73 yards and three interceptions.

That's because Burns' defense — which recorded four sacks — pressured him all night.

The final result was a complete reversal of an earlier meeting this season when South Point shut out the Bulldogs 24-0.

"We looked at the moon and played with a mad dog's intensity," Burns coach Ron Greene said. "These kids played their hearts out. They were exhausted at the end of the game. They should be."

South Point's players and coaches were exhausted and frustrated after it accumulated just 49 yards rushing and 73 yards passing, 30 of which occurred on two fake punts.

"We just got whipped," Red Raiders coach Phil Tate said. "Our guys weren't ready to play. I wish I knew why."

On South Point's first possession in the second half, it moved the ball down to the Burns 15. But on fourth-and-7, Williams' pass sailed out of the end zone.

Scott's 8-yard TD run with 1:58 remaining in the third quarter gave the Bulldogs a commanding 19-0 advantage. He added a 4-yard touchdown run and his third interception in the final period to ice the victory.

South Point	0	0	0	0	0
Burns	7	6	6	7	26
Bur — Tony Scott 3 run (John Brooks kick)					
Bur — Scott 79 run (kick failed)					
Bur — Scott 8 run (run failed)					
Bur — Scott 4 run (Kris Brady kick)					