

SP turns over NG

By Michael Howard

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BELMONT — South Point used six North Gaston turnovers to its benefit in a 23-18 win in the Southwestern 3A opener for the both teams Friday night.

So. Point 23
No. Gaston 18

The
Red
Raiders

almost blew the Wildcats' generosity, turning the ball over five times themselves.

South Point also shook things up offensively, junking their traditional veer look in favor of a wishbone attack. Kyle Richardson was inserted at quarterback and he responded with 101 yards through the air on four completions.

"We changed the whole scheme," said Raider coach Phil Tate. "We moved it times tonight and at least we weren't going backwards like we'd been doing."

Of the 11 turnovers, one of the most important came early and seemed to give the Wildcats momentum. After North Gaston lost the ball on the first play from scrimmage, the Red Raiders moved into position to score. Richardson lost the ball when he tried to plunge over from the 1-yard line and

Cedric Hannibal recovered for the Wildcats.

South Point's Mica Tribble came up with the first of his three interceptions, but the Raiders gave it right back on a fumble recovered by Michael Fields.

North Gaston's Toren Gorden scored on the next play for a 6-0 lead with three minutes left in the first quarter.

Midway through the second period, following three turnovers on three plays, South Point took over at the Wildcat 13. Koren Robinson scored from 12 yards out to tie the game with 6:08 left in the half. The Raiders added a 29-yard Brian Ashe field goal and got another touchdown from Robinson to take a 17-6 lead at the break.

After four first-half turnovers, South Point gave the ball away just once in the second half. That fumble led to a Wildcat touchdown though as Justin Cloninger hit Keith Travis from 15 yards out at the 6:55 mark, drawing them within 17-12.

North Gaston	6	0	6	6	-18
South Point	0	17	0	6	-23

NG — Toren Gorden 4 run (kick failed)

SP — Koren Robinson 12 run (kick failed)

SP — Brian Ashe 29 FG

SP — Koren Robinson 1 run (Marcus McCollough pass from Kyle Richardson)

NG — Keith Travis 15 pass from Justin Cloninger (pass failed)

SP — Mica Tribble 7 run (pass failed)

NG — Wallace Montgomery 34 pass from Justin Cloninger (pass failed)