

South Point's hopes fade after loss to R-S Central

By Ken Bradley
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BELMONT — South Point coach John Devine knew the Red Raiders had to win their next three conference games to have a chance of being one of the Southwestern 3A's two playoff teams.

Two botched punt attempts, a fumble and some poor tackling later, the Red Raiders were on their

R-S Central	44
S. Point	18

way to a 44-18 setback to R-S Central, giving them little hope of making the playoffs.

"If you don't execute and you don't tackle, that's what happens," Devine said.

South Point dropped to 3-5 overall and 2-2 in the SW3A. The Hilltoppers improved to 4-4 overall and 2-1 in the conference.

On its homecoming night, South Point received the opening kickoff and drove to its own 49 before the Hilltoppers forced the Raiders to punt. But the snap to punter Clint McNabb rolled its way to him and McNabb was tackled by Eric Logan at South Point's 38.

Five plays later, R-S Central's Ray Miller took a reverse handoff and scampered 12 yards to give the Hilltoppers a 6-0 lead.

On the Raiders' ensuing posses-

sion, on 4th-and-10, the snap to McNabb was low again and this time the South Point punter was swarmed at his own 24.

Four plays later, Charlie Gibbon booted a 36-yard field goal to make it 9-0.

"We dug ourselves a whole," Devine said. "You just can't have two back-to-back snaps like that."

As if the two misplayed punts weren't enough, Mica Tribble fumbled the following kickoff at the South Point 40.

R-S Central quarterback Ken Hines drove the Hilltoppers to the 1-yard line and added a TD sneak up the middle to make it 16-0 with 43 seconds left in the opening quarter.

R-S Central built a 30-0 halftime lead, sending much of the homecoming crowd home after the queen was announced at the break.

The Raiders cut the lead to 30-6 on a Thurston Johnson 15-yard TD run on their first possession of the half, but the Hilltoppers answered with a 5-yard scoring run by Todd Lattimore.

R-S Central	16	14	7	7	-	44
South Point	0	0	12	6	-	18
RS — Ray Miller 12 run (kick failed)						
RS — Charlie Gibbon 36 field goal						
RS — Ken Hines 1 run (Gibbon kick)						
RS — Seth Hunt 37 pass from Hines (Gibbon kick)						
RS — Hunt 12 pass from Levar Twitty (Gibbon kick)						
SP — Thurston Johnson 15 run (run failed)						
RS — Todd Lattimore 5 run (Gibbon kick)						
SP — Johnson 17 run (run failed)						
RS — Twitty 48 run (Gibbon kick)						
SP — Koren Robinson 5 run (run failed)						