

Burns blanks Red Raiders

By Alan Ford

Special to the Gazette

LAWNDALE — It wasn't a battle of X's and O's. The word finesse was hardly mentioned.

The Burns-South Point football contest Friday night was a struggle for control of the line of scrimmage. There was no doubt who dominated in that department.

Burns rolled to a 28-0 Southwestern 3A Conference victory over the visiting Red Raiders putting themselves in solid shape to claim one of the league's two state playoff berths.

Burns sophomore Josh Brown rushed for 156 yards and two touchdowns to lead the Bulldogs to their second straight league win. The Bulldogs, now 2-1 in the SWC and 6-3 overall, visit R-S Central next week.

Burns put to rest any thoughts of an upset by the young Red Raiders — a team with only 11 seniors plus eight sophomores — by halftime. Brown capped a 60-yard scoring drive late in the first quarter by sailing around right end 44 yards for a score with 1:27 on the clock. Cline Ingle's kick made it 7-0.

Burns launched a 65-yard drive for another touchdown early in the second quarter. Chris Geter kept around left end for the final 14 yards with 7:14 on the clock for a 14-0 lead.

Burns senior defensive lineman Marickey-o Huskey, who seemingly lived in the South Point backfield all night, broke through to hit Raider quarterback Drew Devine and knock the football

loose at the five to set up another score. Brown recovered, then kept three straight plays before punching in from the one with 1:05 on the clock for a 21-0 advantage.

It grew to 28-0 after Raphael Howell intercepted a Devine throw at the Raider 20. On third down at the 14, Graham Elmore lofted a pass to the right side of the end zone to find Howell, all alone after the defensive back slid down. The touchdown catch was followed by Ingle's fourth conversion kick.

Burns posted its second shutout by turning away three Raider threats in the second half.

An interception by Jerric Williams gave South Point the football at the Bulldog 25 early in the third period. After moving to the 13, Huskey pounced on a fumble to halt the visitors.

In the fourth period South Point put together a time-consuming march to the 20. On fourth-down and five, Burns linebacker Alex Harrill tripped up Williams a yard short of the first-down marker.

On South Point's final possession, the Raiders advanced to the Burns 19, but pressure from Jason Geter on Devine forced the visitors into a fourth-and-long play at the 37. Howell then intercepted with 33 seconds left to seal the verdict.

South Point (0-3 SWC, 4-5) plays at Kings Mountain next week.

South Point	0 0 0 0 - 0
Burns	7 21-0-0 - 28
B - Josh Brown	44 run (Cline Ingle kick)
B - Chris Geter	14 run (Ingle kick)
B - Brown	1 run (Ingle kick)
B - Raphael Howell	14 pass from Graham Elmore (Ingle kick)