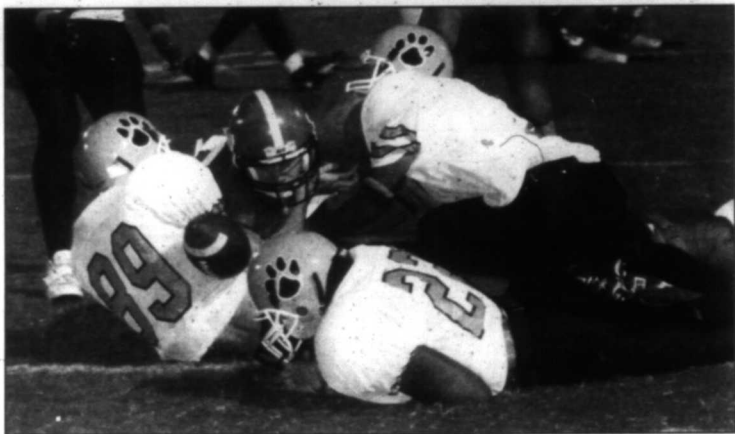


PREP FOOTBALL



Gazette photos by Andrew Russell

Hunter Huss' Brandon Guest fumbles during a kickoff return as South Point's Michael McWhirter scrambles through blockers to recover. The Red Raiders blasted the Huskies 44-7 Friday night.

Raiders topple Huskies

By RICHARD WALKER

Gazette Sports Reporter

BELMONT — South Point High quarterback Devon Lowery didn't feel like he played up to his ability in last Friday's 10-all tie at Ashbrook.

Apparently the hangover of that subpar performance carried over for one quarter this Friday night against Hunter Huss.

Unfortunately for the Huskies, it quickly wore off.

Lowery and the Red Raiders performed a complete turnaround from a lackluster first quarter against Huss before rolling to a workmanlike 44-7 victory.

"We just came out slow. That's all," said Lowery, who accounted for five touchdowns to lead South Point to the game's final 44 points. "We've got to get out of that habit because we've got our conference schedule coming up."

In what was clearly a Jekyll-Hyde performance, the Red Raiders were a dropped pass away from trailing by two touchdowns before rolling over and through their longtime county rivals.

"We got a little lucky on that pass," said South Point coach John Devine of the potential scoring pass on the second play of the second quarter when Huss led 7-0. "But, you know, sometimes I'd rather be lucky than good."

Friday night, Devine got both.

"After that play, we had the big fourth-down stand, we got some great runs out of our quarterback and running backs. Then they fumbled. Everything just started snowballing. That's the thing about this offense. There's so many options that can produce for us."

Lowery led the way with 149 yards and four touchdowns rushing and a 5-yard scoring pass. But he had plenty of help.

Tiger Williams carried the football only six times but produced 112 yards and a touchdown. Rasharde Reid picked up 97 hard-earned yards in 16 tries against a Huskies' defense designed to stop his inside running. And South Point's defense limited Huss to 170 yards of total offense, including 42 in the second half.

John Alexander and Michael McWhirter led a balanced South Point defense with five solo or first-hit tackles apiece.

Lowery said he put pressure on himself to improve the Red Raiders' usually effective option game after he had been limited to minus-17 yards in eight attempts last week against Ashbrook.

"I thought I didn't do a good job running the option against Ashbrook," Lowery said. "So I



South Point quarterback Devon Lowery scrambles for yardage Friday night against Hunter Huss. The senior signal-caller accounted for five touchdowns.

SOUTH POINT 44, HUNTER HUSS 7

had to make up for it."

He did that and much more.

Of Lowery's 16 rushing attempts, not only did four produce touchdowns, but seven resulted in first-down plays.

His most spectacular run came on a twisting, turning 36-yard touchdown run that put the Red Raiders ahead 36-7 in the middle of the third quarter. Lowery ran the option to the left side, cut around the end, then cut against the grain to outrun virtually the entire Huskies' defense down the right sideline.

Hunter Huss coach Steve Gardner was disappointed his team didn't put forth a better all-around effort.

"We've just got to put four quarters together," Gardner said.

The Huskies changed up their offense at the start by going with the versatile Curtis Hughes at quarterback.

Hughes led Huss into South Point territory on each of the Huskies' first three offensive possessions, including a nine-play, 65-yard drive that culminated with his 1-yard keeper.

But the Red Raiders started slowing Huss and Gardner inserted usual starter Bo Rhyme.

Rhyme had been slowed by a leg injury since last week and didn't practice until Wednesday.

"I thought Curtis did a good job and gave us a good look in there," Gardner said. "But I think we're a better threat with Bo back there, since he can pass. Plus, it gives us Hughes as a receiver and (Frank) Patterson and (Zach) Holmes as runners."

Patterson led Huss' offensive attack with 80 yards rushing on 16 carries. Justin Marlow topped the Huskies' defenders with seven solo or first-hit stops.

Hunter Huss	7	0	0	0	—	7
South Point	0	23	14	7	—	44

HH — Curtis Hughes 1 run (Daniel Acevedo kick)

SP — Devon Lowery 2 run

(Rasharde Reid kick)

SP — Lowery 1 run (B.J. Richmond kick)

SP — Phillip Stowe 5 pass from Lowery (Lowery run)

SP — Tiger Williams 10 run (Richmond kick)

SP — Lowery 36 run (Richmond kick)

SP — Lowery 5 run (Richmond kick)