

Raiders in a rush to get past Huss

■ South Point totals 440 yards rushing in win

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GASTONIA ¾ As long as the South Point Red Raiders are able to run the ball like they did Friday night at Hunter Huss, their quarterback shuffle is irrelevant.

South Point, led by hard-charging running back Rasharde Reid, racked up 440 rushing yards and fended off a furious Hunter Huss rally to win 34-27.

With the win, South Point improved to 3-3 and 2-0 in the Big South 3A, while the Huskies dropped to 3-3 and 0-2 in conference play.

Reid alone accounted for 262 yards on 20 carries and scored four touchdowns, taking the pressure off sophomore quarterback Corey Brown, the fourth player South Point has used at the position this season because of multiple injuries.

Flashy back Brian McWhirter ran for 87 yards and Alvin Williams covered 72.

"We've got great kids that give us great effort," South Point head coach John Devine said. "Our guys up front play hard and that opens up things for people like Rasharde."

Adam Hodge, William Henkel, Jonathan Spargo, Jesse Whitley, Jonathan Mims, Sammy Redden and Jarod Fraley opened the holes, and Reid said their play was a key element in the game.

"We had good reads on line-man. We had good traps and pulls on ends," Reid said. "The other running backs were so involved in the game that they couldn't focus on one person. We got everybody involved. That helps out a lot."

Most of the offensive production came in the first half, though, as the Red Raiders outgained Hunter Huss in total offense 301 to 143 and took a commanding 28-6 lead at intermission thanks to three scores by Reid and another by McWhirter.

Then it was the Huskies' turn to light the fireworks and make a game of it.

Frank Patterson took advantage of a South Point turnover when he reached the end zone from 3 yards out to make it 28-13. After Reid's fourth touchdown, the Huskies struck again with a 28-yard touchdown by Patterson, and John-tae Woods' two-point conversion pass to Mario White was good, making the score 34-20.

South Point's B.J. Richmond missed a 30-yard field goal attempt and the Huskies then drove 80 yards to score on a 10-yard pass by Woods to Joseph Cathcart, cutting the Red Raider advantage to a touchdown.

The Huskies tried an onside kick and nearly recovered, but South Point claimed possession and then ran out the clock for the victory.

Coaches from both teams were talking after the game

SOUTH POINT 34, HUNTER HUSS 27

about the necessity of playing well for four quarters.

"If you're going to win in this conference, you've got to play both halves, and we didn't do anything the first half," Hunter Huss coach Steve Gardner said. "I was very proud of the way they played the second half."

Devine was glad his team took a big enough lead in the first half to hold on in the end.

"Offensively, that first half was as dominant as we've been all year," Devine said. "In the second half, they made adjustments and we didn't. At this level, you've got to play 48 minutes. Twenty-four isn't enough. We played well, we just didn't have the consistency that I'd like to have for four quarters."

As if the loss wasn't enough, Hunter Huss had a host of injuries to deal with as well. Ty'Kevious Kendrick hurt his knee on the opening kickoff. The early diagnosis was a torn MCL. Center Namon Washington sprained his knee late in the second half. Lineman Lui Holland suffered an ankle injury and defensive end Matt Teague was dealing with a migraine headache. Patterson's recurring knee injury affected him some in Friday's game, Gardner said.

SP	12	16	6	0	—	34
HH	3	3	6	15	—	27

HH — Daniel Acevedo 30 FG

SP — Brian McWhirter 29 run (run failed)

SP — Rasharde Reid 56 run (run failed)

HH — Acevedo 29 FG

SP — Reid 4 run (Reid run)

SP — Reid 8 run (Reid run)

HH — Frank Patterson 3 run (run failed)

SP — Reid 65 run (Richmond kick failed)

HH — Patterson 28 run (Mario White pass from John-tae Woods)

HH — Joseph Cathcart 10 pass from Woods (Acevedo kick)

Coming Sunday

High School Weekly looks at all the stats from Friday night's games.

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