

Red Raiders show glimmer of title team

By **DEREK SMITH**
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BELMONT — In their 399th varsity football game Friday, the South Point Red Raiders showed signs of the 2003 team that won the 3A state title.

In dominating fashion, South Point crushed Hunter Huss 49-8 in front of a homecoming crowd at Lineberger Stadium in Belmont.

It might have been a new year and a new team for the Red Raiders, but the results were similar to last year's 42-6 defeat of the Huskies in route

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to the state championship.

The Red Raiders (4-1, 2-0 in the Big South 3A) used a smooth triple-option attack, a smothering defense and steady special teams to jump on the Huskies (3-2, 1-1 BS3A) quickly and shut them down.

"We came out tonight and played with a lot of emotion," South Point coach John Devine said. "It was the first time all year we came out and really set the tone early. We were

real proud of how they came out of the box."

South Point scored on three of its first four possessions, and returned a punt and an interception for touchdowns to cruise to a 35-0 halftime lead. The Red Raiders added two more touchdowns in the third quarter.

"We got it handed to us tonight," Huskies coach Steve Gardner said. "South Point is a good football team. When you win like they did last year, the guys that are playing now played half the ballgames last

year. So it's not like they don't have any experience."

A 3-yard pass from Huss' D.J. Knox to Lavonte Kendrick with 9:16 remaining was the only time the Huskies would find success against the South Point defense.

In fact, the Red Raiders held Huss to just 106 yards of total offense.

Josh Robinson helped spark the offense in the first half. The senior wingback scored two touchdowns — one on a 36-yard punt return and another on an 11-yard run.

Bryan Jennings had a solid night at fullback, rushing for 138 yards and two touchdowns.

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SP — Jordan Gilmore 4 run (Andrew Rinehardt kick)

SP — Bryan Jennings 4 run (Rinehardt kick)

SP — Josh Robinson 11 run (Rinehardt kick)

SP — Cameron McGlenn 38 interception return (Rinehardt kick)

SP — Josh Robinson 36 punt return (Rinehardt kick)

SP — Jennings 4 run (Rinehardt kick)