

Preview

Under The Radar...Over The Hump

With little opportunity to “lay the wood” to those of different colored helmets, the 2018 edition of the South Point Red Raiders will still have time to address any question marks ahead of the conference schedule that begins in early October. A scheduled home scrimmage was abbreviated due to weather conditions, and two days later the radar indicated that weather took another toll as a practice date with Hibriten was cancelled. Rain had submerged the Panthers practice field rendering the facility unfit for use. As a result, the opening home scrimmage with Statesville, South Iredell, and South Mecklenburg will count as the only chance the Red Raiders had to match up against opponents that will not be standing on the home team’s sideline during the season. South Point faces a great challenge as they need to fill skill positions affected by graduation. And loss of the on-field time could delay progress of players that will be counted on to continue the proud Red Raiders football tradition. But the program, with it’s next-man-up mentality, should be able to hit an early stride and deliver on the expectation to win. Getting over the August/September hump will be the key to a successful conference season and playoff run.

Early season matchups pit South Point against familiar opponents. Three home dates with Crest, Lincolnton, and Forestview will help the Red Raiders make the necessary physical adjustments needed for a successful seasonal run. Following those contests will be three road matchups against Clover, Stuart Cramer, and Ashbrook (with a bye thrown in). The latter, given South Point’s history and connection with those programs, should serve to solidify the team’s motivation to take charge as the conference schedule ensues. Away dates at East Gaston and East Rutherford kickoff the Southwestern 2A conference schedule. Home contests with R-S Central and Chase will follow and lead up to a visit to Shelby to end the regular season.

Many questions about the Red Raiders squad will go unanswered prior to the start of the season. Doppler radar recorded evidence of weather’s impact on players settling in to positions and honing their skills against different opponents. But getting over the early non-conference schedule hump will position the Red Raiders for the success that is expected...a conference crown and a deep playoff run.

Go Get ‘Em, Red!

Notable Facts and Thoughts

“Football is football and talent is talent. But the mindset of your team makes all the difference.”

- Robert Griffin III