

Raider mistakes costly as Crest takes 21-6 victory

By Mike Purkey

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BELMONT — South Point coach Jim Biggerstaff figures that the Raiders' 21-6 loss to Crest Friday night was a case of Murphy's Law catching his team right in the chops.

The Red Raiders committed six turnovers on the night, four in the first half. Three of the turnovers led to Crest touchdowns, staking the Chargers to a 21-0 halftime lead.

"You've heard of Murphy's Law," said Biggerstaff. "If I've ever seen it, it happened tonight. If it could go wrong, it went wrong tonight."

"You can't turn the ball over six times

to a good football team and expect to win."

The turnovers, combined with a tenacious Charger defense, served to keep the Raiders away from the end zone in the first half. South Point was limited to just 36 yards rushing and 10 yards passing in the first half.

"They have an excellent defense," Biggerstaff said of the Chargers, ranked seventh in the state among 3-A teams and still unbeaten at 8-0. "They win with their defense."

"We watched films of teams playing Crest beating themselves from pressure from the Crest defense. They are big and physical."

South Point, now 3-5, didn't generate any offense until late in the fourth quarter when an eight-play drive gave the Raiders their only touchdown, the score coming on a 31-yard run by Chris Wooten.

Wooten finished the game in a flourish, leading all rushers with 97 yards on 13 carries, 58 of which came on his last two carries of the game.

"I thought we could move the football all night," Biggerstaff said. "I really thought we were ready to play tonight. We did play well in the second half."

"I was disappointed that we didn't start to play until the second half. We just didn't block anybody. We gave them as easy touchdowns as you would ever

want to get.

The Raiders held Chris Poston, Crest's leading rusher, to 88 yards on 18 carries. Poston, who came into the game with 747 yards in seven games, had only 41 yards in the second half.

The first Raider turnover was late in the first quarter when a Mark Young pass was intercepted Crest's Terrance Littlejohn at the Charger 48.

A clipping penalty sent Crest back to its own 33, but five plays later, Chris Poston slipped up the right side for a 14-yard touchdown. Poston's score was set up by a 50-yard pass reception by Leroy Spikes from quarterback Kelly Russ to move the ball to the South Point 19.

On the ensuing kickoff, the Raiders' Steve Thompson lost the handle on the ball and was tackled at the South Point two yard line. Two plays later, Thompson was unable to find a pitch from Raider quarterback Mark Young.

Crest's Chris Greene recovered the loose ball in the end zone. Frankie Roseboro's extra point gave the Chargers a 14-0 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Yet another turnover led to the third Crest score late in the second period. Wooten fumbled at the South Point 38 and six plays later, Russ found Roseboro in the end zone on a slant pattern for the Chargers' final score.

Crest 21

South Point 6

Crest	14	7	0	0	—	21
South Point	0	0	0	6	—	6

C — Poston 14 run (Roseboro kick)

C — Greene fumble recovery in end zone
(Roseboro kick)

C — Roseboro 12 pass from Russ (Roseboro kick)

SP — Wooten 31 run (Kick failed)