

## Game Recap

### Raiders Rush to Win – Humble Huskies, 42-7

Four long years...Four...long...years. That's how long it's been that the Hunter Huss Huskies have been able to boast of handing South Point their last loss in the Big South 3A Conference. In 2016 the Huskies claimed a close 21-16 victory in a conference contest with the Red Raiders. South Point moved to the Southwestern 2A/3A Conference the following season and schedules did not allow for continued meetings. And after four...long...years, the Big Red was finally able to collect on the debt they were owed! Huss paid the hefty price as the South Point ground attack pounded the Huskies into submission. Following an unusual start that saw the Huskies break out to a 7-0 lead in a fast moving first quarter, the Raiders seized control and were never threatened in the final three quarters on their way to the rout. The message is sent to the Big South 3A. The Big Red is back!

South Point won the toss and deferred the option, giving Huss the ball to begin the game. The Huskies began play at their twenty yardline and it appeared that the tone would be set early by the Red 'D'. An incomplete pass, a one yard loss and a one yard gain made up the three and out series that would force the games first punt. Unfortunately the Red 'O' was unable to take immediate advantage. A chop block was followed by consecutive false starts to dig a deep third down hole for the Raiders. South Point did manage to gain positive yardage on a few plays of the drive but would punt the ball back to Huss as the quick moving quarter progressed. Ignited by their own defensive stop (which was more the result of South Point miscues) the Huskies embarked on a possession that would hold the ball until the big play hit. On an apparent busted play, the Huskie QB reversed his field on an option right and outran Raider defenders 32 yards for the initial score. The play ended the first quarter and Huss took the 7-0 lead into the second stanza.

A squib kick recovered at the goalline was brought out to the fifteen where South Point would begin their second drive. A handoff to RB Tyson Riley was all that was needed to get the offense in gear! Riley burst through to the Hunter Huss twenty-five yardline setting the Raiders up for the answer. Three plays later, Riley punched in from seven yards out to knot the score at 7-7 with 9:45 remaining in the half. A block in the back on the ensuing kickoff forced the Huskies into a long field situation. The Raiders defense took advantage forcing a three and out. Return Specialist Will Ross fielded the Huskie punt at the opponent's forty-five and managed the thirty-three of Huss to set up his offensive teammates. One play, a run off left tackle around a sealing block of the middle linebacker by Harrison McKinney, was all South Point needed to gain their first lead in the contest. K Charles Birtwistle drilled the PAT to put the Raiders up 14-7. The possession lasted but nine seconds and with 6:44 on the clock the Big Red was not done! South Point's defense continued their stingy play with another three and out. With the ball at their forty-nine following the Huss punt, the Raiders ran four plays to once again hit paydirt. QB Cam Medlock gained big yardage on a second down play that moved South Point to the Huss

twenty-eight. Two plays later, RB Ashton Harris took a pitch nineteen yards for the score and a 21-7 advantage for the Red Raiders. The clock read 2:58 and it seemed this would be the halftime tally, meaning South Point would have to settle for trying to extend the lead with the second half kickoff. But a run out of bounds and two incomplete passes amounted to a possession of fifty-six seconds for Huss, leaving the Raiders with enough time to mount their third straight scoring threat. From their thirty-nine, the Red 'O' drove quickly to the Huskie nine yardline. From there Riley burst through the middle for another six for South Point. Huss did nothing with the final thirty-eight seconds of the half (not to mention the entire 24 minutes of the second half) and the teams went to the intermission with South Point holding the 28-7 advantage.

With the ball to begin the third quarter, the Raiders continued to pound the Huskies. A sixty-seven yard drive to open the half culminated with a QB Medlock one yard carry to tilt the scoreboard at 35-7. Huss had no answer and even less hope! Another punt forced by a solid stand by the Red 'D' kept momentum squarely with the Raiders. Carries by RB David Howard and RB Jack Milford helped push South Point to the Huskie thirty-one. From there, Milford, with two arms around the ball in "old school" fullback style, creased the line and added 7 more for the Red Raiders. The score would account for the final 42-7 tally with a quarter left to play. And when DB Will Ross intercepted a pass to end the only real scoring threat by the Huskies, the final twelve minutes would become little more than academic.

Substitutions were the order for the fourth quarter and the Raiders backups showed equal amounts of talent while amassing valuable learning opportunities. A punt by South Point was followed by turnovers on downs by both teams to send the contest to its conclusion.

Four long years have the Red Raiders been awaiting the opportunity to avenge their last loss to a Big South 3A opponent. They did so in a mighty way with a 42-7 debt collection from the Hunter Huss Huskies. After spotting the Huskies 7 to begin the game, the Raiders reeled off 42 unanswered points to thoroughly pound the Huskies into submission. The victory kept South Point undefeated in conference play and sets the stage for a showdown with perennial power Crest next week. Hard work and a good week of practice are in order. This group of Raiders has proven capable of the challenge.

Go Get 'Em, Red!

### **Notable Facts and Thoughts**

Crest comes off a 35-16 home victory over Stuart Cramer entering the showdown with South Point next week. Both the Raiders and the Chargers are unbeaten in conference play. Something, as they say, has got to give. Who flinches?