

South Point marches to 28-8 win

By CHARLIE GRISSOM

Special to The Gazette

The South Point Red Raiders marched to their seventh victory of the

season with a 28-8 victory over the Warriors of East Gaston at East Gaston's Arrowhead Stadium Friday night.

Steve Davis got Biggerstaff's club on the board early in the first quarter with a dazzling 53-yard run down the right side line for a touchdown. The run capped a 74-yard drive as the Raiders capitalized with the opening kick-off. The score came with 9:17 remaining in the first quarter. Davis also tallied the point after touchdown, running the ball over to give South Point an 8-0 lead.

East Gaston roared right back. Ricky McDowell bulled over from the one, capping a 64-yard drive which was kept alive by two consecutive pass interference penalties against the Raiders. Quarterback Grant Hoff-

man rolled into the end zone, notching the extra point conversion and tying the score, 8-8, with 4:42 remaining in the first quarter.

Both teams had a problem with their punting game. The Warriors held the Raiders and forced them to punt. A high snap to South Point punter Mitch Painter allowed the onrushing Warriors to partially block the punt, and the East Gaston team got the ball on its own 45-yard line.

On the very next series, the Raiders held East Gaston, and forced them to punt. A high snap to the Warrior punter allowed Painter to break through and tackle the punter at the East Gaston 15.

The Raiders took advantage of the play, and six plays later, halfback

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Raiders scalp East Gaston

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Rodney Friday twisted two yards for the score. Tommy Bain kicked the point after try, and with 7:17 remaining in the first half, the Raiders led 15-8.

East Gaston took the ball on the next series and drove it to the South Point six. A strong Raider defense met the challenge, led by Painter and Fernandez Grier halted the Warrior drive at the two.

The Raiders took over at the six, and moved the ball to their own 20. With a second and eight situation, quarterback Joe Shepherd dropped back and passed to Painter, who raced 80-yards for a touchdown. Bain missed the conversion attempt, and with 2:22 remaining in the first half, the Raiders led 21-8.

The Warriors moved the ball well with the kickoff opening the second half and drove the ball to the South Point 21. An errant pitch was made to Richard Dill. It was recovered by the Raiders, killing the drive.

The final South Point touchdown came early in the fourth period. With 11:49 remaining in the game, Grier boomed over from the nine-yard line. Bain was true with his point after touchdown kick, and the final was 28-8.

South Point's record in Southwestern 3-A Conference play is now 6-0. East Gaston is now 3-3 in the conference, and 4-3 overall.



DRIVING AHEAD — Reggie Hoyle of Ashbrook lowers his head and drives into the midsection of a Freedom player in the conference game at the Wave Stadium

Friday night. Freedom rallied in the second half to defeat the Wave, 20-12, and remain unbeaten on the season. (Gazette photo by Jeff Ashe).

BY QUARTERS

| TEAMS | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | T |
|-------------|---|----|---|---|----|
| South Point | 8 | 13 | 0 | 7 | 28 |
| East Gaston | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |

SCORING SUMMARY

SP — Davis 53 run (Davis run)

EG — McDowell 1 run (Hoffman run)

SP — Friday 2 run (Bain kick)

SP — Painter 20 pass from Shepherd (kick failed)

SP — Grier 9 run (Bain kick)

STATISTICS

| | South Point | East Gaston |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| First Downs | 12 | 14 |
| Net Yards Rushing | 213 | 249 |
| Passes | 2-4 | 3-7 |
| Passing Yardage | 103 | 48 |
| Passes Intercepted By | 0 | 1 |
| Fumbles Lost | 0 | 2 |
| Punts | 1-4 | 0 |
| Yards Penalized | 70 | 115 |