

Wednesday, October 18, 1978 - THE BELMONT BANNER

EG Gets First Win Over SP

There has to be a first time!
All good things must come
to an end!

The former saying holds true for East Gaston and the latter for South Point.

Friday night before 7,000 fired up fans in Lineberger Stadium, the East Gaston Warriors won their first game over a South Point Red Raider team.

The final score was 20-15. The Warriors win keeps them in contention for the Southwest Conference title.

Chase holds the top spot with an undefeated record and will travel to Shelby Friday night to meet the Golden Lions, who are 5-1 on the campaign. A win by Shelby would throw the race into a three way tie between the Warriors, Shelby and Chase.

The Warriors wasted no time in getting on the board

Friday, scoring on their first possession after holding the Raiders on the kickoff.

South Point received the opening kick off and was forced to punt from the 38 after making one first down. Jeff William's punt rolled dead at the 16 yard line.

On the Warriors' first play from scrimmage senior halfback Richard Dill swept wide around the Raiders right flank and sped 76 yards down the side line before Jeff Williams slammed him out of bounds. A face masking penalty on the tackle cost the Raiders a half-the-distance to the goal, putting the ball at the four yard line. Four plays later sophomore quarterback Derek Spears scored from the one yard line and the Warriors were on their way to their first win in seven meetings with the Big Red. Russell Randolph

missed his only PAT attempt and EG held a 6-0 lead after one period of play.

The Raiders bounced back in the second period to go ahead 7-6 when they put together a 51 yard drive that started in the first period and ended in the TD two plays into the second period. The big play of the drive was a 35 yard halfback pass from Williams to Todd Armstrong for a first down at the 19. Williams got the six pointer on a two yard blast from the quarterback position. Graylyn Faulkenberry added the point after.

Three minutes later Scott Farmer scooped up a Williams fumble and rambled 40 yards to put the Warriors on top 13-7. Williams was hit attempting to pass and coughed up the ball.

The Raiders took the ensuing kickoff and drove down to the East Gaston four yard line where they missed a golden opportunity to go ahead.

With a first down at the 10 yard line William (Son) Reid got six to the four but a penalty for a late hit set the Raiders back to the 19. Perry Fewell lost four, then two passes fell incomplete as East took over at the 23 and from that point started a drive that resulted in its third and final TD. The big play in the drive was a pass from Spears to Randy Ferrell for 21 yards and a 47 yard keeper by Spears that gave East a first down at the three. Two plays later Spears went in for the score with 1:15 showing on the clock until halftime.

The second half was all South Point's as they controlled the line of scrimmage and put a score on the board with 1:45 left in the third period and added a two-point conversion to draw within five points at 20-15. The TD came on a two yard run by Fernandez Grier, capping a 76 yard drive that was highlighted by a 42 yard run by Williams. Williams ran the conversion.

The Raiders missed a golden opportunity to win the game with just over four minutes left in the game when

John Fitch recovered a Spears's fumble at the East Gaston 42. On the first play following the fumble Williams got 18 yards on a keeper to the left for a first down at the 24. Grier ran the ball three times for a first down at the 12.

The old fumble bug cropped up at this point as Williams muffed the snap from center and had to fall on the ball. Two running plays lost two yards and on fourth down William's pass was knocked down by Larry Isley.

The stats belong to the Raiders, but it's the score that counts.

The Raiders had 15 first downs to the Warriors 7, picked up 212 yards rushing to East 149. The Warriors

completed 3 of 5 passes for 88 yards and SP was good on 3 of 8 for 50 yards. Each team lost one fumble. South Point drew 52 yards in penalties and East Gaston 75.

The two bands put on one of the best halftime shows ever seen in Lineberger Stadium. The South Point Band saluted the senior class, not only with great music and marching, but with balloons and fireworks.