

# 'Strain gang' lifts South Point to win

By Mike Cearley  
Gazette Sports Reporter

MOUNT HOLLY — The Strain gang came calling on East Gaston's Warriors Friday night and helped the South Point Red Raiders deal a crushing blow to their hosts.

Willie Strain rushed for 165 yards and a pair of touchdowns, while his younger brother Jeff Strain carried eight times for 56 yards and a TD in South Point's 26-0 victory over its friendly rival and former assistant coach Earl Lingafeldt at Arrowhead Stadium.

While South Point's offense amassed 308 yards, a stingy Red Raider defense held the Warriors, 0-4, to 68 rushing yards and kept them off the scoreboard for the third straight game.

Even worse for the home team, Warrior senior quarterback Stonn Moore injured his left ankle after gaining 28 yards — East Gaston's longest run of the night — just before halftime.

Moore was taken for X-rays following the game with what Lingafeldt hopes is just a bad sprain.

"I don't know exactly how it (the injury) happened," said Lingafeldt. "But it happened

when he made a darn good play. He (Moore) said when he went down, he felt something pop. He couldn't stand on the ankle in the lockerroom at halftime. I just hope it's nothing but a bad sprain."

With Moore out of the game, the Warriors had to call on inexperienced sophomore Spencer Ellis. Ellis threw ten times in the second half, completing three passes for 74 yards.

But he was unable to guide the Warriors into the end zone.

"It was a tough assignment for Spencer, who has no high school experience to speak of, to step in. He did a good job and I think our future is probably with him."

But for the Red Raiders, now 1-3, the future was the present.

Willie Strain capped a 68-yard, 11-play drive in the first quarter when he bowled over from the 1. Strain kicked the extra point to give the Red Raiders a 7-0 advantage.

Quarterback Mike Young, who gained 47 yards on six keepers, completed his only pass of the night with 2:13 left before halftime. That pass fell into the hands of a diving Lyle Wilson for a six-yard scoring play.

The Warriors fired back after



Dieter Melhorn/The Gazette

## Maurice Crawford fights for yardage in South Point's win over East Gaston.

the kickoff, with Moore (who completed two of six passes for 39 yards) getting his big gainer on first down. But East Gaston fumbled on the next play and the Raiders ran out the clock.

Willie Strain added a 26-yarder in the third period, before Jeff Strain scored from eight yards in the final period to complete the Raider massacre.

"This was a big boost for us

headed into our conference schedule," said Willie Strain. "This win is very special because the teams are such close rivals, and of course, because of Earl being here."

# South Point 26

## East Gaston 0

South Point	7	6	6	7	—	26
East Gaston	0	0	0	0	—	0

SP — Willie Strain 1 run (Willie Strain kick)

SP — Lyle Wilson 6 pass from Mike Young (kick failed)

SP — W. Strain 26 run (run failed)

SP — Jeff Strain 8 run (W. Strain kick)

## Blacksburg 28