Raiders handed first loss

By Tim Brown

Gazette Correspondent

FOREST CITY — Fourth-ranked East Rutherford relied on the big play on offense and a make-themwork defensive philosophy to edge sixth-ranked South Point 28-25 in a Southwestern 3-A Conference battle Friday night.

South Point 25

The Cavaliers (2-0, 6-0) scored three times on plays of more than 50 yards to help ward off a South Point offense which outgained them (370-315), but could not outscore them.

East Rutherford's defense, while surrendering a season-high 25 points, did not allow the Red Raiders any quick-strike opportunities.

South Point scored all its touchdowns after timeconsuming drives and the clock ultimately ran out on it.

"You can't give up the home runs," South Point coach Phil Tate said. "We were back in the game twice and gave up the big play. We lost to a good

FRIDAY'S PREP SCORES

East Rutherford 28, South Point 25
Mooresville 17, Bessemer City 7
Shelby 27, Lincolnton 21
Hunter Huss 43, Independence 23
Ashbrook 41, East Gaston 7
Burns 49, North Gaston 11
Maiden 20, East Lincoln 19
Chase 24, Cherryville 0
Dutch Fork 21, Clover 14

team. I said going in the team going in would be a good football team and the team that lost would be a good football team."

The Cavaliers used a wide-open football attack to build a 21-10 halftime lead, highlighted by a Dameon Daniel 86-yard kickoff return after the Red Raiders had drawn within 14-10. East then held off

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RAIDERS

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the hard-charging Raiders in the second half.

South Point (1-1, 5-1) took the second-half kickoff and marched from its own 25, going the distance in 12 plays with Courtney

Williams shouldering most of the duty. He carried eight times in the drive, accounting for 43 vards.

Fullback Carles Pettis finished

it off with a 3-yard high-step into the end zone. Kirk Crawford's PAT drew the Raiders within 21-17 with six minutes left in the

third period and the momentum

firmly in hand. South Point East Rutherford ER - Dameon Daniel 13 run (pass failed) SP - Kirk Crawford FG 27 ER - Earl Thompson 59 pass from P.J. McEntyre (McEntyre run) SP — Carles Pettis 3 run (Crawford kick) ER - Daniel 86 kickoff return (Jonathan Fröst kick) SP - Pettis 3 run (Crawford kick) ER - Petrick Barksdale 56 run (Frost kick)

SP - Shannon Armstrong 1 run (Reggie McLean

pass from Armstrong)