Raiders pull out victory in final seconds

By Mike Cearley Gazette Correspondent

BELMONT - One play Friday night changed Reggie McLean's entire outlook on

S. Point 24 life. E. Ruther. 20

Point wide receiver caught a 37-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Courtney Williams with 10 seconds left in the game, giving the Red Raiders a

24-20 come-from-behind win over East Rutherford at Lineberger Stadium. -

"From now on, no more negative thinking," McLean said. "Now I know anything's possible."

It looked bleak for the home team as South Point faced a fourth-and-10 at its 20 with 18 seconds left. Williams kept his team's hopes alive when he completed a 43-yard sideline pass to Kyle Richardson.

Then on the next play, Williams found McLean in the end zone.

"I never focused on a football more my whole life," said McLean. "It was just a matter of pride...I couldn't let down."

The win was the fourth straight for the 4-2 Raiders, who moved to 2-0 in the Southwestern 3A conference. East Rutherford fell to 3-3 and 1-1.

The Cavaliers trailed 17-7 af-Ater Carles Pettis scored from

the 3 with 6:28 left in the game. East Rutherford picked up two quick first downs after 37- and . 44-vard completions from quarterback Darian Logan that put the Cavaliers at the South Point 13.

Three running plays later Shane Ferguson bowled over from the 1 and East Rutherford was one score away.

After stopping the Raiders on three plays, the Cavaliers got the ball back with 1:35 left in

the game. They moved 45 yards with Lewis Williams throwing 28 yards to Tyrell Withrow for the go-ahead score at the 45second mark.

Courtney Williams was set to return the ensuing kickoff for the Raiders, but stepped into the end zone when he fielded the kick.

Williams threw three incomplete passes before he found Richardson on the fourth down call.

"Talk about guts, that was a guts game," said South Point coach Phil Tate, "That was as fine a win as any South Point team has ever had, and it came against a good football team."

7 3 0 14 - 24 South Point 0 0 7 13 - 20 SP - Marcus McCullough 13 run (Courtney Williams

SP - Williams 26 FG ER - Tyrell Withrow 34 pass from Lewis Williams (Adrian Camp kick)

SP - Carles Pettis 3 run (Williams kick) ER - Shane Ferguson 1 run (Camp kick)

ER - Withrow 28 pass from Williams (kick failed) SP - Reggie McLean 37 pass from Williams (Wil-