

Red Raider rout

South Point overcomes 14-7 halftime deficit

By Mike Cearley
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BELMONT — For a half, it looked as if Forestview would be the team to knock South Point off its unbeaten perch.

The Jaguars used two big plays in the first quarter to take a 14-7 lead over the Red Raiders in their backyard at Lineberger Stadium. It was a lead that the Jaguars held at halftime, and it left the home crowd stunned.

A different South Point team emerged from the locker room at half-time, and midway

► **South Point 48**
Forestview 21

into the third quarter, the Raiders had put

three touchdowns on the board and were on their way to 48-21 victory.

It was South Point's Southwestern 3-A opener as the Raiders moved to 6-0 overall. Forestview is now 0-2 in the SWC after a 4-0 start.

The Jaguars struck quickly as quarterback Demario Crosby passed to Jerard Reid for a 84-yard scoring play on Forestview's first possession.

South Point needed just two plays to tie the game, as Jeremy Jackson scored the first of his three touchdowns on a 72-yard run.

The torrid pace continued and Forestview came right back as Mario Dye scored on a 66-yard run to put the Jaguars up by a touchdown.

South Point's offense was flat for the remainder of the half. The Raiders fumbled at the Forestview five, then another drive faltered at the Forestview 13 after a busted play on third down resulted in a three-yard loss.

The Raiders were on the Forestview 2 when time expired in the first half.



Renee Sauer/The Gazette

South Point's Michael McWhirter (40) breaks up a pass to Forestview's Jerard Reid (21) with less than a minute left in the first half Friday night at South Point High School.

Please see Raiders/5C

Raiders

Jeremy Jackson had just caught a 55-yard pass from Devin Lowery with two seconds on the clock. The Raiders were out of timeouts and were unable to call a play before the buzzer.

Ian Gibson helped turn the second-half tide in South Point's favor when he intercepted a Crosby pass at Forestview's 30-yard line early in the third quarter.

Aided by a 15-yard penalty on the Jaguars, South Point tied the game on Jeremy Jackson's 9-yard run.

Jarien Jackson gave the Raiders the lead for good when he scored from 12 yards on South Point's next possession.

"We played like we're supposed to in the second half," said South Point coach John Devine. "We tried a little too hard in the first half, and we got impatient. But at halftime, we challenged them to play like Red Raiders."

"We were a lot more aggressive on defense in the second half. It was a great defensive game."

Chris Stowe scored from 2 yards, and Jeremy Jackson returned a punt 65 yards for another score to give the Raiders a 34-14 lead.

But Forestview refused to die.

Dye caught a 42-yard pass from Crosby to set up his 13-yard run in the fourth quarter. Die finished with 142 yards rushing, and Crosby passed for 143 yards.

Jeremy Jackson ran for 127 yards for South Point, and Stowe rushed for 83.

Forestview 14 0 0 7 — 21

South Point 7 0 20 21 — 48

First quarter

Fvw — Jerard Reid 84 pass from Demario Crosby (Travis Royston kick), 8:48

SP — Jeremy Jackson 72 run (Michael Wilkinson kick), 8:08

Fvw — Mario Dye 66 run (Jonathan Hovis kick), 5:33

Third quarter

SP — Jeremy Jackson 9 run (Wilkinson kick), 10:10

SP — Jarien Jackson 12 run (Wilkinson kick), 3:42

SP — Chris Stowe 2 run (kick blocked), :58

Fourth quarter

SP — Jeremy Jackson 65 punt return (Wilkinson kick), 10:59

SP — Jarien Jackson 40 run (Wilkinson kick), 8:58

Fvw — Dye 13 run (Hovis kick), 6:22

SP — Tiger Williams 6 run (Wilkinson kick), 2:25