

Raiders, Wave roll on



Andrew Russell/The Gazette

South Point quarterback Devon Lowery hands off to Rasharde Reid during the first quarter of the Red Raiders' 43-28 win over Lincolnton Friday night. Lowery and Reid combined to score five touchdowns for South Point in their first game of the season.

Reid, Lowery key offensive outburst

By BRYAN C. HANKS
Gazette Sports Reporter

BELMONT — If nothing else was proved in South Point's season-opening 43-28 win over Lincolnton Friday night, this much was: Devon Lowery is just as good as advertised and the team assembled around him is not too shabby, either.

Lowery and his Red Raider teammates rolled up 455 yards of offense, 398 of that on the ground, on the Wolves. What made that feat impressive was the fact that Lincolnton had only surrendered 85 total yards of offense in their season-opening 7-0 loss at Concord a week ago. On Friday night, South Point almost doubled that in the first quarter alone.



Andrew Russell/The Gazette

South Point's Jeremiah Riddle washes the blood from his face after a bruising battle Friday night

Lowery and junior running back Rasharde Reid combined for five touchdowns and 307 yards of rushing. Reid scored three touchdowns and rumbled for 175 yards on only 15 carries.

Reid said he was pleased to follow in the footsteps of other highly successful Red Raider backfields.

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Green Wave rallies to hold off game Clover

By DEREK SMITH
Gazette Correspondent

GASTONIA — The Ashbrook defense, on its heels early in the game, turned up the intensity in the second half to hold off a pesky Clover team 17-14 Friday night.

The Green Wave, who trailed 14-7 at intermission, shut out the Blue Eagles over the final two quarters and scored 10 points in the final 10:50 to improve to 2-0 on the season.

A safety by Boomer Danner got Ashbrook to within five points of Clover early in the fourth quarter and a 44-yard touchdown pass from Andre Bynum to Robbie Mason with 5:35 remaining gave the Green Wave its first lead of the night. Bynum's two-point conversion was Ashbrook's final margin of victory.

"We've got a lot of playmakers on this team," Danner said. "If one doesn't get it down, another will."

But, the Green Wave defense would still have to make two stands to preserve the win.

Ashbrook held Clover on fourth down and two from the

PREP SCORES

Here are last night's scores from local matchups.

Ashbrook	17
Clover	14
North Gaston	39
Bessemer City	0
Hayesville	29
Cherryville	6
East Lincoln	39
West Lincoln	0
South Point	43
Lincolnton	28
Forestview	22
R-S Central	6
Kings Mountain	54
East Gaston	14



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Green Wave 27-yard line with 2:23 to go. The offense couldn't run out the clock and was forced to punt. The Blue Eagles sent ten players, blocking the Ashbrook punt and recovering the ball on the Green Wave 37-yard line with 1:25 left.

Clover quarterback Ronnie

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"It is a pleasure to be part of this backfield," said Reid. "I'm proud to be a Red Raider."

South Point (1-0) got off on the right foot early in the game. After being forced to punt on its first possession, the Raiders used a seven-play, 79-yard drive to punch the ball into the end zone. Lowery, the quarterback, had the honor of scoring the first touchdown of the 2000 season, calling his own number on a 46-yard touchdown run that started as a scramble.

After South Point's Drew Devine intercepted a William Lineberger pass, Reid scored the first of his three touchdowns on

a 74-yard run on an option pitch from Lowery.

"I just read the option and made the right cut," explained Reid. "I was trying to keep my legs running."

Reid's score gave South Point a 14-0 lead. Lincolnton came roaring back, though, thanks to a sustained drive by the Wolves offense. Lineberger connected on a 23-yard pass to Rafael Corella to start the drive and senior running back Robert Lynch finished the drive with a 17-yard run that pulled the Wolves to within eight at 14-6.

While South Point proved the offense hasn't slowed down a bit since the historic 12-1 1999 sea-

son, Lincolnton showed that the re-emergence of the Wolves program under new coach Scott Cloninger is under way.

"I think (Lincolnton) has a pretty good ball club," said Raider coach John Devine. "I take my hat off to Scott; he's 0-2 but he's got a good football team."

Cloninger said, "For two weeks in a row, we have given everything we have. We're playing as hard as we can but we're playing very good teams right now."

While both Lowery (16 carries for 132 yards) and Reid rushed for over 100 yards, sophomore Phillip Stowe almost joined them with 90 yards on 11 carries. Tiger Williams had 29

yards rushing and one touchdown for South Point.

L	0	14	0	14	—	28
SP	14	15	7	7	—	43

SP-Devon Lowery 46 run (B.J. Richmond kick)

SP-Rasharde Reid 74 run (Richmond kick)

L-Robert Lynch 17 run (kick failed)

SP-Lowery 6 run (Richmond kick)

SP-Reid 1 run (Phillip Stowe run)

L-Lynch 2 run (Lynch run)

SP-Tiger Williams 1 run (Richmond kick)

L-Marcus Hunter 11 pass from Bradley Clark (Hunter French kick)

SP-Reid 49 run (Richmond kick)

L-Damien Forney 100 kickoff return (French kick)