

Lowery scores five times in opening half

By BRIT FRYER

Assistant Sports Editor

BELMONT — East Gaston was hoping for a break before halftime. What it got was a back-breaking touchdown run by South Point's Devon Lowery.

Lowery scored all five of his touchdowns in the first half to lead South Point to a 55-6 victory Friday night here at Lineberger Stadium. The senior quarterback's most impressive score came nine seconds before halftime when the Warriors were looking for a little relief.

Leading 35-6, the Red Raiders (3-0-1) took over on downs at the East Gaston 46-yard line. Instead of taking a knee, Lowery threw a deep pass downfield that slipped through Drew Devine's hands.

On second down, Lowery kept the ball himself. Backpedaling, he slipped and nearly fell at the 50-yard line. He recovered and drifted right to avoid two tacklers. He then cut back inside and eluded two more defenders before breaking down the right sideline for a 46-yard scoring run.

What little momentum East Gaston (0-5) had — they scored their only touchdown with 3:59 to go in the first half — Lowery quickly took away.

"Coach (John Devine) said because they scored one before halftime then we have to score two, but there wasn't enough time," Lowery said.

Lowery also scored on touchdown runs of 8, 17, 2 and 5 yards. In all, the three-sport star had 171 yards rushing on 12 carries. He also completed his only pass, a 56-yarder to Michael McWhirter, to set up his fourth touchdown.

"Our plan was to take what they gave us," Lowery said, "and when your line blocks like the way they did tonight, I can't say enough about them, you're going to have a lot of yards and a lot of time to throw the ball in

**SOUTH POINT 55,
EAST GASTON 6**

the pocket."

Devine said it didn't matter who the Red Raiders had on the field. The result would have been the same.

"He's our trigger man," Devine said of Lowery, "but we feel we have some pretty good weapons all over the field. In the beginning, they wanted to key on (running back Rasharde) Reid and leave Devon be.

"You saw what happened. It takes a lot of people to stop our weapons."

In the second half, Lowery was just as good for the short time he was in the game. He ran for 73 yards on South Point's opening drive to set up Reid's second score.

That was Lowery's final appearance of the night.

"I think the key to the whole game was that we came out pumped up and stayed pumped up for four quarters," Lowery said. "East Gaston is not our measuring stick. In-conference games are coming up, and we need to play four quarters."

The line bright spot for East Gaston was running back Jarnard Abernathy, who ran for 105 yards. Andra Watson scored the Warriors' touchdown — a 19-yard catch from quarterback David Morrison.

South Point 28 14 6 7 — 55
East Gaston 0 6 0 0 — 6

SP — Rasharde Reid 1-yard run (B.J. Richmond PAT)

SP — Devon Lowery 8-yard run (Richmond PAT)

SP — Lowery 17-yard run (Richmond PAT)

SP — Lowery 2-yard run (Richmond PAT)

EG — Andra Watson 19-yard reception (Magnus Jahr PAT no good)

SP — Lowery 5-yard run (Richmond PAT)

SP — Lowery 46-yard run (Richmond PAT)

SP — Reid 1-yard run (Richmond PAT no good)

SP — Ian Gibson 48-yard fumble return (Richmond PAT)