

South Point can't handle No. 1 Crest

Lee leads Chargers past Raiders
in matchup of 3A powerhouses

FRIDAY'S SCOREBOARD

By RICHARD WALKER
Gazette Sports Reporter

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BOILING SPRINGS — Travis Lee was hardly a secret to college recruiters when the current high school football season started, only Lee was known as an athletic wide receiver — not as a quarterback.

After watching Lee throw for 210 yards and one touchdown in directing Crest to a 28-7 victory over South Point Friday, one of

those recruiters told Chargers coach Roy Kirby he didn't

care what position Lee played in college as long as he came to his school.

"I thought Travis Lee did a good job leading us tonight," Kirby said after Lee led Crest to a win in a matchup between two of the top 10 3A teams in North Car-

olina. "He just makes plays for us."

Lee wasn't the only one.

Montaze Thurman caught six of Lee's eight completions for 164 yards and the 13-yard pass that put Crest ahead 14-0 in the first quarter. The 164 yards in receiving is second in Crest history, trailing only University of North Carolina red-shirt senior Chesley Borders' 177-yard effort against East Forsyth in the 1996 playoffs.

Tandem Chargers' runners Travis Padgett and Martray

CREST	28
SOUTH POINT	7

No. 1 for a reason



Jeff Melter/ Special to The Gazette

South Point defensive end Joe Costner tries to drag down Crest running back Travis Padgett during Friday night's 3A showdown in Boiling Springs. Crest, ranked No. 1 in the NCCA/iHigh state 3A poll, got 210 passing yards and one touchdown from quarterback Travis Lee and won 28-7.

▼ South Point

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Littlejohn combined for 128 yards and two touchdowns. Plus, Lee helped himself as a runner, picking up a net of 13 yards and a one-yard quarterback sneak in the third quarter.

"They're tough and they're good," said South Point coach John Devine, whose team fell to 3-1 after scoring 50 or more points in its first three games.

Even in a losing effort, the Red Raiders did something no one else had done in Crest's two previous games: They scored.

South Point, which reached the Crest 15 late in the first half, ended the Chargers' defensive excellence with an impressive drive to open the second half.

Led by fullback Joe Brown, the Red Raiders went 71 yards in seven plays, capped by Brown's 12-yard scoring run with 8:25 left in the third quarter. It was Brown's 14th TD this season. He finished with 121 yards rushing.

South Point got one shot at a tying drive, but an apparent fake punt on fourth-and-one from the Red Raiders' own 24 on their next possession was aborted by an illegal procedure penalty.

After the subsequent punt, Crest pushed the lead to 21-7 on Lee's quarterback sneak with 1:12 left in the third quarter.

The Chargers put the game away on its next possession following Travis Strong's 51-yard pass interception return to the South Point 27.

After Lee's 21-yard pass to Jermaine Strong, Martray Littlejohn scored on a six-yard run and Daniel Padgett's fourth PAT ended the scoring.

"We made some good reads at the first of the second half," Devine said. "But then they came right back on us. As soon as we would do something, they would come right back at us."

However, South Point kept fighting as well.

The Red Raiders had a field goal blocked as time expired and finished with 287 yards total offense and 15 first downs to 387 yards and 15 first downs for Crest.

"They're the best team we've played so far," said Kirby, whose team was hampered by 135 yards in penalties. "There's no doubt about it. John does a terrific job and they play hard and they don't quit."

SP	0 0 7 0 — 7
C	14 0 7 7 — 28

C — Travis Padgett 17 run (Daniel Padgett kick)

C — Montaze Thurman 13 pass from Travis Lee (D. Padgett kick)

SP — Joe Brown 12 run (Andrew Rinehardt kick)

C — Lee 1 run (D. Padgett kick)

C — Martray Littlejohn 6 run (D. Padgett kick)