

Warriors put scare into rival Raiders

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MOUNT HOLLY — Any memories South Point might have had of last year's 42-0 rout of rival East Gaston were quickly erased Friday night when the Warriors jumped out to a two-touchdown lead.

But a few halftime adjustments and stern talking-to by head coach John Devine restored order in the second half as the Red Raiders avoided the upset and pulled out a 35-17 win.

The Warriors (2-3, 0-1) jumped on South Point early as halfback Jarnard Abernathy took the second play from scrimmage 70 yards for a touchdown. East Gaston scored on its next possession to go up 14-0, leaving the Red

SOUTH POINT 35
EAST GASTON 17

Raiders coach scratching his head.

"I don't know who that was in the first half," Devine said of the Raiders. "They must have been imposters."

South Point managed a touchdown late in the first half when Brandon Reid returned a punt 65 yards to the Warriors 16. Brian McWhirter capitalized with a two-yard touchdown run, and the two teams headed to the locker room with East Gaston ahead, 14-7.

But in the second half, the Red Raiders (4-1, 1-0) played inspired football and dominated on both sides of the line of scrimmage.

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South Point tied the game with a 67-yard drive to open the half, capped by an 11-yard touchdown run by quarterback Javar Williams.

After holding South Point standout running back Joe Brown to just 33 yards in the first half, Brown got loose in the final two quarters. He scored the first of his three scores on a 23-yard touchdown run early in the third quarter, and would score on runs of five and 15 yards on the Red Raiders next two possessions.

South Point wore down both the Warriors' defense and the clock.

The Raiders' second-half

performance was complete. The defense held the Warriors to just 20 yards rushing and a field goal.

"They showed me in the second half what they're capable of," Devine said.

EG 6 8 0 3 — 17

SP 0 7 14 14 — 35

EG — Jarnard Abernathy 70 run (PAT failed)

EG — Joe Pacheco 4 run (Abernathy run)

SP — Brian McWhirter 2 run (Summerville kick)

SP — Javar Williams 11 run (Summerville kick)

SP — Joe Brown 23 run (Summerville kick)

EG — Blake Stoddard 31 kick

SP — Brown 5 run (Summerville kick)

SP — Brown 15 run (Summerville kick)