South Point overcomes slow start, rolls past Berry and stays in title hunt

By MATT KLINE Gazette Correspondent

CHARLOTTE — Despite a sluggish start, the South Point Red Raiders rolled past winless Berry Academy at Cardinal Stadium Friday night, getting 145 yards and three touchdowns from Bryan Jennings to defeat the Cardinals, 47-6.

In the early stages, South Point (6-2 overall, 4-1 Big South 3A) struggled with Berry (0-9, 0-5), who came out ready to play in front of their Homecoming crowd. The Cardinals heid the Red Raiders on their first drive and forced them into a punt. But a roughing-thekicker penalty kept the ball in South Point's hands, and good teams like the Red Raiders make teams pay for mistakes.

On the second play after the penalty, quarterback Andrew Rinehart hit Josh Robinson on a slant pass and Robinson went 40 yards, giving the visitors a 6-0 lead.

Early in the second, Berry again forced a South Point punt. But, after the snap went over

Rinehart's head on the punt, the senior was able to get the punt off, which was then fumbled by Berry's Dominique Young and recovered by South Point at the Cardinal 40. Two plays later, Rinehart found Brandon Spencer on a similar pass as his first score, and Spencer rolled in from 27 yards out for the score.

After Rinehart made the score 21-0 with a 14-yard run, Jennings scored two times in the final two minutes of the half. The senior fullback, who gained 105 of his 145 yards in

the first half and is 11 yards shy of 1,000 for the season, scored from 1 yard out with 1:43 left and added a 16-yard score with 33 seconds remaining, giving South Point a comfortable 34-0 lead at the half.

"Overall, I'm pleased," Red Raider coach John Devine said. "We started slow, but we really executed well in the second quarter. Give Berry credit. They came out fired up in front of their Homecoming crowd, and I was proud of our guys for doing what was necessary to be

a little more physical and come out of here with a quality win."

SP 6 28 7 6 — 47 BA 0 0 0 6 — 6 SP — Josh Robinson 40 pass from

Andrew Rinehart (kick blocked)
SP — Brandon Spencer 27 pass
from Rinehart (Rinehart run)
SP — Rinehart 14 run (Rinehart kick)
SP — Bryan Jennings 1 run (Rinehart

SP — Jennings 16 run (Rinehart kick blocked)

SP — Jennings 14 run (Rinehart kick) SP — Jonathan Graham 1 run (kick failed)

B — Keith Adams 54 pass from Reggie Howard (pass failed)