



Photos by Benjamin Patton/The Gazette

South Point's Jordon Gilmore runs through the tackle of Forestview's Adrian Vaccaro during the Red Raiders' 34-20 win on Friday night.

Seven-Year Itch

Thanks to turnovers, penalties, Raiders get by Forestview, again

By DEREK SMITH
Gazette Correspondent

GASTONIA — Turnovers and penalties doomed Forestview's bid to end seven years of futility against South Point.

The Jaguars (3-4 overall and 1-2 in the Big South 3A/4A), now zero-for-lifetime versus their conference opponent, allowed three Red Raider touchdowns on three turnovers in the first half and were penalized nine times for 75 yards in a 33-20 loss at Joe Alala Stadium.

Two interceptions, one returned for a touchdown, and two fumbles were a recipe for disaster for the upset-minded Jaguars, who have never beaten South Point.

The Red Raiders (6-2, 3-1), meanwhile, quickly erased any bad memories left from Monday's rain-soaked loss to Ashbrook at Lineberger Stadium.

"It wasn't easy," said South Point coach John Devine. "They are a talented bunch. They made it hard and difficult for us. We challenged them this week to move the football and play Red Raider football. That's exactly what we did tonight."

South Point took advantage of Forestview's miscues and held the Jaguars to only six points in the second half to bounce back from a sub-par performance against the Green Wave.

"We created turnovers, and we're going to come in and hit you," Devine said. "That's our trademark. We talked about being physical all week."

Forestview fumbled on its first play from scrimmage, which set a bad omen for the Jaguars.

"Everything that went wrong, went wrong," said Forestview coach Scott Lee. "We turned the ball over and had too many penalties."

South Point used the short field and Jordan Gilmore's 2-yard run to take the early lead.

Forestview tied the contest on the next possession when



South Point's Thomas Davie, left, goes high to tackle Forestview's Jamie Bolton during Friday's game.

Mark Barnett connected with Perry Floyd for a 29-yard touchdown pass.

However, on the next drive, Barnett threw an interception to Gilmore, who took it into the end zone from the 39-yard line.

Forestview battled back again to tie the game at 14 with the second of three Barnett touchdown passes. This time, he found Preston Lyon streaking across the field for a 61-yard score.

A Matthew Mitchell 30-yard field goal with 2:38 left in the first half broke the deadlock.

Another Forestview fumble set up a 1-yard dive by Gilmore with 11 seconds remaining.

With the score 24-14 at the beginning of the second half, Tyler Lemons began to put the game away when he scampered 48 yards down the sideline.

Barnett and Lyon connected for a second time on an 8-yard pass play to make things a little interesting in the fourth quarter.

But Mitchell's 37-yard field goal midway through the final quarter sealed the victory for South Point.

After a slow start, South Point's rushing attack finished the game with 200 yards on the ground. Lemons led all rushers with 94 yards. Gilmore added 69.

Forestview was unable to get anything going on the ground and rushed for only 24 yards. It was Barnett's 245 yards in the air that kept the Jaguars in the contest. Lyon had a career night with six catches for 110 yards.

The Jaguars travel to Ashbrook Friday. South Point entertains Waddell.

SP	14	10	6	3-33
F	7	7	0	6-20
SP — Jordan Gilmore 2 run (Matthew Mitchell kick)				
F — Perry Floyd 29 pass from Mark Barnett (Preston Lyon kick)				
SP — Gilmore 39 interception return (Mitchell kick)				
F — Preston Lyon 61 pass from Barnett (Lyon kick)				
SP — Mitchell 30 FG				
SP — Gilmore 1 run (Mitchell kick)				
SP — Tyler Lemons 48 run (kick failed)				
F — Lyon 8 pass from Barnett (run failed)				
SP — Mitchell 37 FG				