

Raiders run wild in rain



Brad Coville/Special to The Gazette

Forestview running back Jarkeevus Alexander tries to find a hole between South Point's James Justice, right, and Tyler Coolidge in Friday's 35-0 loss.

South Point wins battle of Big South leaders on Friday

BY PHILLIP GARDNER
pgardner@gastongazette.com

BELMONT — The big one in Belmont became an ugly one.

In a battle of the Big South 3A/4A Conference's only unbeaten teams, South Point established itself as the clear front-runner, dominating its way to a 35-0 win over Forestview.

On a cool and rainy night at Lineberger Stadium, South Point rolled up 434 yards of offense against a Forestview defense that had shut out three of its last four opponents.

Fullback Aaron Crumbley rushed for 122 yards and four touchdowns, quarterback Desmond Lowery ran for 131 yards and Josh Justice added 87 yards on the ground and the other touchdown as South Point (8-1, 4-0) ran its winning streak to eight games.

"They just let us run," said Crumbley, who leads the area with 23 touchdowns. "We did what we had to do



DARIUS STEELE
HAD 1.0
TACKLES
AND A SACK
IN VICTORY

See Raiders/Page 5B ►►



Brad Coville/Special to The Gazette

Forestview's Darion Hancock dives over the top of a South Point defender Friday night to get a few extra yards. The Jaguars were able to manage only 135 yards of offense in the 35-0 loss.

▼ Raiders

continued from Page 1B
and we took what they gave us."

The Jaguars (5-3, 2-1) entered with a five-game winning streak but quickly found themselves in a hole.

South Point scored on its first two drives for a 14-0 lead early in the second quarter. The Red Raiders then found the end zone on their first three possessions of the second half to run away with it.

The wet and chilly weather resulted in a sparse and late-arriving crowd. A boisterous Forestview student section began the game chanting, "Overrated." South Point students ended it shouting, "0 and 10," referring to Forestview's record in the series.

The Red Raiders dominated the line of scrimmage with center Greg Lancaster, guards Will Gullledge and Daniel Biggerstaff, and tackles Josh Griener and Brett Walden.

South Point carried the ball 65 times, picking up 28 first downs in the process.

Backup fullback Josh Hice got in on the action, gaining 53 yards on 10 carries. Jesse McGaha picked up 40 yards

on seven carries. South Point nearly scored again late in the fourth quarter, but took four knees to expire the clock after reaching the Forestview 6.

As good as South Point's offense was, the defense might have been better.

The Red Raiders held the league's second-ranked rushing attack to 105 yards. The Jaguars managed only 135 yards total and star running back Jarkeevus Alexander picked up a mere 44 yards — 73 below his average.

"That's what we talked about all week was controlling the line, not letting them establish a running game," said senior linebacker Tyler Coolidge, who recorded eight tackles.

South Point has allowed only one touchdown in its last 22 quarters.

Darius Steele, South Point's small but aggressive defensive end, tallied a team-high 10 tackles, including a sack and a tackle for loss. James Justice added six tackles.

"I think they pursue the ball great," said Forestview coach Chris Medlin, a former South Point player. "They're physical. We couldn't ever get a big play to get

any momentum going."

Forestview came close to scoring before halftime when Jawan Taylor returned a punt to the South Point 5, but an illegal block penalty brought the ball back to the Jaguars' 28.

Seth Hazelton led Forestview's defensive effort with 10 tackles. Zeek Bigger and Menjay Melzior had seven each and Alexander six.

Forestview will try to right the ship next week at home against Ashbrook. South Point will have an open date before playing host to North Gaston on Oct. 31. After that, a regular-season finale at Crest looms.

You can reach Phillip Gardner at 704-869-1843.

Forestview 0 0 0 0 — 0
South Point 6 8 14 7 — 35

First quarter

SP—Josh Justice 7 run (kick blocked), 6:32.

Second quarter

SP—Aaron Crumbley 6 run (Crumbley run), 11:20.

Third quarter

SP—Crumbley 2 run (James Justice kick), 9:46.

SP—Crumbley 3 run (James Justice kick), 2:49.

Fourth quarter

SP—Crumbley 1 run (James Justice kick), 11:14.