

Red Raiders score early, run all over North Gaston

By Derek Smith
Gazette Correspondent

DALLAS — South Point scored 42 points in the first half and went on to crush North Gaston 63-0 on Senior Night Friday at Trudnak Stadium.

The Red Raiders (8-2, 4-1 Big South) reeled off three touchdowns on their first three possessions and added 15 points in a span of 41 seconds in the second quarter to distance themselves from the

Wildcats, who ended the 2009 season on a losing note.

"It's not the way we wanted to close out the season," said North Gaston coach Josh Clendenin. "Coach (John) Devine has a good football team. We'll be rooting for them in the playoffs. I hate this for our seniors, but we have to get ready for next year."

It probably wasn't the best of times to face South Point.

After all, the Red Raiders had two weeks to stew after losing

to Forestview on Oct. 16.

"We refocused and we re-energized and got a sense of urgency that we needed (during the bye week)," Devine said. "We had some kids ready to hit somebody tonight. Two weeks of hitting each other was the result."

Aaron Crumbley and Troy Leeper both scored twice and combined on 205 yards rushing.

Scott McWhirter, Josh Justice and Josh Hice all added

touchdowns.

South Point's defense and special teams also gave misery to North Gaston (1-10, 0-6 Big South). Lineman Carson Ginn caught Tyler Humphries in the end zone for a safety. Ramon Costner returned a kickoff 62 yards for a touchdown and linebacker Patrick Home picked off a Cameron Russell pass for a 35-yard score.

North Gaston, which scored only eight points against Big

South opponents this year, had a pair of touchdowns called back on penalties. Humphries' 98-yard kickoff return was negated on a holding call and a Humphries pass to Joseph Laye was taken off the scoreboard on an illegal shift and offensive pass interference. South Point welcomes Crest to Lineberger Stadium next week.

SP 14 28 21 0 — 63
NG 0 0 0 0 — 0
First quarter

SP — Aaron Crumbley 3 run (Joey Mitchell kick), 5:19
SP — Scott McWhirter 4 run (Mitchell kick), 14:6

Second quarter

SP — Josh Justice 12 run (Mitchell kick), 9:47
SP — Crumbley 39 run (kick failed), 4:41
SP — Safety, 4:11
SP — Ramon Costner 62 kickoff return (Mitchell kick), 4:00
SP — Patrick Home 35 interception (kick failed), 2:17

Third quarter

SP — Josh Hice 42 run (Mitchell kick), 10:10
SP — Troy Leeper 7 run (Mitchell kick)
SP — Leeper (Mitchell kick), 8:53