



John Clark/The Gazette
South Point's Mykel Davis (61) celebrates after stopping East Gaston's Dante Walker in the backfield for a loss during their game Friday night.

A solid night

Raiders set two school records in Black Friday blowout

By Phillip Gardner | pgardner@gastongazette.com

BELMONT — Despite a 2-0 start to the young season, South Point coach Mickey Lineberger didn't believe his team had played a solid four quarters yet.

He sure wasn't complaining after the Red Raiders set two school records on their way to a 78-11 thrashing of East Gaston Friday at Lineberger Stadium.

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The school-record point total ranks as the third-highest in Gaston County history behind Gastonia's 88-0 win over Bessemer City in 1937 and Highland's 82-0 defeat of Shelby in 1945.

South Point's 655 yards of total offense also set a school record and ranked third in the county behind Mount Holly's 700 yards against Bessemer City in 1967 and North Gaston's 656 against Bessemer City in 2007.

Fullback Tyler Bray was the biggest offensive star, rushing for 235 yards and three touchdowns — all in the first half on just 10 carries. Backup Trey Crenshaw added 169 yards on 11 carries.

And to think the Red Raiders did all this on a night they lost three fumbles. Of course it helped that the South Point defense forced seven turnovers — five fumbles and two interceptions, with the interceptions thrown by backup Austin Woods after Tyler Price left in the third quarter with a nagging shoulder injury that forced him to miss last week's game altogether.

Playing its 500th game in school history, South Point sprinted to a 43-3 halftime lead. The Red Raiders ran only 22 plays in the opening half (that's a touchdown per 3.7 plays), but that was enough to produce 345 yards — all on the

ground.

Bray tallied five carries of 29 or more yards, including a 76-yarder and a 46-yarder. He scored on runs of 30, 4 and 3 yards. Quarterback Jaquan Brooks, wingback Devan Robbins and Deonte Gaston also rushed for touchdowns in the first half.

In the second half, Brooks, Crenshaw (twice), Robbins and backup quarterback Diontra King each found the end zone as the game became increasingly lopsided without a running clock.

East Gaston (0-3) actually led on Justin White's 32-yard field goal 4 1/2 minutes into the game. The Warriors took advantage of prime field position after South Point fumbled on its first play of the game. But it wasn't until 8:59 remaining in the game that they scored again as Bryant Robbins rushed for a 10-yard touchdown.

It's been a rough start to the season for East Gaston, which lost to Hunter Huss and North Gaston before Friday's trip to Belmont. And the schedule gets no easier as the Warriors travel next week to East Lincoln, perhaps one of the top 2A teams in the state.

South Point visits Burns next week in a rematch of the Red Raiders' 45-42 overtime win last season.

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South Point's Tyler Bray runs upfield for a big gain during their game against East Gaston Friday night.

South Point 78, East Gaston 11
East Gaston 3 0 0 8 — 11
South Point 22 21 28 7 — 78

First quarter

EG—FG Justin White 32, 7:34.
SP—Tyler Bray 30 run (Trey Crenshaw pass from Jaquan Brooks), 6:18.
SP—Bray 4 run (Aaron Camp kick), 5:02.
SP—Brooks 24 run (Camp kick), 4:16.

Second quarter

SP—Bray 3 run (Camp kick), 8:32.
SP—Devan Robbins 6 run (Camp kick), 1:00.
SP—Deonte Gaston 35 run (Camp kick), 0:28.7.

Third quarter

SP—Brooks 33 run (Camp kick), 10:50.
SP—Crenshaw 24 run (Camp kick), 7:28.
SP—Robbins 45 run (Camp kick), 4:45.
SP—Diontrea King 23 run (Camp kick), 1:36.

Fourth quarter

EG—Bryant Robbins 10 run (Michael Barbour pass from Austin Woods), 8:59.
SP—Crenshaw 66 run (Camp kick), 8:13.

	EG	SP
First downs	17	20
Rushes-yards	47-123	45-655
Passing yards	164	0
Total yards	287	655
Comp-Att-Int	13-23-2	0-2-0
Fumbles-lost	8-5	3-3

Penalties-yards	10-87	7-64
Punts-avg.	3-44.7	0-0

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—East Gaston, Dantavious Walker 18-60, Robbins 6-52, Isaiah Bell 2-16, Tyler Price 13-2, Woods 8-minus 7. South Point, Bray 10-235, Crenshaw 11-169, Robbins 6-81, Brooks 5-78, Gaston 3-55, King 5-37, Jeffrey Pearsall 3-3, Team 2-minus 3.

PASSING—East Gaston, Price 10-18-0 116; Woods 3-5-2 48. South Point, Brooks 0-2-0 0.

RECEIVING—East Gaston, Robbins 5-83, Barbour 5-53, Bailey Crane 2-23, Bell 1-5. South Point, none.