

John ClarlyThe Gazotte

South Point's Tyler Bray runs past Forestview's Marcus McCluney during their game Friday night. Bray rushed for 150 yards and scored five touchdowns in the win.

KINGS AGAIN

Red Raiders nearly unstoppable in clash

By Phillip Gardner

GASTONIA — Back-to-back punts to start the game could have prompted some fans to question all those predictions about a shootout between Forestview and South Point.

It wasn't long, though, before both offenses started putting on a show, and South Point's triple-option proved especially unstoppable in a 49-34 win Friday.

In a battle of state-ranked teams at a packed Joe Alala Stadium, Tyler Bray rushed for 150 yards and four touchdowns and scored a fifth touchdown on a kickoff return as South Point (9-0, 4-0 Big South 2A/3A Conference) remained perfect. Bray, a senior fullback and Shrine Bowl selection, also set the Gaston County career rushing record during the third quarter.

The Big South 2A/3A Conference's top two offenses combined for more than 900 yards, but South Point gained the slight upper hand in yardage with 484 compared to Forestview's 478. Forestview's offense started more slowly and turned the ball over twice as South Point's conference-leading defense did enough to preserve the win.

"This was a big Red Raider win tonight," South Point coach Mickey Lineberger said. "I thought we played four great quarters of football in all phases of the game."

South Point quarterback Jaquan Brooks rushed for 205 yards and one touchdown — it was the junior's second straight game over 200 yards — and Diontrea King added 106 yards and one touchdown for the Red Raiders, who scored on six straight full possessions after a punt on the game's first series. South Point didn't punt again until only 1:35 showed on the clock and the outcome was all but decided.

"The leaders of the offense stepped up and did a lot more than they necessarily had to," Bray said. "We all worked as a team tonight and it paid off a lot."

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Bray scor on runs of 2, 3, 2 and 2 yards and his kickoff return covered 98 yards after Forestview had cut South Point's lead to 35-21. It was the prime example of Forestview's inability to catch back up with the Red Raiders after South Point went ahead 14-0 late in the first quarter.

Deion Jones and J.T. Star picked off passes to help South Point withstand a huge passing night from Forestview senior Logan Bradley. Bradley completed 32 of 44 passes for 388 yards and four touchdowns, eclipsing his own single-game school passing yardage record.

"We came to play and they came to play, too," Jones said. "It was a clash of the titans."

Mykelti Armstrong caught 14 passes for 149 yards and a touchdown while C.J. Burngarner hauled in eight passes for 141 yards and two scores to lead the receiving end of Forestview's offense. Moe Neal caught seven passes for 81 yards and another touchdown while Montavis Rogers scored on the ground for the Jaguars.

"I was extremely proud of our players' effort,"



John Clark/The Gazette

South Point quarterback Jaquan Brooks looks for running room as Forestview's Kalik Kiser closes in during their game Friday night.

Forestview coach Chris Medlin said. "I thought the atmosphere was tremendous. Our fans were tremendous and it was fun, fun ballgame. It just unfortunately didn't end the way we wanted it to."

Forestview generated 62 yards more than its average but wound up with a seasonlow point total against the Big South's best-scoring defense. A key play came with nine minutes left when Forestview was trying to make a stop. South Point faced fourth and nine and Forestview appeared to be in position to sack Brooks. But the elusive quarterback spun around, reversed the field and darted down the right sideline for a 13-yard gain and first down. South Point scored four plays later for a 49-28 lead.

While South Point returns home next week to face Lake Norman Charter, the Big South's last-place team, Forestview will head to Ashbrook for what figures to be another tough Big South game.

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South Point 49, Forestview 34

South Point Forestview

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First quarter

SP-Tyler Bray 2 run (Aaron Camp kick), 4:36.

SP-Bray 3 run (Camp kick), 0:08.8

Second quarter

F-Moe Neal 15 pass from Logan Bradley (Colton Rouse kick), 10:49. SP-Jaquan Brooks 7 run (Camp kick), 7:50.

SP-Bray 2 run (Camp kick), 4:40. F-C.J. Bumgarner 17 pass from

Bradley (Rouse kick), 1:11.

Third quarter

SP-Diontrea King 2 run (Camp kick), 7:18.

F—Montavis Rogers 3 run (Rouse kick), 3:23.

SP-Bray 98 kickoff return (Camp kick), 3:09.

F-Bumgarner 20 pass from

Bradley (Rouse kick), 0:50.0

Fourth quarter

SP-Bray 2 run (Camp kick), 7:09. F-Mykelti Armstrong 26 pass from Bradley (kick failed), 4:37.

	SP	Fv
First downs	21	26
Rushes-yards	55-480	20-90
Passing yards	4	388
Total yards	484	478
Comp-Att-Int	2-3-0	32-44-2
Fumbles-lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties-yards	4-35	5-43
Punts-avg.	2-29.5	2-38.0

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING-South Point, Brooks 17-205, Bray 27-150, King 9-106, Trey Crenshaw 2-19. Forestview, Bradley 7-59, Rogers 9-33, Jarvis Jeffries 1-2, Neal 3-minus 4.

PASSING-South Point, Brooks 2-3-0 Forestview, Bradley 32-44-2 388. RECEIVING—South Point, Bray 2-4. Forestview, Armstrong 14-149,

Bumgarner 8-141, Neal 7-81,

Caleb Mills 3-17.