

# Third round again trouble for South Point

## For second straight season, a perfect year ends in quarters

By Derek Smith  
sports@gastongazette.com

CONCORD — When two undefeated teams make it three rounds deep into the state playoffs, the one on the wrong end of the scoreboard will have to endure the bitter disappointment of losing their first game of the year and ending the season — all at the same time.

South Point was hoping to keep its record unblemished and play for the Western N.C. 3A championship next week and earn a berth to the state title game, but it was Concord that remained unbeaten with a 21-13 victory over the Red Raiders on Friday at Robert C. Bailey Stadium.

The Spiders (14-0), winners of the 2004 and 2006 3A state championships, survived another round of the postseason and will host Forestview in the state semifinals with a trip to N.C. finals on the line.

"We beat a great football team. They are a classy football team," said Concord coach Glen Padgett. "For us to come out of here with a win is a testimony (testament) to these young men."

For South Point (13-1), the season came to an abrupt end as the Red Raiders were bounced from the playoffs in the third round for the second year in a row after finish-

ing Lineberger. "The game just didn't go the way we wanted it to. We had a tremendous year. It was nothing to sneeze about."

The Red Raiders fumbled the ball inside their own 10-yard line early in the first quarter, setting up Concord's first touchdown, and spent most of the first half trying to muster some offense to no avail.

An 8-yard pass from quarterback Keenan Black to tight end Jerry Burk early in the second quarter put the Spiders ahead 14-0 and left South Point wondering how to get its triple-option offense moving down the field.

With only 15 yards of offense to show late in the second quarter, South Point went on a 78-yard drive to finally put some points on the board. Quarterback Jaquan Brooks connected with spilt end Jeremy Pearsall on a 30-yard pass play with 1:24 to go, and the Red Raiders salvaged the half and took some momentum into the locker room.

The second half began in South Point's favor.

Defensive back Richard Dunning intercepted a Black pass, which set up a 1-yard run by Tyler Bray and the tide seemed to be turning in the Red Raiders' direction. However, the PAT

ing undefeated in the regular season each of those years.

"We played very hard and gave it all we had," said South Point coach Mickey

direction. However, the PAT was blocked so Concord still led the contest 14-13.

>> See **RAIDERS**/Page 3C

# << Raiders

Continued from Page 1C

Bray returned for the second half after spending the majority of the first half on the sidelines with an injury. Lineberger said Gaston County's all-time leading rusher left the stadium to have stitches put in his head by a local doctor. He finished the game with 87 yards on 16 carries.

With Bray limited, South Point turned to running backs Trey Crenshaw,

Tanner Muse and Diontreia King, along with signal-caller Brooks, to jump start the offense.

South Point's rushing attack was held to only 134 yards. Brooks completed three of 11 pass for 70 yards, but missed on his last five attempts down the stretch.

"We didn't block them as well as we had been blocking people," Lineberger said. "We just didn't have our best game. We gave a great effort."

## **Concord 21, South Point 13**

**South Point** 0 7 6 0 — 13

**Concord** 7 7 0 7 — 21

### **First quarter**

C—Rocky Reid 6 run (Alex Maganda kick), 1:52.

### **Second quarter**

C—Jerry Burk 8 pass from Keenan Black (Maganda kick), 10:29.

SP—Jeremy Pearsall 30 pass from Jaquan Brooks (Aaron Camp kick), 1:24.

### **Third quarter**

SP—Tyler Bray 1 run (kick blocked), 4:43.

### **Fourth quarter**

C—Graham Pruetto 10 run (Maganda kick), 3:09.

	<b>SP</b>	<b>C</b>
First downs	15	12
Rushes-yards	43-134	46-186
Passing yards	70	63
Total yards	204	249
Comp-Att-Int	3-12-0	7-13-1
Fumbles-lost	1-1	2-0
Penalties-yards	3-25	8-85
Punts-avg.	5-32	5-37

### **INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

**RUSHING**—South Point, Bray 16-87, Trey Crenshaw 9-26, Brooks 8-minus 9, Tanner Muse 5-5, Diontree King 5-25. Concord, Reid 31-125, Black 12-26, Myles Neils 1-20, Haywood Forte 1-5, Pruetto 1-10.

**PASSING**—South Point, Brooks 3-11-0 70; King 0-1-0 0. Concord, Black 7-13-1 61.

**RECEIVING**—South Point, King 2-40, Pearsall 1-30. Concord, Drew Yoos 1-15, Neils 2-4, Burk 2-28, Reid 1-5, Cody Murdock 1-11.