

PREP FOOTBALL:
SOUTH POINT 63,
STUART CRAMER 0

South Point nearly perfect

Red Raiders not
so neighborly vs.
upstart Storm

By Richard Walker
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CRAMERTON — On a night in which Stuart Cramer honored its first seven four-year football players in its brief history, hopes were high for the Storm to show what they were made of against nearby South Point.

But those hopes were dashed pretty quickly as the visiting Red Raiders rolled to a 63-0 victory over the Storm in a matchup of schools separated by only seven miles.

"We're getting better and better," said South Point coach Mickey Lineberger, whose school improved its record to 7-4 overall and 6-1 in the Big South 2A/3A Conference with its fifth straight victory. "We were the youngest team we've had in awhile, but we're just improving every week."

On Friday, South Point had a mistake-free, 394-yard offense and an opportunistic defense take control of a game in which there was a running clock for the entire second half due to the N.C. High School Athletic Association "mercy rule" in games with leads of 40 or more points.

Red Raiders quarterback Scottie Lee had 28 yards rushing and one touchdown and 88 yards passing and a TD throw to Nick Muse and fullback Jake Alexander had 127 yards and three touchdowns to lead the offense. Keaton Hale and Nick Gange added scoring runs of 57 and 53 yards, respectively.

And the South Point defense forced a fumble that led to one score after Matthew Robinson's 28-yard return and Robinson and Nathan Silver had touchdown interception returns of 71 and 24 yards, respectively. Robinson's interception with 11.2 seconds left in the opening half helped make it 42-0 at the break.

"I think we've improved even more than last year," said Lineberger, whose team finished 13-3 and as N.C. 3A runner-up a year ago after a 1-2 start. "It says a lot about the character of this team and it's been exciting to see."

Now, both teams will have to wait a week to see where they'll be resuming their seasons in the state playoffs.

South Point will again be a N.C. 3A playoff team and will likely host a first-round game on Nov. 18 while Cramer (7-4, 4-3) is headed for the N.C. 2AA

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SOUTH POINT

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playoffs and isn't certain where its first-ever post-season game will be played.

Official pairings won't be announced until next Saturday — or a week later than expected due to the flooding damage caused by Hurricane Matthew that pushed back many games in Eastern North Carolina four weeks ago.

"I'm proud of our guys being 7-4," said Cramer coach Ben McMillan, whose first two varsity teams were a combined 6-16. "There's a lot of possibilities out there. We're just happy we'll be in the playoffs somewhere."

For South Point, Lineberger's chore will be in continuing his team's improvement.

"It's going to be strange having a bye week this late in the year," Lineberger said. "We've just got to keep doing what we've

been doing. And that's getting better, staying fresh and staying hungry."

Robinson, Nathan Hamilton and Phillip Davis led South Point's defense with five solo or first-hit tackles apiece.

For Cramer, which had 182 yards of total offense, Kaiser Kayton had 74 yards rushing, Jaylen Rocquemore 66 yards passing and Robert Truesdale (eight),

Dylan Collins (six) and Landon Helton (five) were the top tacklers.

The outcome also was South Point's third straight shutout win in the series — and each have come by large, shutout margins. South Point won 75-0 in 2014 and 56-0 last season.

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SOUTH POINT 63, STUART CRAMER 0
SCORE BY QUARTER:

	1	2	3	4	F
SOUTH POINT	6	36	7	14	63
STUART CRAMER	0	0	0	0	0

Scoring Summary:

First quarter

SP--Jake Alexander 1 run (Kick failed). 3:47

Second quarter

SP--Tanner Muse 24 pass from Scottie Lee (Nick Farmer run). 10:56

SP--Lee 9 run (Thomas Lempereur kick). 7:22

SP--Nathan Silver 24 interception return (Lempereur kick). 7:02

SP--Alexander 1 run (Lempereur kick). 3:30

SP--Matthew Robinson 71 interception return (Lempereur kick). 0:11.2

Third quarter

SP--Alexander 21 run (Lempereur kick). 8:08

Fourth quarter

SP--Keaton Hale 57 run (Lempereur kick). 9:35

SP--Nick Gange 53 run (Lempereur kick). 1:09

Team Stats:

	SP	SC
First downs	16	11
Rushes-yards	33-306	27-116
Passing yards	88	66
Total yards	394	72
Comp-Att-Int	4-5-0	7-19-2
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	1-1
Penalties	3-45	3-35

South Point Individual Stats:

Rushing

Name	Att	Yards	TDs
Jake Alexander	19	127	3
Keaton Hale	1	57	1
Nick Gange	1	53	1
Scottie Lee	5	28	1
Nick Farmer	2	17	0
Ty Tinker	1	15	0
Caleb Gibson	4	9	0

Passing

Name	Comp	Att	Yards	TD	Int
Scottie Lee	4	5	88	1	0

Receiving

Name	Rec	Yards	TDs
Nick Muse	2	50	1
Nathan Silver	1	11	0
Ray Grier	1	27	0

Stuart Cramer Individual Stats:

Rushing

Name	Att	Yards	TDs
Kaiser Kayton	15	74	0
Naseem Moulden	1	8	0
Jaylen Rocquemo	10	28	0
Denorrian Lindsay	1	6	0

Passing

Name	Comp	Att	Yards	TD	Int
Jaylen Rocquemo	7	18	72	0	2
Devion Moore	0	1	0	0	0

Receiving

Name	Rec	Yards	TDs
Kaiser Kayton	1	15	0
Corey Stowe	2	33	0
Cameron Lewis	3	18	0
Isaiah Foust	1	6	0