Red Raiders avoid letdown, steamroll Chase at home

Junior split end Ray Grier goes over 100 total yards In big win ahead of next week's showdown at Shelby

By Richard Walker rwalker@gastongazette.com

BELMONT — With a conference championship game coming up next week, many coaches would worry about a letdown in the game heading into such a meaningful contest.

South Point didn't let its coach worry at all in a 49-0 win over Chase on Thursday night in its final regular season home game at Lineberger Stadium.

The Red Raiders (8-2, 4-0), who will play at Shelby (7-3, 4-0) next Friday, scored touchdowns on its first seven possessions in rolling to the victory.

Naseem Jones and Caleb Gibson each had two touchdown runs, Keaton Hale and Jamani Leeper had one touchdown run apiece and Hale added a touchdown pass to Ray Grier. "We played good. We know we've got a big game next week and it's good to play well the week before."

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Turning point: Chase took the opening kickoff and drove 55 yards to the South Point 11 before Devon King blocked a 27-yard field goalattempt by Bryson Walker.

South Point drove 81 yards in seven plays on its first possession and Chase never got anycloser.

Star of the game: Junior split end Ray Grier rushed two times for 54 yards, caught two passes for 68 yards and one touchdown and returned two punts for 26 yards.

Notes: Hale and backup quarterback Leeper directed a 366-yard offensive attack on 44 plays in a game in which the clock rancontinuously after the 10:02 mark of the third quarter due to the 40-point mercy rule....

Gibson (95 yards), Jones (73), Grier (54), Hale (44), Leeper (34) led the 298-yard South Point rushing attack....

Four Red Raiders had four solo or first-hit tackles-Omari Hunt, Josh Hicks, Nick Gange and King. And Hicks added afumble recovery....

Quarterback Damian Boykins completed 10 of 23 passes for 66 yards to lead the Trojans' 134-yard offense....

Chase's defense was led by Damian Turpin, who had six solo or first-hit tackles....

When South Point visits Shelby next week in the regular season finale, it'll mark the 15th time in the 53-game rivalry that the outcome of their contest will determine a league champion.

What's next: South Point visits Shelby next Friday. Chase visits R-S Central next Friday.

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South Point 49,

Chase 0

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Third quarter SP - Gibson 21 run (Ratliff kick), 10:02

SP - Jamani Leeper 5 run (Ratliff kick), 3:34

Chase - SP 9 First downs 17 21-68 Rushes-yards 40-298 66 Passing yards 68 134 Total yards 366 10-23-0 Comp-Att-Int 2-4-0 1-1 Fumbles-lost 4-0 2-10 Penalties-yards 1-5

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INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Chase

RUSHING: Leshon Lipscomb 9-36, Cameron Wilkins 6-22, Damian Boykins 1-minus 2, Kayshawn Woods

3-9, Dontae Rankin 2-3

PASSING: Boykins 10-23-0 66

RECEIVING: Elijah McDowell 4-19, Keith Godfrey 3-31, Lipscomb 2-10, Kiylan Miller 1-6

South Point

RUSHING: Naseem Jones 11-73-2, Ray Grier 2-54, Keaton Hale 8-44-1, Jamani Leeper 7-34, Caleb Gibson

5-95-2, Devon King 1-1, Hunter Hogue 4-16, Jake Beatty 2-minus 19

PASSING: Hale 2-4-0 68 (1 TD)

RECEIVING: Grier 2-68-1