



South Point's Mario Brandon Jr. runs toward the end zone past North Gaston's Arthur Kennedy during Friday's game in Belmont. PHOTOS BY BILL BOSTICK/SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Red Raiders prove their point

South Point wins fourth straight game in dominant fashion vs. North Gaston

By Ron Clements
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BELMONT — The Red Raiders are still red hot.

South Point won its fourth straight game Friday night with a 64-6 victory over Big South rival North Gaston at Lineberger Stadium.

The Red Raiders dominated from the start. After Nathan Silver fielded a short kickoff to open the game, South Point was in the end zone two players later. The first play from scrimmage was a 33-yard run by Max Mead followed



South Point's Jake Alexander is brought down by North Gaston's Ethan Costner during Friday's game in Belmont.

Point an early 14-0 lead. Muse caught all three of Lee's passes. touchdown run by Arthur Kennedy. The junior running back finished with 69

by a 29-yard dash to pay dirt by Nick Farmer.

By the time the first quarter was over, South Point held a commanding 30-6 lead.

"We're getting better every day," said South Point coach Mickey Lineberger. "We had some big holes to fill and it took a little while, but the pieces of the puzzle are coming together."

"Now is the right time to be playing our best football."

Eight different South Point players scored in the rout as junior quarterback Scottie Lee accounted for three scores.

"It was a total team win," Lineberger said. "Football is the ultimate team sport. We work on trying to teach that. It's all about trusting each other. It takes time. That's part of the chemistry and putting it together."

"This game was won in practice this week. We came out and executed very well."

Lee ran for 26 yards and two touchdowns and was 3 of 4 through the air for 76 yards and a 6-yard pass to Nick Muse to give South

"We worked real hard on running a fade down the sideline. Nick caught two of them," Lineberger said. "We could have done that a lot."

Junior Jake Alexander ran for 51 yards in the first half, but did not find the end zone until his 3-yard plunge with 8:01 remaining in the third quarter gave South Point a 50-6 lead to begin the running clock. Alexander finished with 60 yards on 15 carries while Caleb Gibson ran for a game-high 101 yards on just eight carries.

"He's been our workhorse," Lineberger said of Alexander. "Running the triple-option, we can't ever tell what they're going to give us. They took Jake away, but that opened up things for our quarterback and our pitchback."

North Gaston was plagued by mistakes the entire night. North Gaston fumbled five times, losing two, as the Red Raiders also picked off two Brae Wooten passes.

The Wildcats had 81 rushing yards on 19 carries in the first half, but 64 of those yards came on a long

yards on nine carries.

North Gaston had a chance for another touchdown before halftime, but Wooten's pass on fourth-and-12 from the South Point 22 went through the hands of a wide-open Tommy McNeal in the end zone.

"If you look at our sideline, we've got eight or nine guys who started the majority of the year who weren't dressed. We've had so many injuries and are asking young guys up from JV to play," Wildcats coach Mike Patton said. "That's asking a lot of those kids to come in and play against a program like this."

South Point (6-4, 5-1 Big South) will wrap up the regular season next Friday at Stuart Cramer. North Gaston (1-9, 0-6) closes its season at Lake Norman Charter.

"Hopefully next week will be our finest hour as we get ready for the playoffs," Lineberger said. "Our schedule has been unbelievably tough. If we go to the state championship, we won't see anybody tougher than what we've already played."



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SOUTH POINT 64, NORTH GASTON 6

Score By Quarter:

	1	2	3	4	F
NORTH GASTON	6	0	0	0	6
SOUTH POINT	30	13	14	7	64

Scoring Summary:

First quarter

SP--Nick Farmer 29 run (Thomas Lempereur kick).

11:35

SP--Nick Muse 6-yard pass from Scottie Lee

(Lempereur kick). 8:11

SP--NG Isaiah McNeil fumble recovered in end zone by

McNeil. 6:20

SP--Mario Brandon 3 run (Lempereur kick). 5:31

NG--Arthur Kennedy 64 run (Kick blocked). 3:50

SP--Lee 18 run (Lempereur kick). 1:52

Second quarter

SP--Lee 4 run (Kick missed). 7:46

SP--Max Mead 39-yard fumble return (Lempereur

kick). 6:28

Third quarter

SP--Jake Alexander 3 run (Lempereur kick). 8:01

SP--Caleb Gibson 1 run (Lempereur kick). 1:08

Fourth quarter

SP--Keaton Hale 8 run (Lempereur kick). 4:26

Team Stats:

	NG	SP
First downs	4	14
Rushes-yards	24-92	40-333
Passing yards	55	76
Total yards	143	409
Comp-Att-Int	5-16-2	3-5-0
Fumbles-Lost	5-2	1-1
Penalties	4-28	4-46

North Gaston Individual Stats:

Rushing

Name	Att	Yards	TDs
Arthur Kennedy	9	69	1
Brae Wooten	7	21	0
Tommy McNeal	2	8	0
CJ McClellan	1	2	0
Ethan Costner	2	-2	0
Isaiah McNeil	3	-6	0

Passing

Name	Comp	Att	Yards	TD	Int
Brae Wooten	5	16	55	0	2

Receiving

Name	Rec	Yards	TDs
Tommy McNeal	4	49	0
Clay Thompson	1	6	0

South Point Individual Stats:

Rushing

Name	Att	Yards	TDs
Caleb Gibson	8	101	1
Jake Alexander	15	60	2
Nick Farmer	4	49	1
Max Mead	2	37	0
Mario Brandon	4	37	1
Scottie Lee	4	26	2
Keaton Hale	1	13	1
Nick Gange	2	10	0

Passing

Name	Comp	Att	Yards	TD	Int
Scottie Lee	3	5	76	1	0

Receiving

Name	Rec	Yards	TDs
Nick Muse	3	76	1