

## **Game Recap**

### **Red Raiders Drop Patriotism Bowl...Blue Eagles Claim Trophy, 34-7**

South Point hosted the Clover Blue Eagles in the 2019 Carolinas Freedom Foundation Patriotism Bowl. Representatives from all military forces and first responders were in attendance, with displays and demonstrations to exhibit the best of our great nation. All military veterans, active duty, reservists, and retired were recognized, as were first responders across all municipalities and specialties. Appreciation was extended to all fans in attendance for their expression of patriotic support for those who serve. The festivities included stirring moments of silence, and the playing of “Taps” in memory of those who served and payed the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country and the protection of our way of life. Surely hearts swelled with pride upon reflection of all that makes our nation great and makes Patriots of all United States citizens. The Red, White, and Blue flew proudly!

Given the atmosphere at Lineberger Stadium, it was thus appropriate that the evening include a contest between worthy opponents in the truly All-American game of football. South Point lined up to do battle with Clover. Unfortunately for the Red Raiders the outcome did not match the effort as the speedy, talented Blue Eagles scored on the opening kickoff and never let up on their way to the convincing 34-7 victory. The bright spot for the Big Red came in the second half while trailing 27-0. A 74-yard drive of just under five minutes culminated with a 17-yard touchdown run by RB Hunter Hogue. The efficient passing attack of Clover matched the late score for the final. In his post-game charge, Coach urged his troops not to be satisfied with the effort to improve off the field. Rather, he encouraged the team to consider that other opponents are working harder in the weight room, in film study, and on the practice field, all with the intent to gain a decided game-time advantage.

It is popular among all levels of football for teams to claim ownership of the fourth quarter. This is especially true in the college ranks as teams, cheerleaders, and fans raise four fingers skyward to insist that the final stanza belongs to the sure victors. Video boards play motivational messages intended to charge the crowd and urge the team on to victory. The reigning NCAA National Champion Clemson Tigers play such a video and generally with great success! Among the statements made in the video, perhaps the most inspiring comes from Strength and Conditioning Coach, Joey Batson. Coach Batson, in sturdy tone says, “They don’t put championship rings on soft hands!” The message is clear. The challenge is ahead. Time to go to work.

Go Get ‘Em, Red!

## **Notable Facts and Thoughts**

Clemson Football 2018: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jq\\_VDWrGYJo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jq_VDWrGYJo)