

Green Wave rolls past South Point

By NEALE PATRICK
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By land and by air, Ashbrook's Green Wave scored a significant 28-14 victory over county rival South Point before a packed stadium Friday night for the home team's first triumph in the four-year series.

The Green Wave scored two touchdowns on hard ground smashes, added another on a dazzling screen pass and added the fourth tally on an interception in the fourth quarter for their second straight victory of the new season.

Ashbrook stormed back from a 14-6 deficit late in the first half to knot the score at 14-14 at halftime and then completely dominated the game with a strong offensive attack and a stalwart defense in the second half.

The Wave netted 158 yards on the ground and went to the air slightly more often than many Ashbrook teams have in recent years to connect for big plays and score the tying touchdown with two minutes to play in the first half. Setzer connected on three of nine passes for 90 yards, the big one being a 34-yard scoring connection to Rydale Johnson on a screen maneuver.

Setzer also was the leading rusher for the Green Wave, gaining 52 yards in four carries as he directed the Ashbrook attack from his quarterback position.

A 32-yard run by Setzer and a 26-yard pass to Mark Womack played the big role in the Wave's go-ahead touchdown after the second half kickoff and after that the Ashbrook defense took over, with linebacker Del Murphy delivering the final blow with an 18-yard touchdown runback of an errant South Point pass by Raider quarterback Jeff Williams who was being rushed unmercifully close to his own goal line.

The victory snapped a three-year winless streak for the Wave against the Raiders from Belmont, who had won two in a row after the clubs battled to a 22-22 tie in the first game of the series.

The two teams were all-square in many of the statistics, such as both teams picking up 13 first downs and both gained 158 yards rushing. But the Wave had the edge in the air with 90 yards and a touchdown while South Point had trouble upstairs with only 38 yards in 17 attempts and three of the tosses were intercepted by the alert Wave secondary.

Ashbrook turned two of those pass snitches into touchdowns — their first and their last of the game.

The first half was as even as the 14-14 score indicated. Both teams scored two touchdowns — one each on a long

drive of more than 70 yards and the other for each following a turnover by the foe. Ashbrook lost two fumbles and South Point tossed two interceptions.

An interception by Bo Stewart and his 19-yard runback set the stage for the first Wave TD, as the home team moved 46 yards in nine snaps. Setzer started the drive with a 12-yard pitch to Jay Burge and the Wave picked up two more first downs before Womack smashed through for the final two yards and Mike Tegland missed the point try.

South Point ripped right back for 71 yards in 12 maneuvers following the kickoff. Williams sped 27 yards on an option sweep to the left to place the ball in scoring position just before the end of the first quarter.

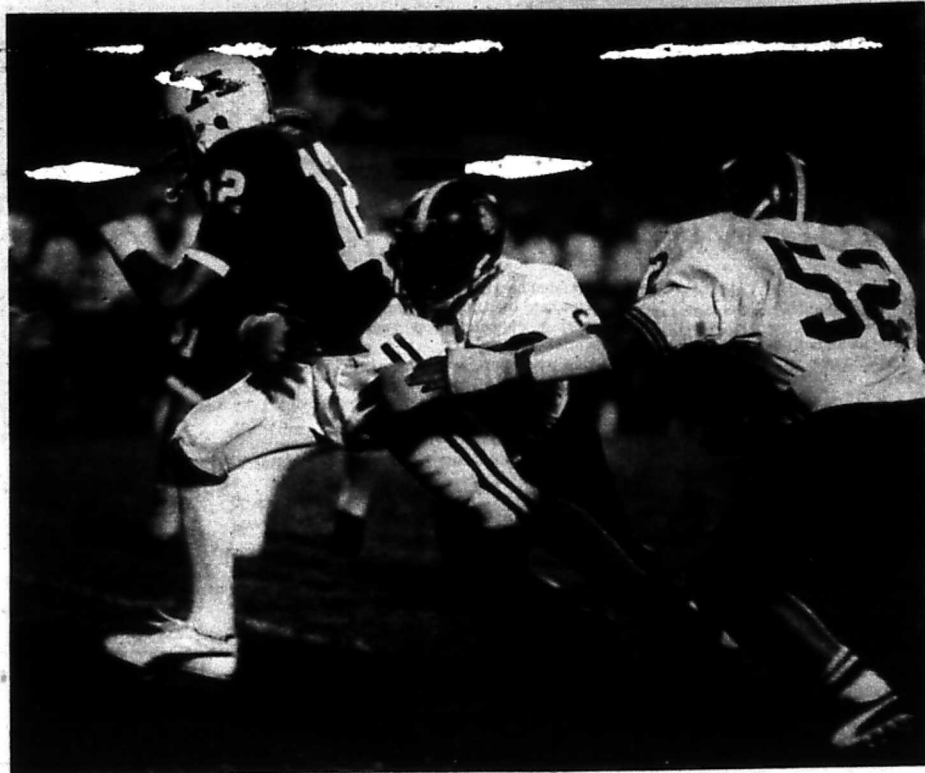
Actually, Fernandez Grier had to score twice before officially getting on the board, when an 18-yard run was called back due to an illegal procedure penalty. Five plays later, Grier scored again and for keeps from the six-yard line and William Reid's kick was also errant to knot the count at 6-6 two minutes into the second period.

Two Ashbrook fumbles, sandwiched around a South Point interception, set the stage for South Point to gain the lead on a seven yard keeper by Williams. That followed a recovery of a Womack fumble on the Wave 21 by Gary Peché. It took the Raiders only three plays to gain the 14-6 lead, with Fernandez Grier bullying over for the two-point conversion following Williams score.

That only seemed to fire-up the Wave which rolled 74 yards in nine plays following the kickoff. Arttruer Wilson opened the surge with a 16 yard scamper and after two more first downs and consecutive incomplete passes, Setzer looped a screen pass to Johnson on the left side and he followed a wall of blocking down the sidelines to score and Setzer then found Burge open in the endzone for the two-point conversion, knotting the score at halftime.

Ashbrook stormed 78 yards in 12 plays following the second half kickoff for the go-ahead touchdown. Setzer dashed 32 yards on a keeper around left end and two plays later hit Womack for a 26-yard gain, before Johnson went the final two yards and Tegland kicked the point for the 21-14 edge and Ashbrook was in command.

South Point went to the air in an attempt to come back in the fourth quarter, but the bid back-fired when Murphy, who had been a demon all night backing up the line, grabbed the Williams pass at the 18 yard line and raced into the end zone for the insurance tally. Tegland again kicked the point with six minutes left in the game.



SETZER ON THE MOVE — Quarterback Brian Setzer of the Ashbrook Green Wave drags Jeff Hayle of the South Point Raiders while Greg Mason (52) moves in on the play during the Wave's 28-14 victory before packed Stadium crowd here

Friday night. Setzer led the Wave in rushing with 52 yards and tossed a touchdown pass in guiding his club to its first triumph over South Point in the four-year series. (Gazette photo by Rob Flynn).

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

Sports

South Point	0	14	0	0	— 14
Ashbrook	6	8	7	7	— 24

A — Wornack 2 run, (kick failed)

SP — Grier 6 run, (kick failed)

SP — Williams 7 run, (Grier run)

A — Johnson 34 pass from Setzer, (Burge pass from Setzer)

A — Johnson 2 run (Tegland kick)

A — Murphy 18 return of intercepted pass (Tegland kick)

	South Point	Ashbrook
First Downs	13	13
Yards Rushing	158	158
Passing	4-17-2	3-9-0
Yards Passing	38	72
Fumbles Lost	0	2
Punting	3-29	3-36
Yards Penalized	35	55

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

SOUTH POINT RUSHING — Grier 15-71, Reid 13-2, Williamson 5-37, Fewell 2-6, Friday 2-(-8)

ASHBROOK RUSHING — Setzer 4-52, Wornack 19-51, Wilson 10-47, Johnson 3-8.

SOUTH POINT PASSING — Williams 2-14-2 for 18, Tribble 2-3 for 20.

ASHBROOK PASSING — Setzer 3-9 for 72.

SOUTH POINT RECEIVING — Grier 1-8, Armstrong 1-10, Slavich 1-11, Stowe 1-9.

ASHBROOK RECEIVING — Burge 1-12, Johnson 1-34, Wornack 1-26.