



John Clark/The Gazette

South Point's Tyler Bray runs up the middle between Hunter Huss' Marion Whitley and Raheem Adams during their game Friday night.

HUSKIES

FALL SHORT

South Point stops Moore from extra-point run

By Philip Gardner | pgardner@gastongazette.com

GASTONIA — Was he in or not? That's the debate that might rage on for a while, but officials ruled Kerrion Moore just short of the goal line on a two-point conversion in overtime as South Point escaped Hunter Huss with a 28-27 win Friday.

Moore emphatically said he crossed the plane but both head coaches said they didn't have a proper vantage point of the controversial play that ended an unexpectedly tight

game between a one-win team and the state's No. 2-ranked 3A team.

South Point (7-0, 2-0 Big South Conference) had scored on Tyler Bray's fourth-down 1-yard run in the first overtime possession to go ahead 28-21. After Hunter Huss scored on backup quarterback Xavier Thomas' 10-yard run on fourth down, the Huskies elected to go for the two-point conversion and the win.

Deion Jones dragged down Moore well short of the goal line on the first two-point attempt

but was flagged for a horse collar tackle, giving the Huskies another shot. Then from the 1 1/2 line, Moore took an inside handoff and appeared to cross the plane of the end zone with at least part of his body (the ball wasn't clearly visible) before South Point defenders then pushed him back. The play continued until Moore tried to drag defenders toward the right until he was tackled short of the end zone.

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"I couldn't tell from where I was. I was all the way across the field," South Point head coach Mickey Lineberger said. "From the 1 1/2, they had a great running back over there sticking it at us and we rose to the occasion and kept them out. That's the only way we could win the game. That's what it took and that's what we did."

Moore had no doubt the ball crossed the goal line.

"I was in," the senior running back said. "I got the ball in. I know I was in because when they pushed me back, that's when I stepped back. I was in."

Hunter Huss head coach Steve Gardner couldn't tell from his spot on the sideline.

"I can't see from my angle, but people up top (in the press box) said he was in, but we've got to see where the ball was," Gardner said. "The head can get across the line, but if the ball doesn't ... We've just got to watch film."

The final outcome allowed South Point players, coaches and fans to breathe a sigh of relief as the Red Raiders stayed undefeated ahead a key conference game at home against Ashbrook next week. Hunter Huss players, coaches and fans left distraught, some of them feeling they were cheated out of a monumental win. It would have been Hunter Huss' first victory against South Point since 2006.

Hunter Huss held South Point to a season-low 311 yards — 164 lower than usual. The point total was also South Point's lowest of



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Hunter Huss' Kerrion Moore listens to an explanation from an official on why a touchdown catch was ruled out of bounds at the end of the first half during their game against South Point Friday night.

the season.

Jaquan Brooks and Diontrea King scored first-half touchdowns for South Point, which appeared to be well in control until Hunter Huss started chipping away in the third quarter. All three of South Point turnovers in the third quarter led to Hunter Huss touchdowns as the Huskies took advantage of short fields measuring 9, 28 and 25 yards.

Moore scored the first touchdown of that sequence with a 9-yard run. Thomas then connected with Ryan Ford on a 31-yard TD pass one play after starting quarterback Andrew Jordan was taken off the field on a stretcher. Gardner said Jordan was moving his hands and answering questions in the hospital afterward.

The third touchdown was a 1-yard run by Moore

that put Hunter Huss ahead 21-14 at the 3:18 mark of the third quarter.

After the teams traded possessions, South Point tied it on Bray's 44-yard touchdown run with 10:14 left in the game. After a Hunter Huss punt, the Red Raiders mounted another drive but Max Neisler missed a 24-yard field goal attempt with 38.5 seconds remaining, setting up overtime.

"We came out of here with a win and I'm very glad," Lineberger said. "We found a way to get it done. They played their hearts out and they gave us everything they had. We've got to get better."

Hunter Huss dropped to 1-6 overall and 0-2 in the Big South. The Huskies will travel to East Gaston next Friday.

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South Point 28, Hunter**Huss 27 (OT)****South Point 7 7 0 7 7 —28****Hunter Huss 0 0 21 0 6 —27****First quarter**

SP—Jaquan Brooks 3 run (Aaron Camp kick), 4:22.

Second quarter

SP—Diontree King 8 run (Camp kick), 10:48.

Third quarter

HH—Kerrion Moore 9 run (Seth Jones kick), 7:21.

HH—Ryan Ford 31 pass from Xavier Thomas (Jones kick), 3:18.

HH—Moore 1 run (Jones kick), 3:18.

Fourth quarter

SP—Tyler Bray 44 run (Camp kick), 10:14.

Overtime

SP—Bray 1 run (Camp kick)

HH—Thomas 10 run (run failed)

	SP	HH
First downs	16	9
Rushes-yards	56-301	37-107
Passing yards	10	83
Total yards	311	190
Comp-Att-Int	1-4-1	4-15-0
Fumbles-lost	2-2	2-0
Penalties-yards	6-54	7-64
Punts-avg.	1-21	3-37.3

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—South Point, Bray 29-170, Brooks 16-90, King 6-26, Trey Crenshaw 4-16, Team 1-minus 1. Hunter Huss, Moore 26-119, Andrew Jordan 5-1, Daquan Farley 1-minus 9, Thomas 5-minus 4.

PASSING—South Point, Brooks 1-3-1 10; King 0-1-0 0. Hunter Huss, Jordan 2-11-0 28; Thomas 2-4-0 55.

RECEIVING—South Point, Bray 1-10. Hunter Huss, Ford 1-31, Farley 1-24, Moore 1-19, Scott Brantley 1-9.