

# ONE CRAZY ENDING

SP ON SHORT END OF LATE-GAME DRAMATICS

By Richard Walker  
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BELMONT — In what had to be one of the craziest finishes in county football history, South Point fell to 1-3 on the season after an A.C. Reynolds 20-yard field goal as time expired gave the visiting Rockets a 25-22 victory on Friday night.

The game appeared headed for overtime after South Point's Aaron Camp booted a 34-yard field goal with 19.8 seconds left. But A.C. Reynolds' Shaquan Jones returned Camp's ensuing kickoff 80 yards to set up River Natron's game-winning field goal.

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John Clark/The Gazette  
South Point's Jeffrey Pearnell looks for running room during their game against A.C. Reynolds Friday night.





Photos by John Clark/The Gazette

**South Point quarterback Jaquan Brooks is sacked by a trio of A.C. Reynolds defenders during their game Friday night.**

## << Raiders

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Jones initially appeared content to let Camp's kickoff roll into the end zone for a touchback, but when the ball stopped at the Rockets 5, he fielded it and eluded a host of South Point defenders before being chased down by Red Raiders' wide receiver Jeffrey Pearsall.

"He thought it was going into the end zone," A.C. Reynolds coach Shane Laws said. "But he's got speed. If he can find green grass, he can go. Luckily for us, he found some."

The game-ending field goal capped a dramatic fourth quarter in which the lead changed hands four times in the final 9:12.

"That game could've gone either way," said South Point coach Mick-



**South Point's John Steele tries to bring down A.C. Reynolds' Shaqwan Jones in the backfield during their game Friday night.**

Camp's extra point gave South Point a 19-15 lead with 4:37 to play.

But A.C. Reynolds and South Point made long scoring drives to retake the lead and tie the game, respectively, before the Rockets' long kickoff return and field goal determined the outcome.

First, A.C. Reynolds went 67 yards in seven

Jones made his unexpected game-changing play.

"You know, you see the ball rolling and you relax and slow up and he breaks a long one," Lineberger said. "I'm so proud of Jeffrey for running him down and giving us at least a chance."

Said Laws: "It's just one of those fluke things."



ey Lineberger, whose team opens its defense of the Big South 2A/3A Conference title next Friday at East Gaston. "Unfortunately, we came out on the short end."

A.C. Reynolds (2-3) appeared to have the game under control late in the fourth quarter.

One play after taking a 15-12 lead with 9:12 to play, the Rockets recovered South Point's second fumble of the game at the Red Raiders 27. A.C. Reynolds got one first down but Jaquan Brooks tackled Jones at the end of a screen pass one yard shy of the first down later in the drive.

It left South Point 96 yards away from a potential tying or lead drive with 5:41 to play.

But two plays later, Brooks went 96 yards for a touchdown keeper on an option left and

plays — converting on fourth-and-inches from its own 42 — to retake the lead on Logan's 1-yard TD run.

Then, South Point went 37 yards in seven plays after Tanner Muse's 34-yard kickoff return got the Red Raiders to midfield. Three plays after Muse's 30-yard run on fourth-and-four — and after South Point used its final timeout — Camp tied the score with his first field goal of the season.

"That's his range and he's a gutsy kid," Lineberger said of Camp. "We had the clock running down on that third down play and we wanted to make sure we could use our timeout to give him a chance."

But with most of the crowd at Lineberger Stadium buzzing about the late comeback and the potential for overtime,

It's a crazy play, but it worked out for us."

South Point outgained A.C. Reynolds 327 to 292 in total offense with Brooks rushing for 127 yards and passing for 24 more and Muse rushing for 94 yards and completing an 8-yard pass to Brooks.

For the Rockets, Rico Dowdle had 97 yards rushing and one touchdown and Logan had 78 yards rushing and two touchdowns.

Tyler Hall led the South Point defense with seven solo or first-hit tackles and Evan Prelopsy had six. Five Rockets' defenders have five tackles — Devanie Cunningham, Brandon McLean, Andreas Hill, Patrick Sullivan and Jared Green.

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**A.C. Reynolds 25, South Point 22**  
A.C. Reynolds.0 7 0 18 – 25  
South Point ....0 0 12 10 – 22

**Second quarter**  
**ACR**—Rico Dowdle 56 run (River Naisong kick), 4:49.

**Third quarter**  
**SP**—Jaquan Brooks 28 run (kick failed), 8:34.  
**SP**—Ryland Etherton 2 run (run failed), 2:20.

**Fourth quarter**  
**ACR**—A.J. Logan 2 run (Joey Gonzalez pass from Allen), 9:12.  
**SP**—Jaquan Brooks 96 run (Aaron Camp kick), 4:37.  
**ACR**—Logan 1 run (Naisong kick), 2:10.  
**SP**—FG Camp 34, 0:19.8.  
**ACR**—FG Naisong 20, 0:00.

	ACR	SP
First downs	13	11
Rushes-yards	46-234	40-293
Passing yards	58	32
Total yards	292	325
Comp-Att-Int	6-12-0	3-5-0
Fumbles-lost	5-0	2-2
Penalties-yards	6-60	15-102
Punts-avg.	6-28.5	5-34.8

**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**  
**RUSHING—A.C. Reynolds,** Dowdle 10-97, Logan 8-78, Shaquan Jones 17-45, Allen 9-24, Kyle Cagle 1-minus 5, Team 1-minus 5. **South Point,** Brooks 10-127, Tanner Muse 7-94, Etherton 13-43, Jeffrey Pearsall 7-22, Ben Washam 2-8, Donovan Stowe 1-minus 1.

**PASSING—A.C. Reynolds,** Allen 5-11-0 53; Cagle 1-1-0 5. **South Point,** Brooks 2-3-0 24; Muse 1-2-0 8.

**RECEIVING—A.C. Reynolds,** Stone Fentzlaff 2-7, Andreas Hill 1-5, Logan 1-9, Jones 2-37. **South Point,** Austin Ray 1-8, Nolan Wilson 1-16, Brooks 1-8.