



Brian Mayhew/Special to The Gazette

South Point's Ryland Etherton rushes toward the goal line against North Gaston.

# South Point rolls to second straight victory

By Richard Walker  
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BELMONT — South Point High football Mickey Lineberger felt his team relaxed some in the second half of Monday's continuation of a 47-10 win over visiting North Gaston.

But the Red Raiders played so well early on, it was hard for Lineberger to be too critical.

"We had a real good first half," said Lineberger, whose team led 20-3 early in the second quarter Friday before lightning suspended the game until Monday. "If you take Friday night and tonight's first 10 minutes, it was about as good as we can play."

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**South Point defenders bring down North Gaston quarterback Ethan Wiggins.**

## << Raiders

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"Then we sort of relaxed in the third quarter. I was disappointed in that because we're trying to make sure we're playing our best at the end of the season."

South Point (6-4, 5-1) gets another chance to do just that when it visits nearby Stuart Cramer in the first-ever varsity football meeting between the two schools on Friday night.

"We're getting better and we're getting healthier," said Lineberger, whose team's only league blemish came in a 34-31 overtime loss to Forestview two weeks ago.

On Monday, South Point got 250 all-purpose yards from senior Tanner Muse and quarterback Jaquan Brooks directed a 415-yard offense. Muse picked up 143 yards rushing and two touchdowns in five carries, returned a kickoff 98 yards and returned a punt nine yards. For good measure, he also

Lineberger said of Muse, the 6-foot-4, 218-pound defensive back and wingback who has committed to play at Clemson next season. "The game just comes easy to him."

Brooks rushed for 95 yards and two touchdowns and added 26 yards passing. Ryland Etherton and Ben Washam also had TD runs for the Red Raiders.

For North Gaston (3-7, 1-5), quarterback Ethan Wiggins rushed for 99 yards and passed for 18 more in the Wildcats' 203-yard offensive attack. North Gaston scored on Christian Stewart's 36-yard field goal and Brandon Stowe's 30-yard wingback pass to Jaleel Daniels.

"I thought they did what they normally do," said Wildcats coach Mike Patton, who was a South Point assistant before returning to his high school alma mater three seasons ago. "We had a game plan for them, but we didn't execute it. Against a team

...a good measure, he also tapped a loose ball headed out of bounds back into the field for a South Point fumble recovery.

"He's just got a lot of God-given talent,"

like that, you just can't do that."

North Gaston (3-7, 1-5) visits Lake Norman Charter in its regular season finale on Friday.



**South Point 47,**

**North Gaston 10**

**N. Gaston 3 0 7 0—10**

**South Point 20 14 0 13—47**

**First quarter**

SP—Tanner Muse 80 run (Max Neisler kick), 11:44.

SP—Muse 22 run (kick failed), 5:26.

NG—FG Christian Stewart 36, 3:02.

SP—Muse 98 kickoff return (Neisler kick), 2:45.

**Second quarter**

SP—Ryland Etherton 1 run (Neisler kick), 4:15.

SP—Jaquan Brooks 8 run (Neisler kick), 1:16.

**Third quarter**

NG—Jaleel Daniels 30 pass from Brandon Stowe (Stewart kick), 4:13.

**Fourth quarter**

SP—Brooks 5 run (Neisler kick), 9:13.

SP—Ben Washam 32 run (Kick blocked), 3:37.

	<b>NG</b>	<b>SP</b>
First downs	8	17
Rushes-yards	41-118	42-389
Passing yards	85	26
Total yards	203	415
Comp-Att-Int	5-13-0	4-9-0
Fumbles-lost	1-1	0-0
Penalties-yards	4-15	3-25
Punts-avg.	4-37.3	3-42.0

**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

**RUSHING**—North Gaston, Ethan Wiggins 16-99, Prince Fox 9-28, B. Stowe 9-minus 9, Rakeem Brown 1-minus 6, Quadray Wilson 2-4, Brae Wooten 2-2, Kade Christian 1-1, Team 1-minus 1. South Point, Tanner Muse 5-143, Jeffrey Pearsall 1-2, Etherton 15-63, Brooks 8-95, Washam 3-49, Donovan Stowe 4-24, Nolan Wilson 3-16, Team 3-minus 3.

**PASSING**—North Gaston, Ethan Wiggins 3-10-0 18; B. Stowe 2-2-0 67; Wooten 0-1-0 0. South Point, Jaquan Brooks 4-9-0 26.

**RECEIVING**—North Gaston, Daniels 3-75, Walter Brown 1-7, Christian 1-3. South Point, Etherton 1-15, Wilson 2-10, D. Stowe 1-1.