

Turning the tide



South Point quarterback Scott Lee rolls out to pass as Ashbrook hosted South Point Thursday night. MIKE HENSILL/
THE GAZETTE

Fresh off loss, South Point rebounds to beat Green Wave

By Jack Flagler

40-yard touchdown

to lighten the load on him as

GASTONIA — Nick Muse caught everything thrown toward him on the sideline Thursday night, no matter what side of the ball he lined up on.

Muse caught five passes for 77 yards as a receiver, including a 26-yard reception on the sideline that turned the tide of the game.

In the second quarter, the South Point offense appeared stuck in the mud. Up 14-6, the Raiders incurred three consecutive false start penalties on one drive, and then faced a third-and-13 in their own territory on the next possession.

Raiders quarterback Scottie Lee lofted a pass up the sideline, and Muse ran under the ball to come down with it, shaking off a pass interference penalty. On the next play from scrimmage, the other South Point star of the game, junior fullback Ty Tinker, ran in a

49-yard touchdown. On the other side of the halftime break, the 6-foot-4, 240-pound Muse tiptoed on the sideline and got a foot down in bounds for an interception. Tinker scored again on the ensuing possession from 1 yard out, and the Raiders were on their way to a big win — 45-12 over the Green Wave.

South Point came into the game off its fourth loss of the season, a 21-16 defeat against Huss last week. The Raiders (3-4, 2-1 Big South 2A/3A) played with a lead for all but the first six minutes of the game, and they were able to get back to their brand of football. South Point ran for 257 yards on 56 carries in the victory.

Tinker carried the load from the fullback spot for South Point. He ran 20 times for 144 yards and three touchdowns, as he took over the majority of carries at fullback from Raiders leading rusher Jake Alexander.

South Point limited Alexander to 10 carries, looking

to lighten the load on him as the junior played most of the defensive snaps at cornerback, filling in for injured Mario Brandon. Tinker knew going into the week he would have a more prominent role.

"I've just been working it all week long, and they needed Jake to step up at cornerback because we had injuries. I just got in for him knowing he'd be needing a break," Tinker said. "I listened to my favorite songs, prayed to God and would think about the game beforehand."

Coming into Friday night's game, Tinker had just 22 carries on the season. Coach Mickey Lineberger said Tinker had played some junior varsity fullback earlier in his high school career, but a lingering hamstring injury early this season prevented him from getting more varsity reps at the position early in this season.

"He's getting now to where he can run full speed,"

SEE SOUTH POINT, C3



Ashbrook quarterback Hayden Welle rolls out of the pocket during Thursday's game vs. South Point at Ashbrook. PHOTOS BY MIKE HENSILL/THE GAZETTE

SOUTH POINT

Continued from C1

Lineberger said. "He's got that low center of gravity. He runs at the right track and he runs hard."

The Red Raiders took the lead early in the game thanks to an Ashbrook miscue. The Green Wave defense got off the field on the first South Point series and forced a Max Mead punt, but when the kick was mishandled, South Point's Matthew Robinson fell on the ball at the 6-yard line. Alexander ran in the score, and the Raiders went up for good.

"We've got to learn how to fight through adversity.



Ashbrook's Kristien Bel (22) and Hayden Welle (8) push the ball up the field vs. South Point.

struggling with since I've been here. We've got to learn you play the next play, just keep playing,"

said. The Green Wave (2-5, 1-2) will visit East Gaston next week. South Point

That's what we've been Ashbrook coach Greg Hill will host Forestview.

SOUTH POINT 45, ASHBROOK 12

Score By Quarter:

	1	2	3	4	F
SOUTH POINT	14	14	7	10	45
ASHBROOK	0	6	6	0	12

Scoring Summary:

First quarter

SP—Jake Alexander 6 run (Thomas Lempereur kick). 6:27
SP—Scottie Lee 8 pass to Nathan Silver (Lempereur kick). 0:29.7

Second quarter

A—British Brooks 1 run (kick failed). 7:42
SP—Ty Tinker 49 run (Lempereur kick). 1:57
SP—Nick Muse 10 pass from Lee (Lempereur kick). 0:18.2

Third quarter

A—British Brooks 57 run (run failed). 10:27
SP—Tinker 1 run (Lempereur kick). 0:40.2

Fourth quarter

SP—Lempereur 28 field goal.
SP—Tinker 12 run (Lempereur kick).

Team Stats:

	SP	A
First downs	13	10
Rushes-yards	56-257	27-148
Passing yards	102	89
Total yards	359	237
Comp-Att-Int	8-14-1	9-25-2
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	2-1
Penalties	9-55	4-25

South Point Individual Stats:

Rushing			
Name	Att	Yards	TDs
Ty Tinker	20	144	3
Scottie Lee	16	50	0
Jake Alexander	10	34	1
Caleb Gibson	7	32	0
Nick Farmer	1	2	0
Max Mead	2	-5	0

Passing					
Name	Comp	Att	Yards	TD	Int
Scottie Lee	8	14	102	2	1

Receiving

Name	Rec	Yards	TDs
Nick Muse	5	77	1
Max Mead	1	14	0
Nathan Silver	1	8	1
Josh Bogan	1	3	0

Ashbrook Individual Stats:

Rushing			
Name	Att	Yards	TDs
British Brooks	9	86	2
Chabien Rodriguez	6	38	0
Hayden Welle	11	21	0
Taquan McConneaughey	1	3	0

Passing					
Name	Comp	Att	Yards	TD	Int
Hayden Welle	7	21	75	0	2
Chabien Rodriguez	2	4	14	0	0

Receiving			
Name	Rec	Yards	TDs
Cameron June	2	35	0
British Brooks	3	19	0
Malik Hyatt	1	16	0
Tyreese Nicholas	1	12	0
D'Andre Britt	1	5	0
Taquan McConneaughey	1	2	0