

SAN TAN OPENS ITS NEW FIELD WITH AN IMPRESSIVE 18-0 WIN
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By Preston English
San Tan Media Relations Director

GILBERT, Ariz. – This evening brought new beginnings, pregame pomp and circumstance and a new stadium to play in, but the results remained the same on the field. Under the lights at the new San Tan Stadium, San Tan Charter School's varsity football team produced its second shutout in three games defeating Canyon State Academy 18-0.

"They were missing a couple of their big guns," said San Tan head coach Darrell Reid. "After we realized they didn't have them, we knew they were at a big disadvantage."

The first quarter started with a surprise as junior wide out and backup quarterback **Kris Sippel** started the game under center for the Roadrunners due to a disciplinary issue with a starting signal caller **Jaylen Galaviz**. The Roadrunners failed to score in the first quarter despite some opportunities which were negated by bad snaps and penalties.

The second quarter started, Galaviz returned and the first score followed suit. With the Rams (1-2, 1-2 Division) bottling up the Roadrunners running game and playing Cover 0 (no safety over the top) in the passing game, San Tan utilized its athletic receiving corps to throw deep and connect on a 25-yard strike to sophomore tight end **Jacob Loggins** to give the Roadrunners a 6-0 lead.

"We saw the type of coverage they were playing and we were able to take advantage," said Reid. "I think it's hard to play us like that. Jacob had a huge game today."

This became a theme as the Galaviz to Loggins connection hooked up two more times on long scoring plays (79 and 45 yards) to give the final margin of victory for the Roadrunners.

The Roadrunners (3-0, 3-0 Division) are demonstrating they have multiple weapons teams need to prepare for as in three games so far this season three different players have scored three touchdowns in a game (**Nico Houck**, Sippel and now Loggins).

On the defensive side of the ball, San Tan forced three more turnovers, all via interception. Junior cornerback **Anthony Bautista** made two of the thefts, including one that halted a Ram drive deep in Roadrunners territory which could have cut the lead in half. Middle linebacker Houck and Sam linebacker **Jeremiah Leftwich** were all over the field making tackles as each had 7 and 8 tackles respectively and Leftwich also tallied his first career sack.

"Even though we won 18-0 tonight we still feel we can play so much better," said Reid. "That's the positive side that we still have so much room to grow."

The night ended on a sour note as one of the Canyon State players suffered an injury which required the paramedics to be called and the player taken off the field on a stretcher. The game ending was anti-climactic as the game was well in hand at the time so the celebration was subdued out of respect for the injured Ram.

There is no rest for the Roadrunners as a matchup against South Pointe is on the horizon next Friday, Sept. 21 at San Tan Stadium. South Pointe was undefeated going into their match up with Sequoia Pathway tonight, but the final result was not available at press time.

*For more information, contact San Tan Charter High School Media Relations Director **Preston English** at 480-222-0811 or at penglish@santanhs.com.*

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