



MOUNTAINEER ON THE MOVE — David Ray Robinson of the Kings Mountain (38) clutches the football and drives through a hole, behind a block by Richard Ross (43) on South Point's Charles Will (88) during action at Lineberger Stadium Friday

night. The host Raiders came back in the second half to defeat the Mountaineers, 21-13 and keep alive their hopes for the Southwest 3-A title and playoffs spot. (Gazette photo by Tom Reed).

Raiders use second-half bombs to defeat Mounties, 21-13

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South Point's Red Raiders exploded two bombs in the second half to erase a Kings Mountain lead and defeat the Mountaineers, 21-13, at Lineberger Stadium in Belmont Friday night, thus keeping alive the home team's hopes for a share of the Southwest 3-A grid title.

The Raiders used a 69-yard pass completion from quarterback Joe Shepherd to Ricky Lawing in the third quarter and a 75-yard punt return by Rodney Friday in the fourth stanza to shock the Mounties in the key conference clash of the old rivals.

The victory was the sixth against one defeat in the SWC for the Raiders and the loss pinned the second defeat against five wins for Kings Mountain.

The victory enabled the Raiders to stay in step with Shelby and Chase in the now-three-way race for the title in the final year of the existing SWC in the WNCHSAA.

The two long plays came after the Mounties had pushed into a 13-7 lead on the strength of capitalizing on two South Point miscues in the punting game.

The first KM touchdown came after a Raider back fumbled a punt at the South Point 28 in the second quarter and the go ahead tally came in the

third quarter when a high pass from center on a fourth down punting situation gave KM the ball at the Raider two yard line and set up the TD.

Those two Mountaineer tallies erased an early Raider lead on the first possession when Dennis Isles whipped around right end for the go-ahead TD and Karl Witzke soccer-kicked the first of his three points-after touchdowns on the 34-30 lead.

Late in the first period and early in the second, a series of wierd events created the situation for the first Kings Mountain score. Penalties and turnovers occurred in rapid-fire order to give the Mounties their first opportunity.

It started when KM punted but South Point was penalized 15 yards and the Mounties retained possession. Two plays and two penalties against Kings Mountain later, a Mike Bumgardner pass was intercepted by Mitch Painter of the Raiders who returned the steal for 35 yards and an apparent touchdown.

But hold on the Raiders were detected for clipping on the runback and South Point had possession at the KM 33. On the first play, Shepherd fumbled and Steve Laughter of KM

recovered at the KM 35.

Unable to move, the Mounties punted and Randy Moss fumbled the boot at the South Point 28, with Laughter again getting the recovery.

Seven plays later, quarterback Mike Bumgardner sneaked one yard for the score and Bruce Valentine tied the score with a placement.

South Point reached the KM 17 and the Mounties came back to the SP nine before the half but neither could push it in.

Midway in the third stanza, a miscue in the punting game tripped the Raiders again. On a fourth down punting situation at the 19 yard line the center snap went over Shepherd's head and he recovered at the two-yard line. Two plays later Bumgardner again sneaked for the TD.

On the ensuing placement attempt, South Point was penalized half the distance to the goal for encroachment and KM elected to go for a two-point conversion but David Robinson was stopped short of the goal.

Two plays after the ensuing kickoff, Shepherd found Lawing all alone deep down field and pegged a perfect pass to the end who eluded the final KM defender and point and the Raiders had a 14-13 lead.

Early in the fourth stanza, the 145-pound Friday fielded a Danny Bolin punt on his own 25-yard line, broke to his left behind a screen and raced down the left side of the field in front of the screaming South Point stands for the 75-yard return which iced the victory.

Kings Mountain led in first downs, 11-7, but South Point had the big edge in total offensive yardage, 218-125. The Raiders netted 119 of those yards on three pass completions, including the big 69-yarder for TD.

The hard-hitting game resulted in 105 yards in penalties against the Mountaineers and 97 against the Raiders.

STATISTICS					
	KM	SP			
First Downs	11	7			
Net Yards Rushing	106	99			
Passes	2-7	3-6			
Passing Yardage	19	119			
Passes Intercepted by	1	1			
Fumbles Lost	1	2			
Punts	5-33	3-29			
Yards Penalized	105	97			
SCORE BY QUARTERS					
TEAMS	1	2	3	4	T
Kings Mountain	0	7	6	0	13
South Point	7	0	7	7	21
SCORING SUMMARY					
SP — Isles, 10 yard run (Witzke kick)					
KM — Bumgardner, 1 yard run (Valentine kick)					
SP — Lawing, 69 yard pass from Shepherd (Witzke kick)					
SP — Friday, 75 yard punt return (Witzke kick)					