



Gazette photo by Bob Shanley

Tracy Johnson (41) of Kings Mountain picks up good yardage up the middle
... Johnson scored two touchdowns as Mountaineers beat South Point 14-6

Defense slows down Raiders' Young

Johnson leads Mounties' win

By Dwight Frady

Special to The Gazette

BELMONT — Kings Mountain's Tracy Johnson, a 190-pound sophomore, scored both of his team's touchdowns on runs of 43 and 15 yards at South Point's Lineberger Stadium Friday night to key a 14-6 Mountaineer win over the Red Raiders. Kings Mountain's defense held Akron Young, the 1,000-yards-plus rusher for South Point, to only 66 yards in 15 carries.

All of the scoring came in the first half as Kings Mountain's defense staved off two serious Raider scoring threats in the second half. Kings Mountain leveled its Southwestern 3-A Conference record at 3-3, the same mark as South Point. Both teams are 3-4 overall.

Johnson, having to shoulder the burden since junior running standout ~~Curt~~ ~~Lesley~~ missed the game because of an ankle injury, rushed for 145 yards in 18 carries as the Mountaineers piled up 249 yards rushing, 157 of them in the first half.

Following a Scott Lee punt in the first period, Kings Mountain negotiated the 52 yards in two plays, climaxed by Johnson's 43-yard scoring jaunt at the 3:33 mark. Johnson then ran for the two-point conversion.

South Point drove 75 yards in 12 plays behind the passing arm of sophomore quarterback Mark Young in the second period for its only touchdown. Young passed 10 yards to end Kenny Nicholson at the 8:03 mark of the first period, but the pass for the two-point conversion was batted down.

Kings Mountain recovered an on-sides kick at its own 43 and ~~made~~ ~~made~~ 67 yards in 10 plays, climaxed by Johnson's 15-yard run at the 3:44 mark. A running attempt for the two-point conversion failed for a 14-6 Mountaineer halftime lead.

South Point was stopped by a Trent Hullender pass interception with second and goal at the five in the third period. Hullender returned it to the South Point 15, where he was caught from behind by Akron Young, fumbled, and Young recovered.

South Point recovered a Johnson fumble at the KM 23 with 2:40 remaining, but the Mountaineer defense did the job, holding the Raiders at the 20.

Mark Young hit on 11 of 24 passes for 124 yards.

Kings Mountain 14

South Point 6

Kings Mountain	8	6	0	0	—	14
South Point	0	6	0	0	—	6

K — Johnson 41 run (Johnson run)

S — Nicholson 10 pass from Mark Young (pass failed)

K — Johnson 15 run (run failed)