



Gazette photo by Joe Swift

Tonja Watson of South Point (32) hemmed in  
... Kings Mountain's Donald Mauney applies the hit in Raiders' win

# Raiders pull off comeback to defeat Kings Mountain

By Dwight Frady

Special to the Gazette

**KINGS MOUNTAIN** — South Point's Chip Wilson caught a deflected pass and raced into the end zone here Friday night to climax a 63-yard scoring play with 58 seconds remaining in the game to give the Red Raiders a 21-19 win over the host Mountaineers.

In a frantic finish, the Red Raiders scored two touchdowns in the final 2:17 to pull out the victory in what coach Jim Biggerstaff of the Red Raiders called, "Perhaps the finest comeback we've had in my 17 years at South Point."

While it was a tremendous comeback win for South Point and a crushing, heartbreaking loss for the Mountaineers.

The 63-yard scoring bomb was thrown by junior Sylvester Lindsay, who took over for Scott Osborne in the fourth period.

After a scoreless second half and with time running out in the game, Pat Keough recovered a Jerry Jordan fumble at the Kings Mountain 18. Three plays later, standout senior tailback Tonja Watson scored his second touchdown of the night and 29th of his

brilliant Raider career from 8 yards out with 2:47 remaining in the game. Mike Dudko's extra point cut the Mountie margin to 20-14.

South Point stopped Kings Mountain on three running plays and got the ball back following a punt at its 33. Two plays later, Lindsay connected with Wilson for the game-winner.

"We played a passive first half," said Biggerstaff. "We didn't slow them down. After a little chewing out at halftime, we came out and shut them down in the second half. Lindsay was a big difference. He gives us another threat in the backfield. He's only been with us for two weeks. This win gives us a lot of momentum going into our final two games at home against R-S Central and Burns."

The victory put South Point into sole possession of second place in the Southwestern 3-A Conference with a 4-1 record. They are 4-4 overall. Kings Mountain dropped to 3-2 in the league and 6-2 overall. The top three teams in the league enter state 3-A playoff action.

Mountie coach Denny Hicks said his team lost its

Please see Raiders, P. 9-A, Cols. 5-6

# Raiders

Continued from P. 8-A

---

impressive first half. "You can't sit on a 12-point lead," Hicks said.

"South Point did what it had to do to win. They just shut us down in the fourth period. They got stronger and we didn't. I'm still proud of our kids for what they've done this year."

The Mountaineers scored on their first two possessions, driving 80 and 45 yards. Sam Smith scored on a 16-yard run and Jordan on a 3-yard run for a 13-0 first period lead.

Watson, who has gained 914 yards in seven games this season, romped 48 yards to set up South

Point's first score. He went in from 6 yards out at the 9:24 mark of the second period.

Kings Mountain came right back, scoring on its third straight possession on a 75-yard drive in 12 plays with Smith going over from the 1 with 3:13 remaining in the half.

Then came the big comeback by South Point late in the game which left fans on both sides of the field in disbelief.

Watson finished the game with 127 yards in 19 carries while Jordan had 113 yards in 19 carries for the Mounties.

# South Point 21

## Kings Mountain 19

South Point	0	7	0	14	—	21
Kings Mountain	13	6	0	0	—	19

KM — Sam Smith 16 run (kick failed)

KM — Jerry Jordan 3 run (Rusty Bumgardner kick)

SP — Tonja Watson 6 run (Mike Dudko kick)

KM — Smith 1 run (kick failed)

SP — Watson 8 run (Dudko kick)

SP — Chip Wilson 63 pass from Sylvester Lindsay  
(Dudko kick)