



Kings Mountain's Scottie Hopper (44) eludes South Point tackler Jeff Strain.

John Clark/The Gazette

Big plays key as KM routs Raiders

From staff reports

BELMONT — The Kings Mountain Mountaineers slammed the door on South Point running back Willie Strain, then used big plays to swing the door in their favor as they blew out the Red Raiders 42-0 Saturday afternoon.

Strain, the *Gazette*-area's leading rusher with 785 yards going into Saturday, was held to just 45 yards — nine in the second half.

The game was played in the afternoon because one of the four light poles was broken in half by Hurricane Hugo.

"Friday night football is still the real thing, but if they could all come out this way, I could really enjoy Saturday afternoons," said KM Coach Dennis Hicks, whose team scored on both a 99-yard pass play and a 98-yard kickoff return.

The win kept the Mountaineers

a half game behind Southwestern 3-A leader Burns. Kings Mountain is now 2-0 in league play and 4-2 overall, while South Point falls to 2-1 and 3-4.

South Point coach Jim Biggerstaff was surprised by the 42-point defeat, but he said he wasn't the only one with that emotion.

"The most surprised people in this stadium were the ones from Kings Mountain. They had no idea this could happen," said Biggerstaff. "They hoped they could beat us, but they had no idea that the outcome would be like this. I didn't either."

"We must have forgot we were playing football, we go whipped so bad."

In the early going, though, the Raiders controlled the pigskin.

South Point threatened to put the first points on the board late

Please see ROMP/11D

ROMP

FROM 1D

in the first quarter, but Jeff Strain fumbled into the end zone, with the Mountaineers recovering for a touchback.

In the second quarter, the Raiders squandered another scoring opportunity, this time on 4th-and-goal from the Kings Mountain 5. Ricky Hunt took a pass from quarterback Mike Young and was pulled down inches short of the end zone.

On the ensuing play from scrimmage, KM quarterback Timmy McLain hooked up with

Petie McNeal for a 99-yard scoring pass, giving the Mountaineers a 6-0 advantage.

The Mountaineers made it 14-0 late in the first half on a 1-yard plunge by McLain and a two-point conversion run by Victor Bell.

At the start of the second half, Kings Mountain started breaking the game open as D.J. Williams took the kickoff and raced 98 yards for a touchdown and a 20-0 lead. Scottie Hopper added the PAT, making it 21-0.

Later in the third quarter, Daniel Honeycutt returned a punt 28 yards for a touchdown, with Jeff Lockhart adding a two-

yard scoring burst in the fourth period.

Williams made it 41-0 on a 28-yard scamper midway through the final period. Hopper booted his fourth PAT for the game's final margin.

"We're small and, if we don't get the big play, we're out of it," Hicks said. "We just can't line up and drive the ball. We live on the big play."

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Kings Mountain 42

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KM — Petie McNeal 99 pass from Timmy McLain (kick failed).

KM — McLain 1 run (Victor Bell run).

KM — D.J. Williams 98 kick return (Scottie Hopper kick).

KM — Daniel Honeycutt 29 punt return (Hopper kick).

KM — Jeff Lockhart 2 run (Hopper kick).

KM — Williams 28 run (Hopper kick).

	KM	SP
First downs	9	13
Rushing Att-Yds	42-194	30-69
Passes C-A-I	2-5-0	11-20-3
Passing yds.	111	121
Fumbles - lost	3-1	3-2
Punts - Aver.	4-35.3	5-32.0
Pen.-Yds.	8-55	3-35

INDIVIDUAL TOTALS

RUSHING — Kings Mountain: Williams 8-55; Allen Moore 7-36; Lockhart 8-28; Bell 4-25; McLain 13-21; Darius Ross 1-20; Hopper 2-5; Daryl Gash 1-4. South Point: Mike Young 9-(-10); Jeff Strain 8-33; Willie Strain 15-45; Chris Adams 1-1; Kelvin Woods 1-0.

PASSING — Kings Mountain: McLain 2-5-0-111. South Point: Young 11-20-3-121.

RECEIVING — Kings Mountain: McNeal 1-99; Kevin Moss 1-12. South Point: Jason Rumfelt 3-60; David Wilson 3-54; Lyle Wilson 2-23; Ricky Hunt 2-9; W.Strain 1-(-15).