



Craig Bell/The Gazette

Travis Smith of Kings Mountain tries to elude South Point defender.

# Raiders grind past Mounties

■ BELMONT — South Point's vaunted ground game did precisely that Friday night, grinding Kings Mountain's defense down until the Red Raiders came away with a relatively easy win.

The Red Raiders, now 2-1 in Southwestern 3-A play and 6-1 overall, crunched out 328 yards as eight different players carried the ball, gradually building on a 14-0 halftime lead.

"In the second half, they just wore our defense down," said Kings Mountain coach Dennis Hicks. "Our kids kept not scoring, kept not scoring, kept not scoring and the defense kind of

backed off a little bit."

The Red Raiders grabbed a 14-0 lead in the opening quarter, scoring on its first two possessions. Courtney Williams capped the first drive with a 2-yard run, while Shannon Armstrong scored on a 16-yard dash on the second.

"It was only 14-0 at the half and they got the ball first and moved it on us," said South Point coach Phil Tate. "It wasn't over by any means."

But after Kings Mountain was backed up 18 yards for clipping and forced to punt, it was essentially in the bag for the Red Raiders.

South Point's Williams, who finished with 120 yards on 18 carries, virtually wrapped up the win by himself. He scored on runs of 9 and 22 yards in the third period, with Carles Pettis adding a 7-yard TD.

"We planned to run the full-back more," said Tate. "They did a good job of taking the option away from us."

Dean Lowman

|   |    |   |    |   |   |    |
|---|----|---|----|---|---|----|
| Kings Mountain                                    | 0  | 0 | 0  | 0 | — | 0  |
| South Point                                       | 14 | 0 | 13 | 7 | — | 34 |
| SP — Courtney Williams 2 run (Kirk Crawford kick) |    |   |    |   |   |    |
| SP — Shannon Armstrong 16 run (Crawford kick)     |    |   |    |   |   |    |
| SP — Williams 9 run (Crawford kick)               |    |   |    |   |   |    |
| SP — Williams 22 run (kick failed)                |    |   |    |   |   |    |
| SP — Carles Pettis 7 run (Crawford kick)          |    |   |    |   |   |    |