



Mounties pound Raiders

By Michael Nixon
Gazette Correspondent

KINGS MOUNTAIN — Kings Mountain spotted South Point 10 points in the first quarter before kicking its own offense into gear Friday night.

When the Mountaineers' high-octane

**Kings Mtn. 41
South Point 16**

ground game finally hit on all cylinders, it made road kill of the Red Raiders en route to a 41-16 win.

The backfield trio of Corey Jones, Joseph Bell and Marcus Smith led Kings Mountain's 463-yard rushing attack while providing all six Mountaineer scores.

"We've got a pretty good offensive line," Kings Mountain coach Ron Massey said. "And we're fortunate to have the kind of athletes we have to run behind it."

South Point made a game of it early, turning its opening possession into a 3-0 lead on Brian Ashe's 39-yard field goal. And the next time the Red Raiders touched the ball, they scored again.

On third-and-7 from the Mountaineer 44, quarterback Mica Tribble faked a handoff, then lobbed a pass to a well-covered Clint McNabb, who outleaped the defender and romped into the end zone for the score.

"They came out and did some things we hadn't seen," Massey said. "But we made some adjustments after the first quarter and did a good job after that."

Kings Mountain responded with scoring runs from Jones and Smith to take a slim 12-10 lead at the half.

Jones' second score, a 3-yard run in the third quarter, pushed the Mountaineer lead to 20-10. While the Kings Mountain

Phil Allison/The Gazette

Kings Mountain's Marcus Smith is brought down by South Point's Ryan Richardson (30) and mates.

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Kings Mountain's R.J. Barnes runs away from South Point's Brian Ashe.

MOUNTIES

FROM 1C

offense was churning away, its defense was busy stuffing South Point's formidable ground game.

After giving up scores on the first two Red Raider drives, the Mountaineer defense forced South Point into five straight three-and-out offensive series, while giving up just 38

second-half rushing yards.

Kings Mountain broke the game open in the fourth with three scores, two from Smith.

He caught a 23-yard scoring pass from Lance McClain just seconds into the final frame.

Then Jones broke free on a 75-yard run with less than two minutes to play.

"Their size and speed wore us down," South Point coach John Devine said of his squad,

many of whom played most of the game on both sides of the ball. "Our kids played as hard as they could for as long as they could."

South Point	10	0	0	6	- 16
Kings Mountain	6	6	8	21	- 41
SP — Brian Ashe 39 field goal					
SP — Clint McNabb 44 pass from Mica Tribble (Ashe kick)					
KM — Corey Jones 9 run (kick failed)					
KM — Marcus Smith 6 run (pass failed)					
KM — Jones 3 run (Smith run good)					
KM — Smith 23 pass from Lance McClain (Rusty Putnam kick)					
KM — Smith 2 run (Putnam kick)					
SP — Koren Robinson 12 run (run failed)					
KM — Jones 75 run (Putnam kick)					