

# South Point perfect, so far

■ Red Raiders cap first unbeaten season since 1984

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## RUTHERFORDTON —

South Point survived a scare from R-S Central to finish the regular season unbeaten for the first time since 1984.

The Red Raiders trailed 9-6 at halftime, then scored 10 unanswered points in the second half for a 16-9 victory. South Point, the Southwestern 3A champion with a 6-0 league mark, is 11-0 overall. The Raiders will host a first-round state playoff game next Friday.

"It was an ugly win," said South Point coach John Devine. "We walked through the first half and pulled it out in the second half. R-S Central had a good game plan. I'm just glad to get out of here with a win."

South Point was without leading rusher Chris Stowe, who was sidelined with an ankle injury. But Tiger Williams did just fine in Stowe's place. The junior rushed for a career-high 102 yards and had an interception in the first half.

The Raiders appeared to pick up where they left off a week earlier in their high-scoring shootout against Kings.

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Mountain when they clinched the conference title. Quarterback Devon Lowery handed the ball to Williams on the game's second offensive play, and as

## Coming Sunday

Look to *The Gazette* sports section for more coverage of South Point's undefeated football season, the school's first since 1984 and fifth overall.

the South Point 5 and the ball rolled through the end zone for a safety.

After South Point's free kick, the Hilltoppers marched 53 yards for the go-ahead touchdown when Marcus Godfrey scored on a 1-yard plunge.

South Point finally mounted a scoring drive early in the third quarter as the Raiders marched 81 yards in 12 plays with Lowery scoring from the 2 with six minutes left in the

the Hilltopper defense converged on Williams, Lowery pulled the ball back out and raced 80 yards for a touchdown.

The Raider offense sputtered after that.

R-S Central (2-8, 1-5) got its first break when Chris King blocked a Jarien Jackson punt at

third.

Michael Wilkinson, who missed earlier field-goal attempts from 28 and 23 yards, split the uprights from 32 yards for the finishing touch with 3:46 left in the game.

Lowery ran for 97 yards for South Point, but only completed one of 11 passes for 14 yards.

Godfrey led R-S Central with 69 yards, and quarterback Jeff Ogle completed six of 11 passes for 62 yards.

**South Point 6 0 7 3 — 16**

**R-S Central 0 9 0 0 — 9**

### First quarter

SP — Devon Lowery 80 run (kick failed), 11:01

### Second quarter

R-S — Safety, punt blocked into end zone, 2:00

R-S — Marcus Godfrey 1 run (Blane Kinsmore kick), :20.2

### Third quarter

SP — Lowery 2 run (Michael Wilkinson kick), 6:00

### Fourth quarter

SP — Wilkinson 32 FG, 3:46

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