

**SOUTH POINT 59,  
KINGS MOUNTAIN 29**

# Raiders clinch SW3A crown

By **RICHARD WALKER**

Gazette Sports Reporter

**KINGS MOUNTAIN** — South Point and Kings Mountain had another prep football shootout Friday night.

And, again, South Point came out victorious and Southwestern 3A Conference champs.

"Winning two straight conference championships is something that's hard to do," said Red Raiders' quarterback Devon Lowery, who led South Point to the 59-29 victory at Kings Mountain's John Gamble Stadium. "Especially in the Southwestern 3A Conference. Because you know you're going to get competition night-in and night-out."

The Red Raiders (8-0-1, 5-0 conference) certainly were tested again by the Mountaineers, who lost 56-52 at South Point a year ago.

In spite of losing its fourth straight game, Kings Mountain (3-7, 1-4) battled the Red Raiders evenly in statistics.

But, as so often has been the case this season, South Point thrived on big plays, while Kings Mountain died on them.

The Red Raiders took advantage of three Kings Mountain turnovers and had six plays of 20 or more yards, including two for scores.

The ~~individual~~ numbers were equally impressive:

■ Lowery rushed for 155 yards and passed for 28 more.

■ Backup quarterback Drew Devine, who replaced Lowery after he bruised his left knee, picked up 98 yards rushing, including 73 on a scoring run.

■ Tiger Williams and Rasharde Reid combined for 128 yards rushing and four touchdowns.

■ Williams also had two pass interceptions, three solo or first-hit tackles and a caused fumble.

■ Michael McWhirter had nine solo or first-hit stops, including two for losses.

■ John Alexander scored on a 74-yard run and made eight solo or first-hit stops.

South Point coach John Devine was pleased with the team effort, but was happiest at what the victory accomplished.

"The win the last two years of the conference ... that's what you work for," Devine said. "And this group of seniors did not win a game as freshmen. They went 0-10 at the JV level, so this is a testament to just how hard they had to work."

South Point's victory increased its regular-season unbeaten streak to 21 games and its conference streak to 12.

Only Shelby (25 straight, 1968-71), Crest (22 straight, 1981-83) and Shelby (20 straight, 1986-89) have recorded longer league winning streaks in the conference's 47-year history.

To its credit, Kings Mountain didn't lose without putting up a fight.

"For that group in there," Kings Mountain coach Dave Farquharson said, motioning to his team's locker room. "That group has made a commitment to play and they played hard tonight. They just came up a little short."

Matt Ash, playing for the first time in two weeks, passed for 154 yards and rushed for 116 more.

LaDrecus Gingles rushed for 204 yards and a 75-yard score.

**SP 14 3 14 28 — 59**

**KM 0 7 0 22 — 29**

SP — Tiger Williams 8 run (B.J. Richmond kick)

SP — Devon Lowery 6 run (Richmond kick)

KM — Keshario Adams 5 pass from Matt Ash (Matt Bridges kick)

SP — FG Richmond 47

SP — Rasharde Reid 14 run (Richmond kick)

SP — Reid 4 run (Richmond kick)

SP — Reid 5 run (Richmond kick)

SP — John Alexander 74 run (Richmond kick)

KM — Joe Leach 41 pass from Ash (Pass failed)

SP — Drew Devine 1 run (Richmond kick)

KM — LaDrecus Gingles 75 run (Ash run)

SP — Devine 73 run (Richmond kick)

KM — Ash 1 run (Daniel Hardin run)