

No average Joe

Brown scores six TDs as Red Raiders roll over Wonders

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BELMONT — After watching his Red Raiders put a 56-17 whipping on Kannapolis A.L. Brown Friday night at Lineberger Stadium, South Point head coach John Devine was wearing quite a smile.

It was about as wide as some of the holes his offensive line opened to propel fullback Joe Brown loose for six touchdowns, the second-best scoring performance in Gaston County history.

"That's about as satisfied as I've been in a long time," Devine said. "They're a good football team and they've got some good athletes. We just took the wind out of them."

South Point (3-0) played typical Red Raider football, running over and through the A.L. Brown defense at will.

"We're not going to be too fancy, but we're going to come at you," Devine said. "We're not going to run east and west. We've got a good offensive line that will get down there and get dirty. They'll go after you."

After holding the Wonders to a field goal on the first drive of the game, South Point got a 94-yard kickoff return from Brandon Reid to take a 7-3 lead.



Nikki Fox/The Gazette

South Point junior fullback Joe Brown ran for a school-record six touchdowns against A.L. Brown Friday night.

▼ Brown

continued from Page 1C

From that point, Brown and the Red Raider offensive line took over as the 6-foot-1, 195-pound junior scored five times from inside the 5-yard line before reeling off a 44-yarder in the fourth quarter.

With his 36-point performance, surpassed only by the 47 points Stanley's Charlie Handsel hung on Cherryville in 1955, Brown has now scored 13 touchdowns in only three games, putting him on pace to score 260 points for the season, a total that would easily surpass the current county single-season scoring record of 200 points, set by South Point's Scott Crawford in 1971.

"I know when we get down there close, I've got to be the man, but I've got five people in front of me," Brown said of his offensive line. "They did a great job tonight."

Even though he was proud of his touchdowns from close range, the run he was happiest with was the 44-yarder, which gave the Red Raiders a 49-10 lead with 8:29 left in the game.

"I felt better doing that than just knocking it in from 1 yard out," said Brown, who finished the night with 107 yards on 15 carries. "Long runs like that make you better."

Devine was pleased with his team's execution, especially in



Nikki Fox/The Gazette

A.L. Brown tight end Brandon Franklin gets past South Point's Brandon Reid in the first quarter Friday night at South Point.

the red zone.

"When we get in there close, we think we can knock you off the ball," Devine said. "It's gonna be north-south football."

While the win looked easy at times, Devine said the real la-

bor came during the week on the practice field, where the Red Raiders worked on running against A.L. Brown's three-five defensive alignment.

"We practiced against it all week," Devine said. "We knew

they were going to slant one way or the other. You've got to block on the slant, and we did it without holding."

The victory avenged South Point's 33-30 loss in Kannapolis last season, something Brown was proud of.

"We owed them something from last year," Brown said. "But we want to play like we owe everybody something."

Wonders coach Ron Massey, who previously coached at Kings Mountain, thinks his team has some fight left, despite getting off to a 1-2 start.

"We're not giving up on this team," Massey said. "People might want to get rid of me, but these kids are going to bounce back. We'll find some ways to win football games."

A.L. Brown faces Concord next week while the Red Raiders travel to Crest.

ALB 3 7 0 7-17

SP 14 14 14 14-56

AL B Chase Lowder 27 field goal

SP Brandon Reid 94 kickoff return

(Andrew Rinehart

kick)

SP Joe Brown 1 run (Rinehart kick)

AL B Brandon Franklin 2 run (Lowder

kick)

SP Joe Brown 1 run (Lowder kick)

SP Joe Brown 5 run (Lowder kick)

SP Joe Brown 2 run (Lowder kick)

SP Joe Brown 1 run (Lowder kick)

SP Joe Brown 44 run (Lowder kick)

SP Corey Brown 28 run (Lowder kick)

AL B Terrance Alsbrooks 39 fumble

return (Lowder kick)