



Benjamin Patton/The Gazette

South Point quarterback Desmond Lowery rushes for a touchdown in front of Kings Mountain's J.T. Putnam (51) and Sage Luley on Friday. Lowery rushed for 142 yards and three touchdowns.

Exclamation Point

Raiders use run game, tough 'D' to whip Mountaineers

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KINGS MOUNTAIN — It was hard to tell which unit was most impressive in South Point's 53-3 win at Kings Mountain on Friday.

There was the offense, which churned out 459 yards — all on the ground. Then there was the defense, which held the Mountaineers out of the end zone and converted one

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turnover into a touchdown.

Junior quarterback Desmond Lowery ran South Point's triple-option offense to near perfection, rushing for 142 yards and three touchdowns. Aaron Crumbley ran for 97 yards and a touchdown. Jesse McGaha added two scores on the ground.

"We're not trying to be too complicated," South Point coach John Devine said. "We're keeping it simple and the kids are executing it."

Linemen Greg Lancaster, Trevor Reeves, Daniel Gillelan, Will

Gulledge and Daniel Biggerstaff provided the blocking for South Point (2-0), which rushed for 368 yards at Lincolnton last week.

South Point scored on its first two possessions and its defense was swarming from the start. Stan Wilson hammered Kings Mountain's Neil Scott on the kickoff return after South Point's first score, forcing a fumble that the Red Raiders recovered.

After Lowery scored on just one play, South Point's defense forced another turnover. McGaha tipped a pass with one hand to himself, then reeled it in and raced 37 yards to the end zone for a 19-0 lead.

See Raiders/Page 4C ►►

▼ Raiders

continued from Page 10

"It was crazy," McGaha said. "I just reached around. It felt like playing in the back yard."

Wilson, the hard-hitting senior linebacker, finished with six tackles. James Justice had eight and Tyler Coolidge added seven. Michael Lewis also had an interception and Daniel Holmes broke up two passes.

The news wasn't all bad for Kings Mountain.

The Mountaineers (1-1) had their moments on offense and managed 207 yards on the ground and 15 first downs. But they turned the ball over three times and lit up the scoreboard only on a 27-yard field goal by Alex Randall in the second quarter.

"They just hit us early and hit us quick and we didn't recover," first-year Kings Mountain coach Greg Lloyd said. "We got behind and it just sort of snowballed. We've got to be able to play a little better when we're down."

South Point now prepares to host Alexander Central, the team North Gaston beat 42-7 in Week 1, next week. Kings Mountain (1-1) will travel to Forestview (1-1), which lost to Clover.

SP	19	13	14	7	-	53
KM	0	3	0	0	-	3

First quarter

SP — Desmond Lowery 17 run (James Justice kick), 7:35.

SP — Lowery 14 run (kick failed), 7:20.

SP — Jesse McGaha 37 interception return (kick failed), 5:39.

Second quarter

KM — FG Alex Randall 27, 11:06.

SP — Lowery 25 run (Justice kick), 9:24.

SP — Crumley 16 run (run failed), 1:29.

Third quarter

SP — McGaha 5 run (Justice kick), 8:08.

SP — McGaha 5 run (Justice kick), 2:01.

Fourth quarter

SP — Josh Justice (James Justice kick), 3:44



Photos by Benjamin Pattery/The Gazette

(Above) South Point's Daniel Holmes picks up a fumble on a kickoff to Kings Mountain on Friday. The Red Raiders forced three turnovers in the game. (Below) South Point's Jesse McGaha intercepts a pass intended for Kings Mountain's Ricky Greene (81).

