

Raiders stay unbeaten, top Shelby, 15-7 score

By DWIGHT FRADY
Gazette Sports Writer

South Point's Red Raiders remained unbeaten and untied last night at Laneberger Stadium before 6,000 excited fans, edging past arch-rival Shelby 15-7 and all but sewing up the Southwest 3-A Conference flag.

It was South Point's seventh straight win without a defeat and the Red Raiders in a tense struggle protected their number one rating in the state class 3-A ranks.

The win certainly didn't come easy and it took a circus catch by Jimmy Stowe to give the Raiders the impetus they needed to win their 41st game against but three defeats and two ties over the last four seasons under Jim Higgerstaff-coached teams.

The Raiders have three loop games remaining, at Kings Mountain next week, at Burns the following week, then at home against North Gaston in their finale.

Shelby got an early break last night against South Point but failed to capitalize. They recovered a Butch Rankin fumble at the South Point 15, but following penalties, they were thrown back to the 35.

SHELBY PUNTED to South Point's seven, and Rankin's punt was returned 35 yards by Larry Eberheart for a score with 3:46 remaining in the first quarter and Danny Miller converted to give Shelby a 7-0 lead as the Lions drew first blood.

Stowe, a star during the evening, recovered a Shelby fumble at the 27, and the Raiders pushed it in with 10:10 remaining in the second half with hard-charging Wayne Fewell driving in from the three.

On a surprise play, the fake kick was called for on the conversion and quarterback Doug Davis hit Fewell in the end zone wide-open for the two-point conversion and it stood 8-7 South Point.

South Point then moved to the Shelby 12 on its next possession from its own 40 before being thwarted. Shelby promptly moved to the South Point 10 before being stopped a yard short of a first down with 0:46 left in the half.

THE BIG PLAY in that drive was a 43-yard run by Miller to the Red Raider 19.

Shelby in the third quarter's early going appeared headed for bigger things when Miller got loose from his own 43 to the South Point 19 on a nice punt but the long-gaiter was nullified because of penalties on both sides.

South Point marched 42 yards to its final touchdown early in the third quarter. They took a punt at the Shelby 42 and moved in.

With second and eight at the 24, Davis faded and lofted one to Stowe Stowe, with a defender on his back made a one-handed circus catch on the five and raced in with the ball held aloft for a mighty big six points and some insurance the Raiders had been looking for all evening.

Shelby had one more last gasp. They kicked to the Raider four and the Raiders punted out to the 35, where Eberheart returned it to the 27.

STATISTICS

	S. Point	Shelby
First Downs	11	8
Net Yards Rushing	119	111
Passes	2-4	1-1
Passing Yardage	31	17
Passes Intercepted by	0	0
Fumbles Lost	1	1
Punts	4-30.7	4-38
Yards Penalized	15	15

SCORE BY QUARTERS

TEAMS	1	2	3	4	T
South Point	0	8	0	7	15
Shelby	0	0	0	7	7

SCORING SUMMARY

Scoring Touchdowns: South Point: Fewell 13-yard run; Stowe 24-yard pass from Davis.
PAT: Fewell 2: pass from Davis; Later 1: kick.
Scoring Touchdown: Shelby: Eberheart 35-yard punt return. PAT: Miller: kick.

But four plays later, Shelby was still on the Raider 27 as the Big Red defense came through when it really counted most.

With 3:36 left on the clock, the Raiders did as true champions do, running out the clock as they methodically pushed from their own

27 to tie Shelby 15 before the final gun sounded.

The Raiders were hurt severely midway of the second quarter when senior fullback and middle-guard Dennis Grier resprained his left ankle. He saw only limited service on defense thereafter.

Crest scores 6-0 win over Ironmen

By RONALD KISER

CHERRYVILLE — Crest Chargers pushed over a touchdown in the fourth quarter to nip Cherryville, 6-0, in a bruising defensive struggle between the Southwest 3-A rivals here last night.

A roughing the kicking penalty set up the only TD of the game. It came midway in the fourth stanza, against Cherryville and gave Crest the ball at the Ironmen 35 yard line. It took 10 plays for the Chargers to charge into the end zone.

Dennis Sinkler scored from the two yard line with 9:52 left in the game.

A fumble punt gave Crest another opportunity in the waning minutes of the game, and the final whistle found the Chargers on the Ironmen one yard line.

CHERRYVILLE'S BIG chance came in the second period when Chuck Dellinger scooped up a loose ball and ran to the Crest 27 yard line. But a penalty pushed the Ironmen back and a 46-yard field goal attempt by Eric King went wild to the left.

The bruising defensive clash saw each team manage only one first-in-ten in the first half. Cherryville managed to negotiate the 10

yards with 7:35 left in the half, and Crest did not make a first down until only 1:56 remained before the rest break.

Crest came into the game a three-TD favorite, but Cherryville outrushed the visitors 126 yards to 40. The Ironmen, however, failed to complete a pass in a dozen attempts.

Cherryville fullback Tommy Summer was the leading ground gainer in the game with 90 yards in 22 carries.

Summer, Dellinger, Robert Wylie and Bobby Oates were the defensive leaders for the Ironmen.

Now 2-5 overall and 1-5 in the SWC, Cherryville plays at East Gaston next Friday night.

STATISTICS

	Crest	Cherryville
First Downs	4	4
Net Yards Rushing	40	126
Passes	4-10	0-12
Passing Yardage	27	0
Passes Intercepted by	2	0
Fumbles Lost	1	1
Punts	6-34.2	7-31.6
Yards Penalized	25	18

SCORE BY QUARTERS

TEAMS	1	2	3	4	T
Crest	0	0	0	6	6
Cherryville	0	0	0	0	0

SCORING SUMMARY

Touchdown: Crest — Sinkler 2 yard run

Chase comeback edges KM Mounties by 14-12

By GARY STEWART
(Special to The Gazette)

KINGS MOUNTAIN — Chase's Trojans scored two second half touchdowns to upset Kings Mountain 14-12 in the Mountaineers' annual homecoming game here last night.

The victory was the second straight for Chase, which won its first game in two years last week over Bessemer City, 34-13, the loss leaving the Mountaineers at 4-2 in the Southwest 3-A Conference and 4-3 overall and all but eliminates the Mountaineers from the title picture.

Ray Harris, a quick 143-pound sophomore halfback, scored on a 75-yard run in the third period and a two-yard pass from quarterback Jody Waters in the fourth period to erase a 12-0 Kings Mountain advantage and give the Trojans the surprise victory.

Kings Mountain had a 6-0 halftime lead following a three-yard touchdown run by Tony Falls in the first quarter.

FALLS SCORED Kings Mountain's final TD early in the third quarter from 14 yards out following a fumble recovery by Roy Putnam.

Kings Mountain threatened on several other occasions but lost four fumbles in the shadows of the Trojan goal line. Chase also stopped drives with two pass interceptions.

Kings Mountain has now lost nine fumbles in the last two games and they'll carry pigskins with them to class probably next week.

Falls finished as the game's top rusher with 118 yards in 16 carries and Harris led the Trojans with 107 yards in 14 carries.

Kings Mountain lost defensive tackle Mike Ship in the first half with a broken leg. Kings Mountain hosts unbeaten South Point next week.

STATISTICS

	Kings Mt.	Chase
First Downs	11	9
Net Yards Rushing	200	140
Passes	3-14	4-8
Passing Yardage	65	40
Passes Intercepted by	1	2
Fumbles Lost	4	1
Punts	3-34	4-29
Yards Penalized	18	20

SCORE BY QUARTERS

TEAMS	1	2	3	4	T
Kings Mountain	6	0	6	12	24
Chase	0	0	7	7	14

SCORING SUMMARY

Scoring Touchdowns: Kings Mountain: Falls 2 (runs of three and 14 yards).
Scoring Touchdowns: Chase: Harris 2:75-yard run and 2-yard pass from Waters.
PAT: Young 2: kick.