

## **Preview**

### **Unfinished Business**

Dwelling on the past serves no purpose. Doing so clouds the focus toward a goal that lies ahead. But for the Red Raiders who will take to the gridiron in 2022, a quick look back may be just what's needed to motivate a champion! South Point fell to eventual 3A State Champion, Greensboro Dudley, in the Regional Championship last season. The Raiders had put together an impressive run, giving every indication of being a team that was peaking at the right time. But a team loaded with talent and athleticism used arguably the best passing attack in the state to end the South Point run. This left the Raiders two wins away from a coveted addition to their own trophy case. But it also left them with a strong sense of unfinished business. Returning starters and a support crew, eager to step up, will put the Big Red in a familiar, and expected, position - Championship Contender.

Up and down the roster, and on both sides of the ball, South Point will be able to put a competitive group on the field. The offensive line will once again prove capable of plowing over defenses, allowing speedy running backs to pick up chunks of yardage. And veterans under center and at the receiver positions will keep defenses honest when they try to key on the ground attack. On the defensive side, the Raiders will employ speed, technique, and a power punch that will shutdown opponents and keep the ball into the hands of the Big Red scoring machine! A more determined lineup of hard-hitters could not be found across the state.

The action kicks off August 19 with a visit to Von Ray Harris Field at Memorial Stadium in Lincolnton. The Red Raiders have some unfinished business to tend to, and the host Wolves will present the initial challenge. Only one 3A team will win their final game of the season.

The Big Red run begins!

Go Get 'Em, Red!

### **Notable Facts and Thoughts**

The series with Lincolnton began in 1969 and ran through 1973 with South Point picking up six consecutive victories (the teams played twice in 1971). Then after a 15 year hiatus, the Wolves decided to give the Raiders another shot. Lincolnton gained some early success. But the Raiders have reclaimed dominance and own a 28-10 series record against the Wolves. Number 29 is coming up!