

Todd Palmer (left) and Johnny Demarsico will handle the catching chores this year for South Point.

# Raiders have good pitchers

By DWIGHT FRADY  
Staff Writer

Mickey Lineberger begins his 22nd season as head coach of the South Point Red Raider baseball team hoping his club will pick up where they left off last year in the Big South tournament when they defeated North Gaston and East Gaston before losing to defending state 3A champion Ashbrook in the title game. The Raiders finished 13-13 in the perennially-tough Big South.

Lineberger feels that pitching should be the strength of his team, which returns key veterans at other positions. Two seniors, David Bumgardner and Benn Stancil, return to shoulder much of the pitching load.

Bumgardner pitched his best game of the year in the win in the tournament over East Gaston. Other pitchers

being counted on include senior David Beck, who returns following an arm injury, senior Dusty Parker, junior Charlie Hill, and freshman Zack Horne. Hill and Horne are left handers.

Lawson McCarter, the team's catcher for the past two years, has been moved to center field, where he has excellent speed and a strong arm. Junior Todd Palmer and senior Johnny Demarsico are the catchers. Demarsico is also listed as a first baseman.

Second baseman Wade Harris graduated, leaving that position available to either junior Drew Pennington or sophomore Corey Simmonds.

Junior Aaron Horne brings smiles to Lineberger's face at shortstop. He's a hard hitter and a good fielder. When

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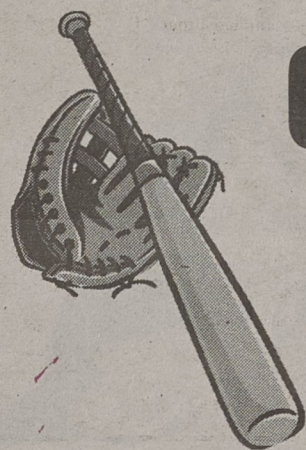
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