

new barriers.

In addition to being selected to play in the Shrine Bowl, Frederick was also named the 2016 Thomas Davis High School Comeback Player of the Year.

The award is given to the player who has suffered an injury but then comes back stronger and better than before.

During spring practice of the 2015 football season, Frederick tore his lateral meniscus and had surgery on it.

He missed five weeks of the regular season but, when he came back, it was clear that he was ready to work and was still pushing himself to the best of his ability.

Frederick said that he was disappointed in himself because he had gotten injured his 10th grade year as well.

He would wonder why

something like this would happen to him, but he knew that he just needed to keep his head up get through it.

At first, Frederick was cautious about being on the field and was afraid to get hurt again.

But he knew that he had to get over it and use his injuries as motivation to get better and improve his skills. Frederick's family was also very supportive of his will to push past the injuries and continue his football career at South Pointe.

"They all rallied around because they know that I'm a strong kid, and they just have to keep motivating me and keep me going every day," Frederick said.

For his junior season, Frederick had eight solo tackles, 10 solo tackles, two tackles per game, and one interception.

Neely, who now wears his brother's number 26, says that his brother has influenced him greatly in terms of football.

Former Stallion star Corey Neely now plays for Marshall University as a boundary safety and was recently named defensive player of the game for the Marshall versus Middle Tennessee game.

Neely says that as a child he would always want to be like his brother and strived for that, but now he strives to be better than his brother.

"Even my dad says that I'm bigger than my brother and that I can be better than him," said Neely.

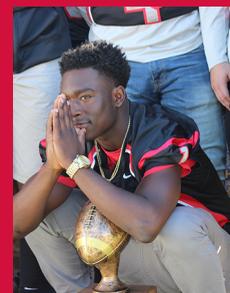
All of these boys, whether it be a through competition between brothers or a competition to be better than they already are, have something that pushes them harder and pushes them past their boundaries.

"I believe they want to be the best at something they love doing," said head football coach, Strait Herron.

He thinks that there is something special that every player has.

Some may be stronger or faster or bigger but every single one of them has the ability to use the maximum effort during every play.

## MORE HONORS FOR DK



Derion "DK" Kendrick was recently named the "Big 22 Player of the Year" through WSOC-TV's Channel 9 "Big 22" contest. Kendrick was awarded \$10,000 for his school and a personalized trophy through WSOC-TV and Bojangles.

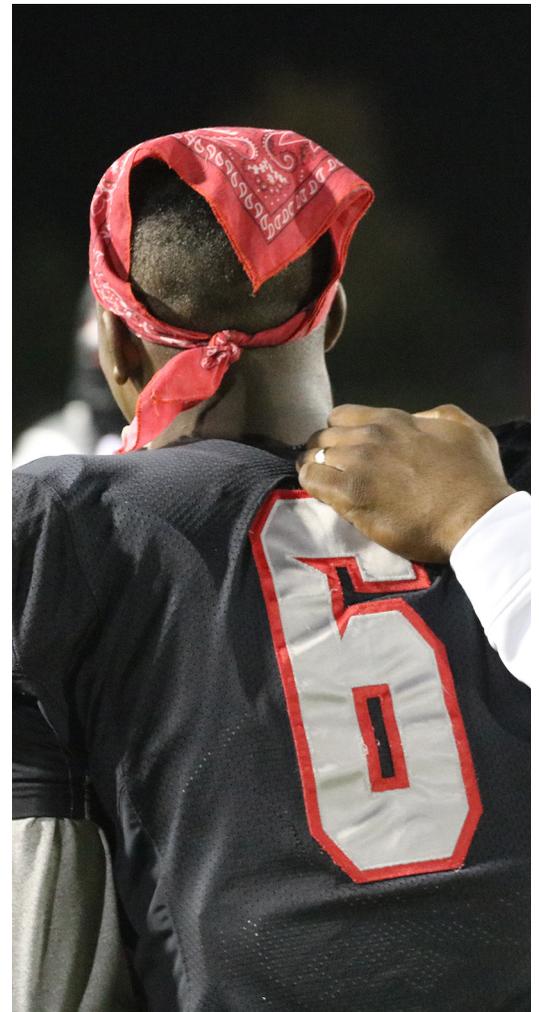
Prior to the football season, coaches were asked to nominate up to five high school football players to be considered for the "Big 22" players to watch. The winner was picked through online voting..

Additionally Kendrick was also named the Offensive Player of the Year, for the Tri-County Coaches Association. He beat out three other nominees.

During the regular season, Kendrick completed 148/241 passes for 2,057 yards and 18 touchdowns, and also ran for 472 yards and seven more touchdowns in 10 games.



(left to right) Bryson Cooper, Ken'Darius Frederick, and Cort Neely support teammate DK Kendrick at his award ceremony.



## CAROLINA'S BEST

*Kinsley Thurston/Reporter*

*Photos by Shelby Beckler and Kinsley Thurston*

Defensive back Ken'Darius Frederick and linebacker Bryson Cooper were both selected to play in the 80th annual Shrine Bowl on Dec. 17 in Gibbs Stadium in Spartanburg, while outside linebacker Cort Neely was chosen for the 69th annual North-South All-Star game, the 2016 Touchstone Energy Cooperatives Bowl, Dec. 10.

The Shrine Bowl consists of South Carolina's best talents put against North Carolina's best talents, giving college recruiters and football fans a chance to witness the top-level players from both states one final time,

all while raising money for the Shriners Children's Hospital.

The North-South All-Star game's mission statement is to create a memorable and rewarding week for the best high school football players and coaches.

Any proceeds from the North-South All-Star Game go to the South Carolina Athletic Coaches Association Scholarship Fund for the children of the state's athletic coaches.

Despite celebrating three selections for these prestigious post-season exhibition games, Stallions, especially these

three, hope they don't get the opportunity to play in them because of the confliction with the state semi-finals and finals.

"It's just a good feeling to know that I'm being recognized for my talents," Frederick said.

Frederick and Cooper worked together all summer and were able to push each other to work harder and strengthen themselves on the field.

Frederick said that he knew he and Cooper were in the same position when it came to pushing themselves to higher standards on the field.

He knew that working with Cooper would be

able to help both of them.

Cooper said that he was excited because, not only does he get to represent the state of South Carolina, but also he now knows that someone has noticed his hard work.

Before moving to Rock Hill, Cooper remembers being cut from his seventh grade football team.

He was upset at first, but he knew that everything happens for a reason. Cooper used this as motivation to work harder and push himself more.

Since he started at South Pointe, he has been using this same mindset to push himself and break