

RICHLAND BOMBERS

Coach: Mike Neidhold (5th year, 27-14).

Last league title: 2008.

Last playoff berth: 2010.

Home field: Fran Rish Stadium.

Projected starters (returners in **bold**)

OFFENSE	POS	YR	HT	WT
Zach Whitby	QB	Jr.	5-10	180
Cam Simpson	RB	Sr.	5-9	190
Mason Baird	RB	Sr.	5-10	170
Sheldon Liikala	WR	Sr.	5-9	160
Deric Samples	WR	Sr.	5-11	175
Brock Whitby	TE	Jr.	5-11	160
Clayton Simundson	LT	Sr.	6-3	250
Will Fisher	LG	So.	6-4	300
Derek Matheson	C	Sr.	5-11	240
Matt McCranie	RG	Sr.	6-0	225
Kahlin Laville	LT	Sr.	6-2	230
Kevin Garza	K	Sr.	6-1	170
DEFENSE	POS	YR	HT	WT
Matt Chalmers	DE	Sr.	5-10	220
Kahlin Laville	DT	Sr.	6-2	230
Jake Ellis	DT	Jr.	5-9	225
Elijah Norris	DE	Jr.	6-2	205
Cam Simpson	LB	Sr.	5-9	190
Brock Whitby	LB	Jr.	5-11	160
Hayden Whitby	LB	Jr.	5-9	190
Deric Samples	DB	Sr.	5-11	175
Mason Baird	DB	Sr.	5-10	170
Gibson McGeorge	DB	Jr.	6-1	190
Sheldon Liikala	DB	Sr.	5-9	160
Isaac Campbell	P	Jr.	6-0	200

Others to watch: WR Nate Streufert, Jr. (6-6, 190); WR Derek Redden, Sr. (5-7, 150); TE Cody O'Toole, Sr. (6-4, 200); DB Keith Kneblak, Sr. (5-10, 160); LB/DB Hunter Chambers, Jr. (5-9, 175); RB Josh Phillips, So. (5-9, 175); RB Anthony Galat, Jr. (5-8, 170); WR Spencer Wheeler, Jr. (6-4, 195).

Quick hits

- ▶ Neidhold praised his seniors for taking charge over the summer: "They organized the offseason stuff, made the phone calls. They took the leadership to heart."
- ▶ Richland has become renowned for its 1-2 punch at running back, but it may take it to an extreme with Simpson heading a group of four or five sharing the load. The O-line returns four of five starters, a good beginning to success running or passing.
- ▶ Zach Whitby's job got a lot easier when Streufert and Wheeler came out from the basketball team to join the experienced Liikala and Samples.
- ▶ Lot of new faces on defense, though Samples and Baird make for an experienced secondary. Simpson heads what has the makings of a tough group of linebackers.

Outlook

Bottom line, the Bombers will be much more balanced on offense, and that should make for some defensive headaches for their opponents.

Defensively, a lot of questions need to be answered, but Neidhold is confident a play-by-committee approach can work.

"We don't have Greek gods, just Greeks. We don't have All-Americans, just Americans."