

PREP FOOTBALL WEEK 5



Richland running back Anthony Galat collides with Kamiakin's Sam Borisch as Kamiakin's Trevor Holman, left, hangs on Friday during a game against Richland at Fran Rish Stadium in Richland. See photo gallery at tricityherald.com.

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Bombers need 4 OTs to top Braves

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It's a simple lesson, but it's much more difficult to live by than to say.

Don't ever give up.

The Richland football team found itself in a dark place Friday night at Fran Rish Stadium. Down 21-7 just before halftime and facing a Kamiakin offense showing no signs of stopping, the Bombers found a way.

They found a way to score just before halftime, pulling to within seven points. They found a way to tie the game and eventually pull ahead just before the fourth quarter.

When Kamiakin tied the score in the fourth quarter, Richland found out even more about what kind of team it is, pulling out a 56-49 Mid-Columbia Conference victory in four overtimes.

Bombers quarterback Zach Whitby threw for for 324 yards and five touchdowns — three of them in overtime — a career-best performance when he needed it most. He found eight different receivers on the night, but few were more critical than Payton Radliff, a fellow senior who caught five passes for 70 yards and three touchdowns.

The pair connected on Richland's last score, a 10-yard fade to the right corner that Radliff hauled in near the back line to put the pressure on Kamiakin.

The Braves had been feeding the MCC's leading

rusher — Umid Ramizov — all night, and the senior running back answered the call with 149 yards and two touchdowns on 35 carries. But the Bombers defense bottled him up, holding him to 17 yards on his final six carries.

Kamiakin quarterback Kyle Robertson had been hitting his targets all night, going 18-for-28 for 330 yards and three touchdowns. But on his final throw of the night, he rolled out to the left and spotted Brandon Larson in the left corner. The throw went low, and Larson met the ball at the grass, but the official ruled it a trap.

The game was over, and Richland players flooded

See **BOMBERS** | Page B3

BOMBERS | McGeorge makes key plays in overtime periods for Bombers

FROM PAGE B1

the field.

Radliff gave the Bombers some life in the second quarter after Kamiakin took a 21-7 lead when Ramizov scored from 1-yard out with just 47 seconds left in the second half.

Whitby completed an 11-yard strike to Bennett Peterson, then hit Gibson McGeorge for 20 more to put Richland at the Braves' 28 with just under 20 seconds left. He looked for Radliff twice on go routes down the sideline, overthrowing him by a bit each time.

But the third attempt was true, as Whitby ducked under an onrushing defender to hit Radliff in the end zone. Radliff, a key force on the Richland basketball team, had just one touchdown coming into the game.

Richland scored the next 14 points. Whitby found Garrett March wide open when Kamiakin's safety bit on Radliff's 15-yard curl, and March went 41-yards for a score to tie it at 21.

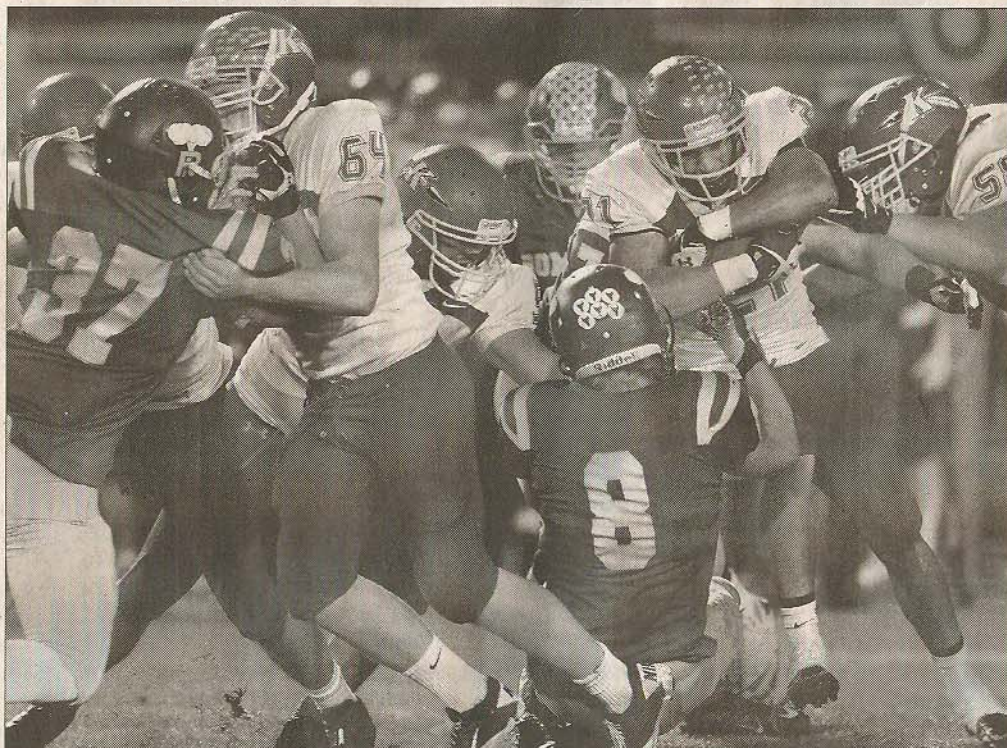
The Bombers, who managed just 159 yards in the first half, scored on all four attempts in overtime.

McGeorge was also critical in overtime, catching two balls for 34 yards, including a 25-yard slant to open the second overtime.

Kamiakin	7	14	0	7	7	7	7	0	-	49
Richland	7	14	0	7	7	7	7	-	56	

SCORING PLAYS

- R—Anthony Galet 8 run (Damien Ruiz kick)
- K—Kylie Robertson 3 run (Connor Shymanski kick)
- K—Austin Gutierrez 90 pass from Robertson (Shymanski kick)
- K—Umid Ramizov 1 run (Shymanski kick)
- R—Payton Radliff 28 pass from Zach Whitby (Ruiz kick)
- R—Garrett March 41 pass from Z.Whitby (Ruiz kick)



Kamiakin's Umid Ramizov fights to convert on third-and-two on Friday during a game against Richland at Fran Rish Stadium in Richland. See photo gallery at tricityherald.com.

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- R—Nathan Perry 3 run (Ruiz kick)
- K—Robertson 1 run (Shymanski kick)
- K—Ramizov 6 run (Shymanski kick)
- R—Radliff 11 pass from Z.Whitby (Ruiz kick)
- R—Gibson McGeorge 25 pass from Z.Whitby (Ruiz kick)

- K—Brandon Larsen 5 pass from Robertson (Shymanski kick)
- K—Larsen 11 pass from Robertson (Shymanski kick)
- R—Galet 1 run (Ruiz kick)
- R—Radliff 10 pass from Z.Whitby (Ruiz kick)