

Bombers take care of business

Defense dominates in
35-7 win over Pasco

SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

A night after Kamiakin quickly dispatched Hanford to remain unbeaten in the Mid-Columbia Conference, Richland methodically and systematically put Pasco away, setting up a battle of unbeaten next week at Fran Rish Stadium.

The Bombers (6-1, 5-0 MCC) did not allow an offensive touchdown on their way to a 35-7 win over the Bulldogs on homecoming night Friday at Fran Rish Stadium.

Kamiakin beat the Bombers 21-14 last year, and two years ago it was Richland outlasting the Braves 56-49 in four overtimes. Needless to say, next week's showdown should be another slugfest.

Richland, which has won six in a row since losing to Gonzaga Prep in its season opener, did what most expected Friday night, beating an undersized Pasco team.

The Bulldogs' lone offensive

BOMBERS | Fourth-down conversions key first-half drives

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highlight came on an 85-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by Tayden Jenkins after the Bombers marched down the field and scored on their opening drive. Jenkins went untouched down the far sideline to tie the game at 7.

That was about the only hiccup the Bombers had Friday night. Richland answered with a touchdown on its second drive and never looked back.

Timely Conversions

The Richland offense made the key plays in the first half when it needed to the most. The Bombers converted on fourth down four straight times to keep

the offense on the field.

The first conversion came on the second drive as the Bombers faced a fourth-and-5 from their own 48-yard line. But a fake punt and a pass from Ryan Wolski to Victor Strasser covered 28 yards to put Richland at the Bulldogs' 24. Six plays later on another fourth down, Kyle Whitby scored on 2-yard run to give Richland a 14-7 lead.

Leading 21-7, the Bombers converted on two fourth downs on a 15-play, 86-yard drive. At the Pasco 37, facing a fourth-and-1, Whitby broke free for a 22-yard gain. Three plays later, Paxton Stevens hit Griffey March on an 11-yard pass play on a fourth-and-9. That led to a McClain Elgin 2-yard touchdown run.

Missed Opportunities

The Bulldogs might not have scored an offensive touchdown, but it wasn't for lack of moving the ball.

Pasco traveled inside the Bombers' 25 twice in the first half but could not score. In the second half, the Bulldogs reached the Richland 13 but again failed to come away with points.

Passing Problems

The Bulldogs had some success completing passes. Kolby Killoy finished the game completing 10 of 18 passes. The only problem was those 10 completions went for only 30 total yards, averaging 3 yards per completion.