

# Richland, West Bremerton In Season-ENDER Friday



Richland athletic officials are beginning to scratch their heads a bit and wonder if the quality of the opposition is an important factor in the minds of the fans.

For instance, with the exception of a game or two early in the season, Richland is playing strictly in the "big school" class all the way down the line. Yet last weekend when John Rogers of Spokane came to town, about the only Bomber Bowl seats you couldn't see vacant were those occupied by the students.

True, it was a bit chilly, but since when does cold weather scare away the football fan? Unless he is a fair weather fan in more ways than one.

The crowd was comparable to those which used to turn out when the Bombers went up against such teams as Grandview and Prosser, with Richland almost certain of a win. But from the financial standpoint then, Richland was further ahead. For the nearby visiting small schools didn't come in for a guarantee like the larger schools further away.

Friday, the Bombers again will go against some opposition in its own class. And again the visiting school will come from far away and come in for a good-sized guarantee. If the crowd-size is something like the one present for the John Rogers game, the Bombers management is going to have to look around for some closer, and softer opposition.

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## Changes In The Rules

Just a reminder—Basketball fans will see something new and different when the round ball boys starting playing in the gyms this year. Possibly the biggest change will come around the free throw circle where the 12-foot foul lines are now standard. This follows their successful working in collegiate ball last year.

Also, the lineup under the basket when foul shots are taken will be slightly different. In the old days, a player from each the offense and defense were given positions close to the backboard along the foul line.

This year, both of those spots will be filled by the defensive team, which means a couple of things. If a guy misses a free throw, the odds are the defense will get the rebound. And (coupled with other rule changes) means that the quick tipin following a missed free shot will be difficult if not impossible among prep players.

All of them, of course, are designed to offset some of the advantage of having giants on a team.

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## Sentiment Changing

The Sporting News takes a rundown on coaching sentiment in the two-platoon vs. one-platoon argument and it appears there is a switch in feeling. While the coaches of midwestern universities are about divided, this represents quite a change from four years ago when it was almost 100 per cent for two platoons.

Those still favoring the two-platoon idea advance the usual reasons — more players play, it's a better game, fans see more precision football, and the one platoon game has led to split T's and return to the single wing.

Most of it is a bunch of hoey. For instance, they never reveal just why it is a better game. Unquestionably, it is more precise, but how many fans know the difference? And just what is wrong with a little head-bashing single wing stuff anyway?

The old two-platoon was nice for the coaches because they could always take some player with little ability and not much learning power and teach him to do one or two things. But it was hard on the coach with a good first team and not much of a reserve.

## Kennewick, Pasco Play Saturday

The Richland Bombers close out the prep football season Friday night with a game against West Bremerton High school, while Pasco and Kennewick continue practice for the traditional Saturday at Kennewick.

Coach Francis Rish, who had to go far afield to find opposition for his team this year, expects something of a battle when the two teams play Friday night.

"They lost to Lincoln by one point, and won their first three games," he said.

Rish also hopes the absence of Pasco and Kennewick action Friday night, along with Richland's recent win over John Rogers of Spokane, might result in something of a crowd.

Partly because of cool weather, Richland adults were noticeable by their absence last week, and the Richland athletic department didn't come out even.

The Bombers will have one first-stringer out of action. He is Ken Ryan who suffered a broken collar-bone in the John Rogers game.

His place will probably be taken by either Dwayne Muller or Jock Cameron.

Otherwise, the lineup is set and ready to go against West Bremerton.

While Richland prepares for its season ender, Pasco and Kennewick will continue practice sessions an extra day in preparation for its "traditional". The game will find Pasco favored again, but because of psychological factors, it is still a toss-up.

The game is also a Yakima Valley Big Five League tilt but will have little effect on the standings either way. If Pasco wins, it will cinch second place, and leave Kennewick in the cellar.

If Kennewick wins, it will move abreast of Yakima in the league basement, and drop Pasco to a second place tie with Richland. Walla Walla won the league title with five wins and no defeats.

Game time for the Kennewick-Pasco game will be 2 p.m.

Adult tickets costing \$1 are now on sale at Vibbers No. 1, Pollyannya Cafe, Visger's, and Crown Drug in Kennewick, and Crescent No. 1, Economy, the Ace in Pasco.

The Richland-West Bremerton game time is 8 p.m.

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