

# Skyview coach: 'I'd rather play Richland again'

Kizer's Storm have faced both Richland and Camas

By PAUL VALENCIA  
Columbian staff writer

As the Camas and Richland football teams go through their final preparations before Saturday night's Class 4A state championship game, this is as good of a time as any to ask an expert about facing them.

Skyview coach Steve Kizer, whose team tangled with both teams this season, preferred not to give a



Steve Kizer

prediction for the championship game.

He did, however, give a hint — or perhaps a sledgehammer to the head — as to which team he believes is better.

"I'd rather play Richland again," Kizer said.

He did not mean that as a knock on the Bombers. He just said Skyview had a really bad day against the

Bombers, a lot of self-inflicted stuff. Camas, though, is a team with few, if any, flaws.

"The guy behind the center is pretty good," Kizer said, referring to Camas quarterback Jack Colletto. "He might be the best quarterback/runner combo in the state. Their line is great. Solid defense. A great team. They just have stuff figured out."

Of course through 13 weeks, the Bombers are perfect, too.

"They're huge and they're well-coached, too," Kizer said. "They react to stuff so fast. They don't have a real standout guy, other than that 74 (Brigham Whitby). He's freakin' good. ... Their strength is on the line."

COACH, Page B5

## Next game

■ 4A state title game: Camas vs. Richland, 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Tacoma Dome. TV: ROOT Sports.



## Coach

From Page B1

The Papermakers trailed Skyview at halftime of their 4A Greater St. Helens League game in Week 6, then cruised in the second half for a 31-9 victory.

Richland, on the other hand,

never trailed in a 35-7 victory over Skyview in the semifinals.

From Camas' perspective, perhaps the Storm had a lot of miscues because of the Bombers.

"Richland causes mistakes," Camas coach Jon Eagle said. "They get a lot of turnovers because of their style of play."

The Bombers intercepted their 30th pass last week. That's an average of more than two interceptions

per game. Colletto has thrown five interceptions in 13 games.

"They are athletic at every position," Eagle said of the Bombers. "They don't get out of position, which tells me they are very well coached. They don't overwhelm you with their size. But their athleticism jumps off the screen to me."

If scores of those games against common opponents are any indication, the championship game

should be close.

■ Camas 31-9 over Skyview. Richland 35-7 over Skyview.

■ Camas 37-12 over Sunnyside. Richland 41-0 over Sunnyside.

■ Camas 28-14 over Skyline. Richland 38-27 over Skyline.

"Richland is a good, physical team," Camas offensive lineman Marcus Gray said. "Just like us in a way. I'm excited to go after these guys. It's going to be a good game."



AMANDA COWAN/The Columbian

Camas High School's Dakota Napierkowski leads an experienced offensive line for the Papermakers as they take on Richland for the state title.

# Camas' offensive success starts up front

Most on line have dreaming of this day since freshman year

By PAUL VALENCIA  
Columbian staff writer

They will hustle up to the line of scrimmage, look across the way to the opponent, focus, prepare, and once the ball is snapped, it will be on.

The quarterback. The running back. The wide receivers. They get their names called over the public address system often.

Saturday night, though, just like in the previous 13 games, the Camas football team will only be successful on offense by following the lead of its linemen.

All of the Papermakers have been on this long journey, from spring football, to summer practice, to the regular season, and through the playoffs. The linemen have led this trek.

"I think we're one of the best O-lines to go through Camas," guard Marcus Gray said. "We love each other. We play as a team."

Jordan Howes starts it all, as the center snapping the ball. Gray is the left guard and JT Tumanuao is the right guard. Caleb Eldred is the right tackle, leaving Dakota Napierkowski in the marquee position on the line at left tackle.

The Papermakers averaged 45.7 points per game, scoring less than 30 points

just once in 13 contests.

"For us to do what we've done this year ... I love it," Gray said.

The final journey of this season will begin around 1 p.m. at Camas High School. The student body and community are planning a send-off for the Papermakers as they head north for the Tacoma Dome. Camas will take on Richland at 7:30 p.m. for the Class 4A state championship.

The more important journey for players and coaches — this season, this second berth to the championship game in program history — is about to come to an end, as well.

"It's what I've been dreaming of, ever since I was a freshman," Gray

said.

That would have been the fall of 2013, when Chiawana of Pasco stunned Camas with a final-minute comeback for the ages. This is a different team, but for the seniors such as Gray who remember that game, this 2016 run to the dome has a special meaning.

"I told (linebacker/running back) Michael Matthews that night that we'd be back in the dome," said Gray, who was a freshman in 2013. "It came true. It's unbelievable."

As far as this final trip, not a whole lot of changes in store. This is the 14th consecutive season the Papermakers have reached the postseason. They have

had to play at least one playoff game away from Camas in eight of those seasons.

"We've been to the playoffs. We've traveled. We do what's best for us," Camas coach Jon Eagle said. "We're not doing anything special for this game."

The journey, though, remains the same: It. Is. Special.

"I've always believed our state association does a great job in championships for all sports. Star Track. Mat Classic. Tacoma Dome for football," Eagle said. "For us to be in the finals for our state, it's a big deal. It will be a great experience for our kids to be able to drive by the Tacoma Dome and say, 'I played in there.' It's the ultimate."



Camas seeks its first state football title today



Big Al's

1

So you want to watch the Camas High School football team play for the state championship against Richland tonight, but you don't want to drive to Tacoma?

Well, you could always watch the game live on ROOT Sports Northwest. Or Big Al's bowling and entertainment center in east Vancouver has another option.

Big Al's will be airing the game live on its big screens in its sports bar. So head to Big Al's and cheer on the Papermakers. The game starts at 7:30 p.m. Saturday. Arrive early. The last time Camas advanced to the title game, it drew a big crowd at Big Al's.

2016 SEASON RECAP

**CAMAS (13-0)**

**Sept. 2**  
Central Catholic W 42-10

**Sept. 9**  
Sherwood W 49-7

**Sept. 16**  
at AC Davis W 64-6

**Sept. 23**  
at Coeur d'Alene W 49-30

**Sept. 30 (4A GSHL)**  
Battle Ground W 49-28

**Oct. 7 (4A GSHL)**  
Skyview W 31-9

**Oct. 13 (4A GSHL)**  
at Heritage W 41-11

**Oct. 21**  
Sunnyside W 37-12

**Oct. 28 (4A GSHL)**  
at Union W 49-13

**Nov. 4 (state prelim)**  
Enumclaw W 56-0

**Nov. 11 (state 1st round)**  
Graham-Kapowsin W 55-6

**Nov. 19 (quarterfinal)**  
at Skyline W 28-14

**Nov. 26 (semifinal)**  
Sumner-x W 42-10

x-at McKenzie Stadium

**RICHLAND (13-0)**

**Sept. 2**  
Skyline W 38-27

**Sept. 9**  
at Wenatchee W 40-12

**Sept. 16 (MCC)**  
at Kennewick W 40-0

**Sept. 23 (MCC)**  
Southridge W 26-10

**Sept. 30 (MCC)**  
at Pasco W 47-0

**Oct. 7 (MCC)**  
at Kamiakin W 21-20 OT

**Oct. 14 (MCC)**  
Walla Walla W 64-14

**Oct. 21 (MCC)**  
at Chiawana W 21-14

**Oct. 28 (MCC)**  
Hanford W 49-7

**Nov. 4 (state prelim)**  
Central Valley-x W 37-0

**Nov. 11 (state 1st round)**  
Sunnyside-x W 41-0

**Nov. 19 (quarterfinal)**  
Bothell-x W 49-28

**Nov. 26 (semifinal)**  
Skyview-x W 35-7

x-at Lampton Stadium, Kennewick

**Predictions**

**THE FANS**

Camas (85 percent)

**PREP PROLETARIAT**

Camas 31, Richland 21

**SCORE CZAR**

Camas 28, Richland 22

**TACOMA NEWS TRIBUNE**

Camas 28, Richland 24

# Papermakers ready to roll for title game



Camas players stream onto the field at Doc Harris Stadium prior to their season-opening win over Central Catholic of Portland.

AMANDA COWAN/The Columbian

## STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME NOTES

**Richland notes**

Richland reached the state semifinals last season. The Bombers have advanced to state in four times in the past seven seasons. Richland advanced to the finals with playoff wins over Central Valley (37-0), Sunnyside (41-0), Bothell (49-28) and Skyview. Richland has outscored opponents by an average of 39-11 this season. The Bombers have four shutouts this season. Richland's top player is lineman Brigham Whitby. The 6-foot, 275-pound senior is the offensive lineman of the year and the defensive player of the year in the Mid-Columbia Conference. The Bombers also have Dontae Powell (6-5, 300) on the line. Last week, Richland used its ground attack to gain an early lead, then used efficient passing to widen the lead. RB Ben Stanfield rushed for 124 yards and 1 TD, while Parker McCary added 63 yards and 1 TD. Stanfield has rushed for 1,035 yards on the season and 11 TDs; McCary has 733 yards rushing and 14 TDs. QB Paxton Stevens has passed for 2,711 yards and 36 TDs on the season, but was very efficient last week against Skyview. He completed 6 of 11 passes for 164 yards, an average of 27 yards a completion. Take away a -3-yard completion, and the average jumps to 33 yards. He threw two passes for 59 yards to Gaven Basker, both for 2 TDs. The Richland defense held Skyview to 67 yards rushing, holding the Storm to 16 rushing yards in first half. That put the pressure on Skyview QB Brody Barnum, who attempted 47 passes and threw for 242 yards, with 70 coming on Skyview's lone TD. Richland intercepted two passes and recovered a fumble.

**Camas notes**

Camas is the 4A Greater St. Helens League champion. This is the Papermakers' seventh consecutive trip to state, the last five as a 4A team. Camas reached the semifinals by beating Enumclaw (56-0), Graham-Kapowsin (55-6), Skyline (28-14) and Sumner. Camas has outscored opponents 46-13. Camas is led by senior QB Jack Colletto, the 4A Greater St. Helens League offensive player of the year. Colletto has passed for 2,662 yards and 26 TDs. He has also rushed for 1,165 yards and 20 TDs. Cooper McNatt is Camas' top receiver with 47 catches for 899 yards and 9 TDs. Drake Owen has 47 catches for 717 yards and 7 yards. He left last week's game early after being injured on a premature hit while fielding a punt. He's expected back this week. Linebacker Michael Matthews, a University of Montana commit and the 4A GSHL co-defensive player of the year, leads the defense. He also is the No. 1 running back, gaining 97 yards last week and score three touchdowns, two rushing, one receiving. The Camas defense played a semifinal game similar to Richland's, holding Sumner to 56 rushing yards last week and intercepting three passes, including one by Luke Bruno that was returned 51 yards for a touchdown. Richland and Camas have three common opponents - Skyview, Sunnyside and Skyline. Richland beat Skyview 35-7, Sunnyside 41-0 and Skyline 38-27. Camas beat Skyview 31-9, Sunnyside 37-12 and Skyline 28-14.

**If you go**

- **Who:** Camas vs. Richland
- **What:** Class 4A state championship football game.
- **When:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday
- **Where:** Tacoma Dome, Tacoma
- **Tickets:** \$17 adults, \$13 seniors and students.
- **Television:** ROOT Sports Northwest
- **Internet radio:** Elisportsnetwork.com

## Camas Papermakers

13-0, 4A Greater St. Helens League champions

No.	Player	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Pos.	No.	Player	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Pos.
2	Ryan Rushall	Jr.	6-0	175	WR	45	Carter Kinkead	Jr.	5-11	180	LB
3	JD Fuller	Jr.	6-2	175	QB	49	Kristian Hellberg	Sr.	6-3	205	TE
4	Kyle Allen	Jr.	6-1	175	QB	50	Andrew Boyle	So.	5-11	165	QB
5	Tanner Howington	Sr.	5-11	195	LB	51	Rylan Thompson	Jr.	5-8	160	RB
6	Vinny Gennaro	Sr.	5-10	186	DB	52	Jordan Howes	Jr.	6-0	200	OL
7	Taylor Adams	Jr.	5-10	180	DB	53	Marshall McIvor	Sr.	6-3	240	DL
8	Keaton Sturbelle	Jr.	6-2	200	QB	54	John Elder	Jr.	5-9	160	LB
9	Jack Colletto	Sr.	6-3	215	QB	55	Taylor Rowland	Sr.	5-10	250	OL
10	Ben Petrie	Jr.	6-0	172	QB	56	Taylor Nye	Jr.	5-10	230	OL
11	Michael Boyle	Sr.	6-1	174	P/K	57	Jonathan Gerrardo	Jr.	5-9	230	OL
12	Michael Matthews	Sr.	6-2	212	LB	59	Marcus Gray	Sr.	6-1	280	OL
13	AJ Geaslen	Sr.	5-9	175	WR	60	Dominic Humble	Jr.	6-0	175	OL
14	Sedric Ruitter	Sr.	6-0	180	WR	61	Luke Pipkin	Sr.	5-10	176	OL
15	Cooper McNatt	Sr.	6-3	182	DB	63	Jackson Smart	Jr.	6-0	160	DB
17	Luke Bruno	Jr.	6-0	175	LB	64	Henry Golb	Jr.	6-1	210	OL
20	Christian Nghiem	Sr.	5-9	172	WR	65	JT Tumanuvao	Sr.	6-1	270	OL
21	Drake Owen	Jr.	5-11	180	WR	66	Jordan Dunn	Jr.	6-0	205	OL
22	Hunter Crandall	Sr.	5-9	185	RB	70	Cody Jackson	Sr.	6-3	215	DL
23	David Aarhus	Sr.	5-11	180	LB	71	Billy Schuldt	So.	6-1	205	OL
24	Aaron Brown	Jr.	5-9	150	RB	72	Eli Manfredi	Sr.	6-0	190	DL
25	Steve Poljakov	Jr.	6-1	175	S	73	Grant Jones	Jr.	6-1	270	OL
28	Shane Jamison	So.	6-3	190	S	74	Everett Kuhnel	Jr.	6-1	230	OL
30	Scott Sumner	Jr.	6-0	160	DB	76	Caleb Eldred	Sr.	6-6	270	OL
31	Branden Hill	Jr.	5-11	170	RB	77	Dakota Napierkowski	Sr.	6-4	245	OL
32	Isaiah Abdul	Jr.	5-8	155	DB	80	Ryan Kempf	Sr.	5-8	170	DB
33	Anthony Gerardo	Jr.	5-11	190	LB	81	Ben Hunt	Jr.	6-2	160	WR
34	Semisi Schultz	Jr.	5-11	200	LB	82	Brody Richards	Jr.	5-7	155	WR
35	Sam Malychewski	Jr.	6-0	200	LB	83	Jett Buffett	So.	5-11	205	DL
36	Jake Lane	Sr.	6-2	180	LB	84	Austin Bourland	Jr.	6-2	180	LB
37	Will Schultz	Jr.	5-11	180	RB	85	Ja'Michael Shelton	Jr.	6-2	180	WR
40	Elias Bashir	Sr.	5-11	180	RB	86	Dylan Ingram	Sr.	6-5	232	DL
41	Josh Rule	Jr.	6-0	185	LB	87	Nathan Chillian	Sr.	6-3	180	DB
42	Trevor Bentley	Jr.	5-8	160	WR	88	Logan Manley	Sr.	6-2	182	DB
43	Jake Lambert	Jr.	5-11	192	LB	89	Caleb Field	Jr.	6-1	170	TE
44	Tyler McClellan	Sr.	5-7	225	RB						

**Coaches**

**Head coach:** Jon Eagle  
**Assistant coaches:** Dan Kiely, Justin Wochnick, Les Albert, Craig Hardin, Jack Hathaway, Rick Harrington, Chuck Hawthorne, Matt Loop, Tom Schroeder, Matt Loop, Tom Schroeder, Dave Morris.

## Richland Bombers

13-0, 4A Mid-Columbia Conference champions

No.	Player	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Pos.	No.	Player	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Pos.
2	Ryan Kriskovich	So.	5-7	150	WR-DB	47	Alex Yehle	So.	6-2	155	WR-DB
3	Charles Ford	Sr.	6-3	190	DE-LB	48	Garrett Guffey	Sr.	5-9	180	RB-LB
4	Kade Gaston	Jr.	5-7	140	WR-DB	49	Teegen Hudson	So.	5-7	145	WR-DB
5	Gaven Brasker	Jr.	5-9	185	WR-DB	50	Jax Lee	Jr.	6-1	215	OL-DL
6	Kody Kjarmo	Sr.	5-10	165	WR	52	Jackson Bolz	So.	5-10	220	OL-DL
7	Adam Weissenfels	Jr.	5-9	160	WR-DB	53	Rene Marin	Jr.	5-9	150	OL-DL
8	Alex Chapman	Sr.	5-10	160	WR-DB	55	Brian Dean	So.	5-10	195	OL-DL
9	Kyle Kirby	Sr.	6-0	170	WR-DB	56	Jesus Baltazar	Jr.	5-11	240	OL-DL
10	Cade Jensen	Jr.	6-0	170	QB	58	Logan Daniels	Sr.	5-10	200	OL-DL
11	Tsega Macduff	Jr.	5-9	150	RB-DB	59	Kobe Chapman	Jr.	6-0	185	TE-LB
12	Tyler Fishback	Jr.	5-8	150	WR-DB	60	Santos Gallegos	Jr.	6-0	200	OL-DL
13	Steele Roberts	Jr.	6-0	180	TE-DE	61	Joe Hawkins	So.	6-2	205	OL-DL
14	Jared Whitby	Jr.	5-10	175	RB-LB	62	Kristian Mijic	Jr.	6-1	200	OL-DL
15	Brandon Extrom	Jr.	5-9	150	WR-DB	63	Cody Clements	Sr.	5-11	230	OL-DL
16	Conner Smith	Jr.	6-2	175	WR-DB	64	Noah Sprengle	Sr.	5-10	250	OL-DL
17	Paxton Stevens	Sr.	6-4	170	QB	65	Caden Glaze	So.	5-10	220	OL-DL
18	Kade Powell	So.	6-1	150	RB-LB	66	Geoffrey Robinson	So.	6-0	235	OL-DL
19	Brandon Jarvis	Sr.	6-3	165	DB	67	Colton Michaels	Sr.	6-2	200	OL-DL
20	Ryan Piper	Jr.	5-10	180	WR-DB	68	Garrett LaVille	Sr.	6-0	220	OL-DL
21	Parker McCary	Jr.	5-9	185	RB-LB	70	Tyler Simpson	Sr.	6-1	230	OL-DL
22	Nate Mitchell	So.	5-10	160	WR-QB	71	Ben Dezember	Jr.	6-0	195	OL-DL
23	Josh Mendoza	Jr.	5-10	150	WR-DB	72	Jonah Norris	So.	6-0	250	OL-DL
24	Sammy Cervantes	Jr.	6-0	150	WR-DB	73	Sydney Bryan	Jr.	6-3	200	OL-DL
25	Nathan Schrecengost	Sr.	6-0	150	WR-DB	74	Brigham Whitby	Sr.	6-0	275	OL-DL
26	Stephon Sanders	So.	5-9	150	WR-LB	75	Preston Ferrell	So.	6-2	250	OL-DL
27	Andrew Fairchild	So.	5-10	150	WR-DB	76	Dantae Powell	Sr.	6-5	300	OL-DL
29	Colten Roney	Jr.	5-8	140	WR-DE	79	Aric Davison	So.	6-3	275	OL-DL
31	Alex Rosales	So.	6-1	150	WR-DB	80	Daniel VanGorkum	So.	5-10	165	WR-DB
32	Garret Gillespie	So.	6-0	175	RB-LB	82	Dillon Extrom	Sr.	5-9	150	WR-DB
33	Morgan Husted	So.	5-9	170	RB-LB	84	Isaac Lovato	Sr.	5-10	200	TE-LB
34	Ben Stanfield	Sr.	6-1	175	RB-DB	85	Connor Faucheux	Jr.	6-4	200	TE-DL
35	William Harshaw	Sr.	6-0	175	WR-DB	86	Blake Binns	Sr.	6-2	170	WR-DB
37	Chase Hoover	So.	5-7	150	WR-DB	87	Rod Perry	Sr.	5-10	150	WR-DB
39	Taylor Spero	Jr.	5-8	150	WR-DB	88	Austin Owens	Sr.	5-9	150	WR-DB
41	Caleb Chapman	Jr.	6-0	185	TE-LB	89	Logan Simpson	So.	6-0	160	TE-LB
42	Trenton Brown	So.	5-8	185	RB-LB	90	Braden Powell	Jr.	6-3	200	TE-LB
43	Brady Rice	So.	5-9	155	RB-LB	91	Jacob Stanfield	Jr.	6-1	210	TE-LB
44	Victor Strasser	Jr.	5-11	180	RB-LB	94	Austin Keck	Jr.	5-7	165	WR-DB
45	Ty Ballard	Jr.	6-0	180	TE-LB	97	Charles Lookabill	Sr.	6-0	205	OL-DL

**Coaches**

**Head coach:** Mike Neidhold  
**Assistant coaches:** Josh Jelinek, Mitch Davis, Tom Moore, Tyler Thomas, Ray Williams, Weston Mason, Zack Fife, D.J. Search, Jeff Maui, Kent Kafentzis, Pete Zukowksi.