

Sports



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Richland wide receiver Cody Sanderson pulls down a pass to set up the Bombers' second touchdown in Saturday's Class 4A state football championship game at the Tacoma Dome.

CLASS 4A STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

State title within Bombers' grasp

Tri-City Herald

TACOMA

The Richland Bombers couldn't have scripted a better start to Saturday night's Class 4A state championship game against Woodinville at the Tacoma Dome.

The second half, though,

turned into a bad dream that had them just hoping to hang on. Thanks to Adam Weissenfels, they were well on their way.

Weissenfels got his second interception of the night in the end zone with 5:54 to play to preserve a two-score lead.

After opening a 28-0 lead in the first half, the Bombers

found themselves on the defensive. They led 28-14 late Saturday when the Herald went to press.

Richland was vying for its first title since 1999 in a battle of unbeaten and the top two ranked teams in the state. They were hoping to give a fitting sendoff for a senior class that also reached the semifinals in

2015 and won 39 games over the past three seasons.

Against a Woodinville team touted for its power-run offense and bruising defense, the Bombers flexed their muscles and won in the trenches in the first half. Feature back Parker McCary rushed 17 times for 93 yards with a touchdown.

Richland quarterback

Cade Jensen was his usual efficient self, throwing a pair of first-half touchdowns. Weissenfels turned some heads with a nine-yard TD catch, an interception, a forced fumble and three punt returns that kept Woodinville on the defense.

Jared Whitby scored on a 3-yard run and Sammy Cervantes on a 15-yard pass in

the first half for Richland. Woodinville responded with a score on its first drive of the second half, and its first play of the fourth quarter on a double pass.

SCORING PLAYS

- R—Adam Weissenfels 9 pass from Cade Jensen (Weissenfels kick)
- R—Jared Whitby 3 run (Weissenfels kick)
- R—Parker McCary 17 run (Weissenfels kick)
- R—Sammy Cervantes 15 pass from Jensen (Weissenfels kick)
- W—Brett Accimus 1 run (Blake Glessner kick)

COMING UP

Get complete game coverage in Monday's edition of the Herald.