

FOOTBALL

Richland quarterback to join a bevy of Tri-City talent at Eastern Oregon

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RICHLAND

It took Cade Jensen a little extra time to decide if he was going to play college football.

The Richland quarterback, who helped lead the Bombers to a 14-0 record and a 4A state title in December, looked at College of Idaho and considered going to Washington State, but just as a student.

Then came Eastern Oregon University, an up-and-coming power in the NAIA ranks.

A visit to La Grande had the All-State quarterback hooked.

"I know La Grande is not the biggest town, but I liked the coaching staff and I liked the vibe," he said. "They have some other Tri-City kids, and that influenced my decision."

Jensen joins Richland teammate Ryan Piper (defensive back/wide receiver) in the Mountaineers' recruiting class

that also includes Kennewick's Moses McAninch (defensive lineman) and Cedric Riel (running back/safety), Southridge lineman/long snapper Flynn McPheron, Hermiston running back Jonthan Hinkle, Prosser lineman Dawson Frakes and Royal lineman Raynor Beierle.

EOU also features former Liberty Christian running back John Lesser, receiver Brenden Kelly (Southridge), defensive backs Brycen Kelly (Southridge) and Isaiah Richie (Chiawana), and linebacker John-Henry Line of Hermiston.

Jensen, who plans to major in pre-dentistry, threw for 3,421 yards and 48 touchdowns last season and completed 63 percent of his passes. He also had four rushing touchdowns.

Jensen said the Mountaineers have plans to redshirt him next season, but he wants to show



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Richland quarterback Cade Jensen will continue his career at Eastern Oregon University. He passed for 3,421 yards and 48 TDs last fall.

them what he has before that decision is final.

"They will have to watch for a few practices to see," Jensen

said. "I played last year, but the two seasons before that, I sat

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behind Paxton Stevens (now at Pima Community College in Tucson, Ariz). I have to be prepared so when I get out there I can play to the best of my

ability."

Redshirt freshman Kai Quinn of Pendleton ran the offense last season for EOU, throwing for 2,273 yards and 14 touchdowns.

He also ran for 570 yards and seven touchdowns.

Jensen will play his final high school game in June in the 54th annual East-West All-State game in Spokane.

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