

RCA IN THE NEWS

VARSITY FOOTBALL BRINGS HOME MTAC BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP

Riverside Christian Academy's varsity football team won their third Middle Tennessee Athletic Conference Bowl Championship in four years on Friday night. The Knights defeated Webb School of Bellbuckle to bring the championship plaque home to RCA; the final score was 50-28.

"It's a testament to our boys and especially the seniors who came back and led this team back to where we want to be. I'm very proud of their maturity and the way they played the game," said RCA's Head Coach Travis Creasy.

The first half of the game was a tight battle ending in a 28-28 tie at halftime, but the Knights were able to play a shutout game in the second half to end with the 50-28 final score.

"We told the guys all week that Webb would be a different team than we played the last time, they would be better than they were a month ago. They proved us right by coming out and fighting hard and overcoming a two score lead," said Creasy.

On the offensive side of the ball Josh Hill led the Knights in rushing with 26 carries for 215 yards, three touchdowns, and two two-point conversions. Caleb Durham also led in the running game with 17 carries for 72 yards, two touchdowns, and one two-point conversion. Sophomore Will Eldridge also contributed one rushing two-point conversion.

The Trahin brothers led the Knights in receiving with John making one catch for 22 yards and a touchdown and Jarrod making two catches for 24 yards and a touchdown.

"At halftime we challenged the offensive line to be more physical and take the game over. They accepted the challenge and we were able to grind out a couple of scores and kill the clock," said Creasy.

Several players contributed to the Knights success on the defensive side of the ball. Jarrod Trahin had eight tackles, one tackle for loss, three assists, a quarterback hurry, and a caused fumble. Josh Hill had three tackles, two sacks, two caused fumbles, one fumble recovery with a 33-yard return, and an interception with a five-yard return. Ryan Altimari had six tackles, one tackle for loss, two sacks, one assist, and a quarterback hurry. Hunter Meeks shut down Webb's All Conference receiver with four tackles, one tackle for loss, one assist, and one fumble recovery, and Will Eldridge had one tackle and an interception with a 22-yard return.

"It's always big when you have several players with a takeaway. With so many guys making big plays it makes it hard to call plays. We just had great players in the middle and on the outside that caused problems all night for Webb," said Creasy.

"We've had some great leadership from our upperclassmen all year. We only had three seniors, but they had great impact. Josh Hill really picked up his teammates and led by example through adversity all night and refused to be denied. This team has come a long way and deserves all of this success," said Creasy.

Josh Hill and Jarrod Trahin were named MTAC All Tournament Team players in a ceremony following the game. Josh Hill was also given the honor of being voted to the MTAC regular season All Conference Team.

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