

# Urial Rivera's 70<sup>th</sup> minute PK sends Bismarck Legacy over Grand Forks Red River, into boys soccer state semis

Rivera's late strike in Thursday's quarterfinals secured the West top-seeded Sabers a spot in the state semifinals for the second year in a row.



Bismarck Legacy Sabers midfielder Kamden Kooiman (20) receives a pass in front of swarming Grand Forks Red River Roughriders defenders Michael Sertich (5) and Jacob Chine (3) during the North Dakota Boys State Soccer Tournament quarterfinals on Thursday, Oct. 12, 2023 at the MDU Resources Community Bowl in Bismarck.

Tom Stromme/Bismarck Tribune

By [Ryan Spitza](#)

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BISMARCK — Great players more often than not come through for their teams when it matters most.

For Bismarck Legacy, Urial Rivera was that great player on Thursday during the North Dakota boys soccer state quarterfinals at the MDU Resources Community Bowl in Bismarck.

Tied at a goal a piece with East No. 4 seed Grand Forks Red River, it was Rivera who struck on a penalty kick in the 70th minute to send the West No. 1 seed Sabers to a 2-1 win and into the state semifinals for the second year in a row.

"Uri's been in that position all year long," Legacy head coach Tom Marcis said. "He actually made the penalty that won us the (Western Dakota Association) title. He's only a sophomore, but you want him on the line when you have (a penalty kick)."

With the win, Legacy improved to 14-1-2 and will face West No. 3 Minot (11-1-6) — a 3-1 winner over East No. 2 Fargo Davies on Thursday — in the semifinals at 4:30 p.m. Friday.



Grand Forks Red River Roughriders defender Jacob Chine (3), left, boots the ball away from Bismarck Legacy Sabers defender Dillan Heidt (14) during the North Dakota Boys State Soccer Tournament quarterfinals on Thursday, Oct. 12, 2023 at the MDU Resources Community Bowl in Bismarck.

Tom Stromme/Bismarck Tribune

Kamden Kooiman put the Sabers on the board first Thursday, with the junior midfielder and captain scoring on a free kick from 33 yards in the 38th minute to give his team a 1-0 lead.

Red River found the equalizer in the second half when a Legacy turnover found the foot of Roughriders' sophomore midfielder Owen Martin. Martin dished it over to teammate Brody Andrade, and the junior midfielder managed to beat Sabers' junior goalkeeper Liam Horner to his right to make it a 1-1 game in the 56th minute.

Minutes later, Andrade nearly hit again but was inches too high and the ball rang off the crossbar to keep the match even.

"It was exciting," Roughriders head coach Luke Glasoe said. "Coming in as a No. 4 seed, you want to be competitive. We put a really good team on the field (today) and we had moments where we could've scored. That's just the nature of the game."

Red River fell to 8-8-1 and will play in the consolation semifinals against Davies (10-3-2) at noon Friday.

Rivera was awarded the penalty kick after he busted up the right side and was taken down in the box from behind. Rivera beat Roughriders' junior keeper Rylan Holt for his 11th goal of the season.

Shots were unofficially 13-13. Holmer recorded eight saves for Legacy while Holt set aside four shots for Red River. The Roughriders had five corner kick opportunities to the Sabers' three.