

Sports

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BR tames Tigers for 1-AA title

Gray's 3-TD performance leads Royals to victory

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
The Champion

His last name is Gray, but Bishop Reding's human highlight reel was pure gold on the championship stage at Hamilton's Ivor Wynne Stadium Tuesday.

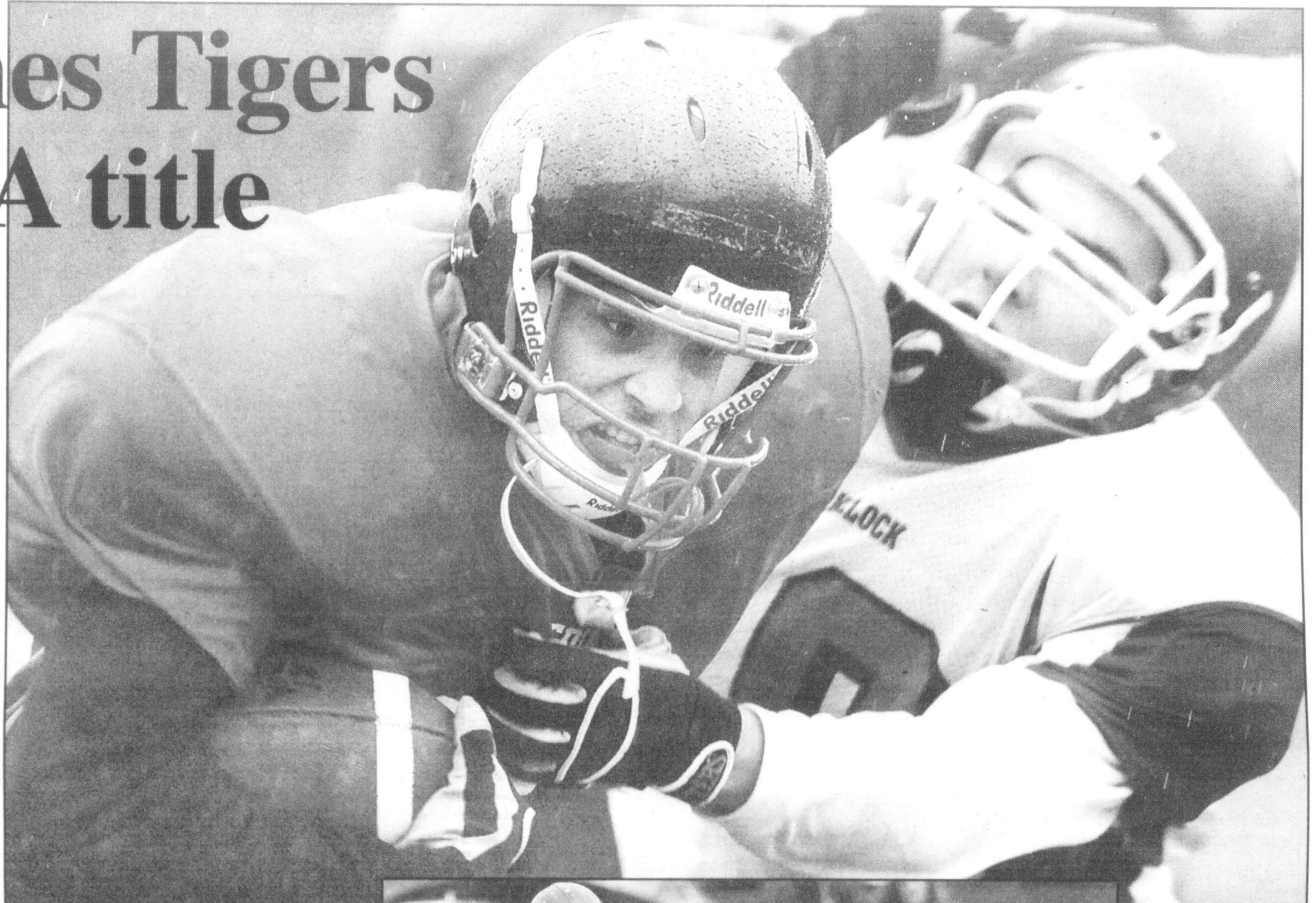
Punctuating his high school football career with a stellar exclamation mark, Marcas Gray scored on a 100-yard opening kickoff return and followed that up with two lengthy touchdown runs to power the senior Royals to a 25-7 victory over Oakville's T.A. Blakelock Tigers in the Halton 1-AA finals.

"This is fabulous," said the title show-down standout, who was referring to the championship win — but could have just as easily been describing his individual performance.

When he wasn't frustrating opposing defenders, Gray was either helping BR completely neutralize the Tigers' air attack or delivering a handful of key tackles to keep their ground game in check.

"Marcas was sensational, and we were banking on that," said head coach Joe Jurus, whose Royals were arguably the most improved team in Halton's Division 1 ranks this season. "When Marcas is sensational, we're a very good team."

While Gray was a one-man wrecking



crew at Ivor Wynne, Reding's title triumph was far from just a one-man show.

Workhorse tail-back Ted Fair amassed 135 yards to set up the last two touchdowns, while he and Gray enjoyed textbook blocking — particularly from Jamie Pedra and Matt Sewell.

"Our offensive line really stepped it up today," stressed Gray, who scored on 37 and 19-yard sweeps in the second and third quarter respectively and ran for 162 yards overall. "And that first touchdown right away was what we needed. It pumped us up and once we get ahead we don't stop."

Meanwhile, BR's defensive charges — led by captain Mike Rego and Mike Carn — held the Tigers to a paltry 35 yards of

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Above, Marcas Gray battles for yardage against a T.A. Blakelock defender on the way to one of the three touchdowns he scored at Ivor Wynne Stadium Tuesday in Halton 1-AA championship play. At left, the Royals celebrate their title win.

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