



JESUS RAMIREZ, (83), successfully kicking the extra point in the game on Friday. The ball is being held by Caleb Keltz (12). Also pictured are Chris Walden (31), Max Hengen (58) and Craig Busse (77).  
Times photo by Darci Schields

## Cougars suffer tough loss in Friday night opener

The Cheylin Cougars opened their football season last Friday traveling to Wauneta, Neb., to play the Wauneta/Palisade Broncos. What a game it turned out to be...with many highs and lows throughout the night.

The Cougars were first on the scoreboard, scoring early in the first quarter, when Dalton Magnani ran the ball in for a

touchdown. Jesus Ramirez then kicked the extra point, giving the Cougars a 7-0 lead.

Unfortunately, the Broncos followed up with back-to-back touchdowns, taking over the lead, 16-7. Still in the first quarter, Ramirez kicked a 29-yard field goal for the Cougars; however, the Broncos answered back with a touchdown and at the end of the

first quarter the Broncos lead, 24-10.

The Broncos extended their lead in the second quarter as they scored an additional two more touchdowns; however, the Cougars stayed strong, never once giving up. Quarterback, Caleb Keltz, added another six points to the Cougar's score by running the ball six yards in for a touchdown,

and Magnani was successful on the two-point conversion.

The Broncos had a 20-point lead going into halftime, with the score being: Broncos 38, Cougars 18. Head Coach, Max Keltz commented,

"After we scored the touchdown going into halftime, I felt the kids were gaining confidence to continue their comeback,"

commented Max Keltz, Cheylin head coach.

The Cougars returned to the field fired up, ready to play, and stepped up to the challenge of a comeback.

On the second drive for the Cougars, Magnani ran the ball in for a touchdown; Magnani also had the successful two-point conversion.

The Cougar defense really stepped up as they held the Broncos from scoring the entire third quarter. Cheylin narrowed the margin, as the end of the third quarter; score was Broncos 38, Cougars 26.

With one quarter left, the Cougars knew they had to take care of the ball on offense and be aggressive on defense in order to have a chance at victory.

The fourth quarter was very intense with the high energy both on the field and in the stands.

The Cougars once again stepped up and took control. Magnani ran his third touchdown in for the night, tightening the gap on the Broncos, 38-32. The Cheylin defense held the line and the Broncos were unable to make any headway.

With less than two minutes remaining and time ticking away, the Cougars worked their way back down the field as Heath Antholz took a handoff from Keltz and ran 40 yards to the Broncos six-yard line. Jared Cahoj carried the ball on in to tie up the score. Ramirez kicked the extra point, and the Cougars were up by one on the Broncos, 39-38, with approximately one minute left in the game.

The Cougar defense fought hard to keep the Broncos from scoring. They forced an incomplete pass on the Broncos' first possession; however, the Broncos

followed it by a successful, long pass to the Cougar four-yard line. Max Hengen and Ethan Young then tackled the running back for a six-yard loss.

With three seconds remaining, the Broncos got the play off; lobbing the pass to the corner of the end zone where they caught it as time expired. The Broncos won the game, 44-39.

The Cougars had 311 yards rushing and 78 yards passing. Magnani had three touchdowns, 35 total carries for 158 yards; Cahoj scored one touchdown, 15 total carries for 82 yards; Keltz had one touchdown, five total carries for six yards; Walden had eight total carries for 30 yards; Antholz with 2 total carries for 48 yards.

Keltz completed five of 13 passing attempts for a total of 78 yards; Young added three passes caught for 58 yards; Adrian Garcia with two passes caught for 20 yards.

Leading tacklers were Cahoj with 18; Garcia with 13; Hengen with 11; Walden and Antholz with 10 each; and Keltz with nine.

"I'm very disappointed that we couldn't hold on to win after working so hard to comeback," said Coach Keltz, "But I'm very proud of the heart the kids' exhibited after being that far behind."

Coach Keltz said the Cougars have shown a huge improvement in their confidence already this year. Last year, the Broncos defeated the Cougars, 44-6.

"I'm looking forward to correcting our mistakes and continuing to improve throughout the year," said Coach Keltz.

The Cougars will travel to Brewster on Friday, to play the Brewster/Triplains Titans. Kick-off is at 7 p.m.



COUGARS played Wauneta/Palisade on Saturday. Pictured are Stephanie Busse (23) attempting to block; Forrest Burr (30), Teryn Carmichael (14), Ana Ponce (19), Whitney Churchwell (16) and Naomi Reeh (15).  
Photo courtesy of Darci Schields.

## Junior high girls compete at Dighton

The Cheylin junior high girl's volleyball team, consisting of 15 young ladies traveled to Dighton to take on the Dighton Hornets and the Healy Eagles.

Both the A and B teams competed at this year's season opener. The A-team had good passing and serving percentages. Leading in serves throughout the night were Allie Frisbie, Shayla Hubbard, and Susannah Jones. The B-team also played well.

"We definitely have to work more on our serves where the B-team is concerned and concentrate more on our passing techniques. It's a scary thing to

see a white ball coming right at you and not know how to react." said Tammi Carmichael, coach. "In time, these younger girls will overcome their fears and the game will not seem so terrifying."

The A-team won against the Dighton Hornets with scores of 25-21 and 25-23. The coach felt that the A-team showed great effort to transition from the net and make the attempt to pass, set, and hit the ball to their opponent.

The B-team hit the floor not knowing what to expect and lost to Dighton, 14-25 and 15-25.

"It was good to see the effort and desire in these younger girls

and in time their fundamental skills will improve as will their game." said Coach Carmichael.

The Healy Eagles varsity just happen to snag the last win in the A-team sets, it was a hard one to lose since the girls played so well, but it was close.

The Cougars won the first game 25-17, then lost the second one 26-28, which led them into a third game and a battle to win the set, the Eagles won the third game with a 22-25 win over the Cougars.

Although, the B-team found themselves struggling to get in their serves, they never gave up.

The scores were 15-25, 9-25 with Healy capturing the win.

"We look forward to our next opportunity to play which will be Thursday, Sept. 17, at home when Cheylin hosts Heartland Christian at 4 p.m. in Cheylin high school gym.

## Family reunion held in Hays Sept. 6

The Gleason family reunion was held at the home of Merf and Sandy Kuhn in Hays on Sunday, Sept. 6.

Those attending were Merf

and Sandy Kuhn of Hays, Clyde and Wilma Gleason of Plainville, Shona Gleason of Ellis, Vera Gleason of Beaver City, Neb., Kathleen Sawyer of McCook,

Neb., Darlene Lauer, Louise Sawyer, Dwen and Charilyn DeGood of St. Francis.

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