

## Chieftains Fall Short at Cuba City

The varsity football team got off to a slow start, put together a fierce rally but came up short to the Cubans of Cuba City by the score of 39-14. Coach Thompson "We got ourselves into an early hole and could not quite get out of it. After that first quarter we played some really good football."

Taking on the 5th ranked team in Division VI the Chieftains began the night on offense. After a nice return we had decent field position but were unable to move the ball. Unfortunately a turnover would give the Cubans the ball at the 11-yard line. Cuba would then cash in and go up 7-0.

On our next possession we would go three and out. The Cubans would quickly march downfield and go up 14-0 after a 42-yard TD run. It was at this point that a resilient Chieftain squad would fight their way back into the game. Putting together a nice drive we began to find some running room with our option as we would drive 58-yards on 11-plays but we were unable to finish the drive as a 4th down pass was just broken up by the Cuba City defender. Coach Thompson "Nice drive and we almost had the pass completion that would have put us in a first and goal but nice play by the Cuban defense."

Early in the second quarter it would be the Chieftain defense that would come through with our first big play of the game and get us back in the ball game. After a nice pass completion it was Montana Lins and Trevor Troxel teaming up on a nice hit that would force the ball out and an alert Jared Roen would pounce on the loose ball. Coach Thompson "Huge play by the defense that was the spark we needed." The Chieftains would then put together a sparkling drive as we would march 85-yards on 14-plays to get on the board. The Chieftains Tyrrel Anderson would carry 6 times on the drive for 43-yard including a three-yard TD run. Tanner Williamson would also rip off three carries for 43-yards including a big scramble on fourth down to pick up a first down. Coach Thompson "Great drive and great job of executing the option." After Keegan hit the PAT we trailed just 14-7 with just around 4-minutes to go in the half. Coach Thompson "We were right there, the kids did a great job of fighting their way back into the game."

Unfortunately the last four minutes were not kind to the Chieftains. With just under three minutes to go the Cubans would hit on a big 55-yard TD strike and after the PAT it was 21-7. Then moments later as we were looking to run out the clock a turn over led to field goal and it was 24-7. Coach Thompson "Tough series of events"

To start the second half the Chieftains showed the character and resolve that makes this team special. Again the Chieftain defense would turn in the big play. After a fumbled exchange Ben Bloedow would snare the loose ball and we were in business. Coach Thompson "Ben had a real nice game tonight." The Chieftain offense would then take advantage of the turn over as moments later Tanner would hit Montana on perfect fade route and Montana would go 38-yards for the TD and after Keegan hit the PAT it was 24-14. Coach Thompson "Just a great job by Tanner and Montana that was a real big play."

The Chieftain defense would then take over and completely dominate the Cubans in the third quarter limiting the Cubans to just 10-yards of offense. However, offensively we were hurt by penalties and poor field position. Coach Thompson "We got trapped on our own end of the field and could not get the

one or two first downs to change field position." It would then be the Cubans specialty teams that would turn in the next big play as they would get a big punt return deep into Chieftain Territory. Our defense would then step up and force a fourth and goal. On the play the Cubans would run a jet sweep and on a very close play it was ruled the runner had gotten into the end zone and it was now 31-14. Coach Thompson "That was a huge play, it could have gone either way."

Now heading into the fourth quarter we would put together a couple of drives but could not finish them. Defensively we would force another turn over which was recovered by Zach Swaziek. Coach Thompson "Our defensive ends (Zach Swaziek and Jarred Schneider) played extremely well.

The Cubans would go on to add a late score with just over a minute to go to make it a 39-14 final. Coach Thompson "Tough loss but we still have a lot of big games to play. I thought our kids played extremely hard and I and the rest of the coaches are very proud of them. We have a very special group of players and if we continue to work hard and stay strong we will have success down the stretch."

The Chieftains will next take on the high flying Pointers of Mineral Point next Friday for Homecoming.

#### Stats

	Riverdale	Cuba City
First Downs	14	11
Passing C/ATT	5-13	3-10
Passing YDS	65	103
Rushing ATT	48	30
Rushing YDS	229	228
Total YDS	294	331

#### Individual Stats

##### Rushing

Tanner Williamson 14-84

Tyrrel Anderson 10-63

Jared Roen 12-41

Nolan Garrote 12-41

##### Passing

Tanner 5-13-65--1 TD

## Receiving

Montana Lins 3-49 1 TD

Tyrrel Anderson 1-2

Brady Fox 1-14

Max Hogan: 10 tackles, 2 TFLs, 1 QB sac

Tyrrel Anderson: 9 tackles

Trevor Troxel: 8 tackles, 1 TFL

Zach Swaziek: 6 tackles, 2 TFLs, 1 SAC | [fumble recovery](#)

Ben Bloedow: 1 fumble recovery, 1 forced fumble, ½ sac