

**1. DETERMINED TO SUCCEED.** Max Wurdeman (8th), darts down the field to score a touch-down at the championship game. “It’s an amazing feeling to know that you got your team on the board in the game,” said Max.

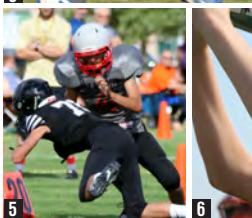
Photo by Ali Bezenar. **2. A MILE A MINUTE.** Gavin Taylor (8th), runs with the ball in an exciting win for the team. Taylor says, “I like running with the ball because the adrenaline and intensity that pushes you to do something great.” Photo by Brenna Peterson. **3. GOING FOR SPEED.**

Rylan Moore (8th) sprints down the field in a game on Cimarron turf. Photo by Millie Walkenhorst.

**4. SAVING THE DAY.** Eric Westback (8), bolts with the ball looking to score. Eric says, “Running with the ball is like carrying a child you want to protect.” Photo by Glen Coco. **5. CRUSHING IT.** Juan Diaz bursts through the field. Diaz says, “Being the quarterback is such an honor because you are the captain of the team.” Photo by Jake Helsing. **6. FIRE AWAY.**

Greg Dosa (8th) hydrates during a tough game. Greg says, “It’s important to stay hydrated so you can run longer, be in better shape, and play better.” Photo by Kali Cartwright. **7. RUNNING FOR THE VICTORY.** Charlie Blanc (8th) runs scoring a touchdown. “It feels amazing, it feels like I’m at the top of the world,” said Blanc.

Photo by Abi Heisinger.



Sprinting down the field with the ball in hand, Conner Boyd (8) races against time, concluding a perfect touchdown pass.

## A COACHING MOMENT

Eager teammates getting ready to play, listen to Coach Salazar as he gives them some advice on their upcoming game. “I am a coach because of the kids and the passion I have for the sport of football. There is nothing like watching young athletes develop their determination and leadership skills in competition and their normal life,” said Coach Salazar. The Cimarron Colts football team really feels like a family. If it weren’t for the joyful spirit the team brings, they wouldn’t be to where they are today.



## 3RD TIMES A CHARM

During Cimarron’s football game against Castle Rock Middle School, Conner Boyd (8), scored three touchdowns; two in a row got called back, and his third touchdown finally counted. “The first touchdown I didn’t really care about, but the second touchdown kind of sucked because I was really tired and it took a lot out of me.”

Conner Boyd explained what motivated him to get the third touchdown, “What motivated me was like trying to be my best and trying to score as many times as I can and trying to help my team out even more.”



**FIRST TRY.** The first touchdown for Cimarron in the game against Castle Rock got called back due to a holding call. **SECOND TRY.** The second touchdown that Conner Boyd (8), scored got called back because of a hold in the back. **THIRD TRY** Conner Boyd (8), ran a 60 yard touchdown and finally scored.

Photos by Grace Woodring & Abi Heisinger.

## DEFENSE

“If you don’t have a defense that works well together, you can’t win or play a game.”

-Sam Axelrod (8)



“If you don’t have defense, it’s like going unprepared. You can’t just play offense.”

-Gunner Hagler (8)

“Defense matters by stripping the ball or fumbling to stop the opponent from scoring.” - Titan O’Grady (8)

## ELEVATE the GAME

The 2018-2019 8th grade tackle football team had an exceptional season this year. Winning their whole season except the championship game. The boys pushed the limits, putting every ounce of effort in each play. Football is all about teamwork. Without the wonderful players on the team, they wouldn’t be where they are right now. They push each other to put their best. The team came together in an extraordinary way led by Coach Salazar. He quoted, “My opinion on the season; I thought the season went very well, kids played hard, kids got better, their skills improved, and I thought they

learned a lot. As far as life skills, how to handle different situations, and overall, yeah it went real well.” Although they lost the championship game, they had a really positive season. PJ Staab, a player on the Colts said,

“We lost again, and it was just kind of an emotional feeling that not very many people get because we’d worked hard so much throughout the season and we just thought that we had what it took to win, and we didn’t.” That one game shouldn’t stop them from remembering how well they played in all their other matches though. “A champion is simply someone who did not give up when he wanted to,” Tom Landry, Dallas Cowboys. It will be a season to remember.

