

# S.D. PREP FOOTBALL

## Kortan Driven To Lead Cavaliers To Top

**BY MICHAEL HAMMOND**  
sports@yankton.net

TYNDALL — Chase Kortan enters his final season of football with one goal in mind, winning a state title.

Kortan, the senior at Bon Homme High School, racked up 2,048 all-purpose yards for the Cavaliers as junior in 2015 and will lead a team in its second year of 9-man football.

"My main goal is like everyone else, make the dome and win state, really nothing else," Kortan said. "I want to try and have fun and enjoy it with my team and we will see where everything falls into place."

One of the main weapons in last year's offense, Kortan helped lead his team to 34 point per game and a playoff run that ended with a loss in the second round. Defense will be a key for the Cavs' season as they continue the adjustment to the 9-man game and Kortan has the skillset to improve the unit.

"We think he will do big things this year," Cavs' coach Byron Pudwill said. "I think he is a top five player (in the state), he's got crazy skills and good speed and can run away from second level guys."

A multi-sport athlete in football, baseball, track, and basketball, Kortan kept himself busy during the summer playing baseball for Tabor's legion team and for the Sioux Falls Titans travel team, as well as, attending various baseball and football camps, including the Rigg's Combine in Sioux Falls, where he ran the fifth fastest 40-yard dash. During this season he will play in football showcases across the country over weekends in places such as Denver



Bon Homme's Chase Kortan

and Phoenix. Kortan's hard work and talent have led to offers from the University of South Dakota, South Dakota State University, the University of

Sioux Falls, and Augustana University, among other schools in the area, to play multiple sports. "He's got crazy college offers and those schools don't just give away

offers for no reason," Pudwill said. "I think he can be a high D2 guy in football and a USD, SDSU, UND, and NDSU type of guy and his baseball potential is even higher, he could go to one of the bigger conferences in D1."

With many options available, Kortan is still undecided on what to do after his high school career is over and doesn't expect to make a decision until January or February of next year.

"No deals have been made, but I am in contact with the coaches," Kortan said. "I am keeping all options on the table and am about 50-50-50."

Pudwill, who also coaches Kortan in track, had nothing but good to say about his athlete.

"He gets it, he's a four sport guy and never misses a practice and you've got to be extremely athletic to get where he is and he is super smart," Pudwill said. "I think he likes practice and he's one of the guys that has nothing to prove, but works harder than anyone else."

"I can't stress how great of a kid he is and he has been a pleasure to coach."

With the college decision set aside, for now, Kortan will focus on the football season and try to win a state title and the legacy he will leave behind at Bon Homme.

"It's going to mean a lot," Kortan said. "It's my last year as a Cavalier and I want to make it as enjoyable as I can."

Follow @michaelhammond\_ on Twitter.

**Alcester-Hudson**  
**COACH:** Brian Haak  
**ASSISTANTS:** Steve Hale, Sean Clancy, Jackson Anderson, Michael Seivert, Randy Walth  
**VITALS:** Class 9B, Tri-Valley Conference  
**LAST YEAR:** The Cubs, 7-3, lost to Colome in the Class 9B quarterfinals.  
**RETURNING:** Gavin Doering (Sr., 6-0, 205, L); Logan McConnell (Sr., 6-1, 175, B); Samuel Jensen (Sr., 6-0, 165, B); Eli Skoglund (So., 6-0, 170, B); Trent Rus (Sr., 5-10, 290, L); Cameron Squires (Jr., 5-7, 130, B); Jett Farrell (Jr., 5-10, 155, L); Joshua Griffith (Jr., 5-11, 200, L); TJ Shaughnessy (Jr., 5-8, 145, L); Ethan Reed (So., 5-10, 180, L); Jadon Micke (So., 5-8, 140, B); William Kolley (So., 5-8, 145, L); Daniel Nyreen (Fr., 5-6, 150, L); Izaak Reed (Fr., 5-5, 130, B); Layne Miller (Fr., 5-6, 220, L)  
**NEWCOMERS:** Connor Sogn (Jr., 5-9, 175, B); Zach McKee (Jr., 5-10, 180, B); Trevor Stene (So., 5-8, 140, B); CJ Carlson (So., 5-10, 140, B); Blake Hummel (So., 6-2, 185, L); Brady Weilenga (So., 5-8, 155, L); Kaden Teunissen (Jr., 6-4, 280, L)

**Andes Central-Dakota Christian**  
**COACH:** Chad Bietz  
**ASSISTANTS:** Darryl Deurmier, Charlie Hopkins, Cliff Johnson  
**VITALS:** Class 9A, Region 3, Great Plains Conference  
**LAST YEAR:** The Thunder went 3-6 and lost in first round of playoffs.  
**RETURNING:** Leo Hopkins (Sr., RB/LB, All State Honorable Mention, All Conference); Daryl Jones (Sr., TE/DE); Hunter Vasek (Sr., OL/DL); Josiah Caple (Jr., RB/LB); Jacey Garria (Jr., QB/DB); Kendall Vernatez (Jr., OL/LB); Ethan Black Cloud (Jr., FB/LB); Jo Hart (Jr., RB/DB); Burton Archambeu (Jr., RB/LB); Cliff Johnson (So., TE/DE); Jacob Maynard (So., OL/DL); Alex Maas (So., OL/DL); Micah Mitchell (So., OL/DL); Darron Tronwold (So., TE/DE); Andrew Vasek (So., OL/DL); Michael Stone (So., OL/DL); Gabe Barus (Fr., OL/DL)  
**NEWCOMERS:** Shawn Goerhing (Jr., RB/LB); Preston Neal (Sr., RB/LB); Cody Vanden Hoek (Sr., OL/DL); Beau Greger (Jr., RB/DB); JB Brugier (Jr., QB/LB); Matt Bryant (Sr., RB/LB)

**Avon**  
**COACH:** Tom Culver (139-37)  
**ASSISTANTS:** Mel Fathke, James Stubkjaer, Justin Lukkes, Jody Gittings, Mark Mudder  
**VITALS:** Class 9B, Great Plains Conference  
**LAST YEAR:** The Pirates finished 2016 with a record of 2-6. Avon will return seven starters on offense and six defensive starters from last year.  
**RETURNING:** Brady Cameron (Jr., 6-4, 185, QB); Jacob Cihak (Jr., 5-8, 150, RB); Wyatt Duncan (Jr., 5-9, 190, RB/LB); Levi DeJong (Jr., 6-0, 170, FB/DE); Sam Eben (Sr., 6-1, 225, TE) Jimmy Schuurmans (Jr., 6-3, 180, TE/DE); Dominique Stout (Sr., 5-9, 220, C); Tate Wynia (Jr., 5-9, 150, LB); Hayden Powers (Sr., 5-7, 165, LB)  
**NEWCOMERS:** Lukkes Mudder (Sr., 5-7, 150, FB/LB); Kainen Blaha (Sr., 5-10, 170, FB/LB); Riley Mammaing (Sr., 5-10, 170, FB/DB); Diamond Pohl (Jr., 5-10, 230, OL/DL); Max Mach (So., 5-11, 180, OL/DL); Jason DeJong (So., 6-4, 200, OL/DL); Weston Frank (Jr., 6-2, 160, TE/DE); Dylan Raysby (Sr., 6-1, 160, TE/DE)

**Beresford**  
**COACH:** Scott Ebert  
**VITALS:** Class 11B, Dakota XII Conference  
**LAST YEAR:** The Watchdogs, 4-5, lost in the first round of the playoffs.  
**ROSTER:** Austin Snedeker (OL/DL, Sr., 6-0, 180); Caeden Gundvaldson (OL/DL, Sr., 5-8, 150); Chris Housken (OL/DL, Sr., 6-4, 275); Dakota Galt (RB/LB, Sr., 5-6, 150); Deon Monroe (RB/LB, Sr., 6-0, 165); Joseph Lane (QB/LB, Sr., 6-0,



Gayville-Volin's Grant Rice (9)

185); Kaleb Peterson (RB/LB, Sr., 5-8, 165); Lathen Norling (OL/DL, Sr., 6-2, 190); Riley Johnson (OL/DL, Sr., 6-2, 220); Ty Haneke (RB/LB, Sr., 5-8, 175); Caleb Carnes (TE/LB, Jr., 6-3, 200); Hunter Borah (RB/DB, Jr., 5-6, 140); Jack Fitzgerald (OL/DL, Jr., 5-11, 180); Nick Casperson (OL/LB, Jr., 5-11, 190); Parker Golbirsch (TE/LB, Jr., 6-3, 200); Sam Nelson (QB/DB, Jr., 6-1, 145); Zaine Wagner (OL/DL, Jr., 6-2, 200); Andrew Jensen (OL/DL, So., 5-11, 190); Beau Van Gelder (WR/DB, So., 5-11, 150); Blake Peterson (TE/DL, So., 6-4, 225); Carter Kennedy (RB/LB, So., 6-2, 205); Dallas Davis (WR/DB, So., 6-4, 160); Duncan Pease (OL/DL, So., 6-1, 170); Jack Antonson (WR/DB, So., 6-1, 150); Riley Johnson (WR/DB, So., 6-0, 150); Tyler Kropuenske (QB/DB, So., 5-10, 160); Wyatt

Knudson (OL/LB, So., 5-9, 150); Zach Erickson (TE/LB, So., 5-8, 170); Alex Docken (WR/DB, Fr., 5-11, 135); Blake Getman (OL/DL, Fr., 6-1, 190); Brad Christensen (QB/LB, Fr., 5-7, 150); Brandon Andrews (RB/LB, Fr., 5-6, 140); Caden Ringling (OLDL, Fr., 5-9, 200); Carson Johnsen (OL/DL, Fr., 5-11, 190); Collin Treloar (WR/DB, Fr., 5-6, 130); Dayshon Adams (OL/DL, Fr., 5-8, 190); Jace Wurth (TE/DL, Fr., 6-1, 180); Jaden Muller (RB/LB, Fr., 6-1, 170); Josh Lane (WR/DB, Fr., 5-6, 135); Kaden Ness (WR/DB, Fr., 5-10, 135); Kirby Hurlbert (OL/DL, Fr., 5-10, 215); Nate Kropuenske (RB/DB, Fr., 5-9, 140)

**Bon Homme**  
**COACH:** Byron Pudwill  
**ASSISTANTS:** Jason Hein, Gary Kortan  
**VITALS:** Class 9AA, Little Missouri Valley Conference  
**LAST YEAR:** The Cavaliers finished the regular season with a record of 6-4 and lost to Webster Area 35-28 in the second round of the playoffs.  
**RETURNING:** Chase Kortan (Sr., 6-1, 185; RB/S/P, 26 TD's, 2,048 all-purpose yards, 53 tackles, 4 sacks); Bryce Scieszinski (Jr., 6-3, 175; QB/LB, 24 TD's, 1,893 passing yards, 54 tackles); Nathan Schenkel (Sr., 6-2, 190; TE/DE, 371 yards, 6 TD's, 23 Rec., 67 tackles); Mace Merkwan (Jr., 6-2, 180; WR/CB); Sam

Caba (Sr., 6-0, 160; LG); Kade Hellmann (Sr., 5-9, 170; DL, 46 tackles, 2 sacks); Connor Frasch (Sr., 6-0, 180; DL, 32 tackles)  
**NEWCOMERS:** Austin Kotalik (Sr., 5-11, 160; LB)

**Dakota Valley**  
**COACH:** Jeff Van Den Hul  
**ASSISTANTS:** Austin Cole, Josh Van Den Hul, Will Bisenius, Craig Hertz, Tim Squier, Jeffrey Hownstein, Rob Augustine  
**VITALS:** Class A, Dakota XII Conference  
**LAST YEAR:** The Panthers went 2-7 on the season.  
**RETURNING:** Luke Schmitt (Sr., 6-0, QB/CB); Bennett Chesterman (Sr., 6-0, TE/S); Camron Fisher (Sr., 5-10, WR/CB); Bryce Schroeder (Sr., 5-10, WR/CB); Jacob Kenny (Sr., 6-0, OL/DL); Ryan Parke (Sr., 6-5, OL/DL); Steven Neff (Sr., 6-0, TE/LB); Connor Kopu (Sr., 6-4, TE/DL); Josh Hoffman (Sr., 6-0, OL/DL); Robert Rosenquist (Sr., 6-0, RB/LB); Zach Masters (Jr., 6-1, WR/S); Austin Carter (Jr., 5-8, RB/LB); Brennan Moran (Jr., 6-3, OL/DL); Luke Johnson (Jr., 5-9, WR/CB); Cole Bergman (Jr., 6-3, TE/LB)  
**NEWCOMERS:** Logan Harrison (Jr., 6-1, OL/DL); Cole Schulz (So., 6-0, WR/S); Casey Vorchahoske (So., 5-10, OL/DL); Jevin Kratz (So., 6-1, WR/LB); Nathan Rice (So., 5-9, WR/S); Sam Chesterman (So., 6-0, RB/LB); Chase Hammerstrom (Jr., 5-10, TE/LB); Darrick Sexton (Jr., 5-10, OL/DL)

**Elk Point-Jefferson**  
**HEAD COACH:** Jake Terry  
**ASSISTANTS:** Adam Timmins, Seth Fischer, Troy McCreary, Jesse Henrichs  
**VITALS:** Class B, Dakota XII Conference  
**LAST YEAR:** The Huskies

finished the regular season with a record of 1-7.  
**RETURNING:** Alex Norby (Sr., 5-6, 165; RB/LB 38 carries 91 yards); Zeke Robinson (Sr., 5-10, 165; RB/DB; 101 yards, 29 carries); Jackson Grassel (Sr., 6-1, 175; TE/WR/LB, 72 yards); Alex Wu (Sr., 5-10, 170; RB/DL); Howard Smith (Sr., 6-1, 195; OL); Jared Merkle (Jr., 6-3, 175; WR); Preston Fejfar (Jr., 5-10, 160; RB); Cash Hemmington (Jr., 6-0, 175; OL/LB); Logan Donelan (Jr., 6-0, 185; DB); Garret chicoine (Jr., 5-10, 230; DL)  
**NEWCOMERS:** Collin Elkin (Sr., 6-2, 190; RB/DL); Logan Donelan (Jr., 6-0, 185; QB); Hunter Ewing (Jr., 6-1, 225; LB/C); Caleb Hanson (Jr., 6-1, 170; WR/LB); Tyler Leif (Jr., 5-6, 180; RB/LB); Alex Grashoff (Jr., 6-4, 235; OL/DL); Nathan Jones (Jr., 5-9, 230; DL); Ethan Marx (Jr., 5-10, 150; OL/LB); Parker Berghult (So., 5-11, 165; LB); Luckas Larson (So., 5-8, 160; LB); Dalton Monahan (So., 6-0, 165; WR/DB/KR); James Lichtenberg (Fr., 6-4, 190; OL/LB

**Gayville-Volin**  
**COACH:** Patrick Beeman  
**ASSISTANTS:** Justin Karstens, Tom Rice, Roland Johnson  
**VITALS:** Class 9A, Great Plains Conference  
**LAST YEAR:** The Raiders lost to Canistota in the first round of the playoffs.  
**RETURNING:** Grant Rice (Sr., 6-3, 190; QB/LB); Colin Mann (Sr., 6-1, 170; C); Chase Petrik (Sr., 6-0, 155; G/DT); Brook Van Osdel (Jr., 6-3, 185; TE/DE); Colbey Rickford (Jr., 6-1, 175; TE/LB); Luke Hummel (Sr., 5-10, 160; CB)  
**NEWCOMERS:** Cade Rickford (Jr., 6-0, 155; RB/DB);

**People's Grocery & Floral**  
"Shur-fine Shur-fresh"  
FULL-SERVICE GROCERY & FLORAL DEPT.  
Deli • Bakery • Fax  
All Major Credit Cards Accepted  
402-388-4329 Crofton, Nebraska

**NIOBRARA-VERDIGRE**

Volleyball		Football	
9/1 at Creighton vs. Osmond	5:30 p.m.	(All home games in Verdigre)	
9/6 at Elgin Public Double Tri.	5 p.m.	8/26 at Chambers-Wheeler Central-Ewing	7 p.m.
9/8 vs. Elkhorn Valley (Verdigre)	5:30 p.m.	9/2 vs. Boyd County	7 p.m.
9/13 vs. St. Mary's vs. Santee (Niobrara)	5:30 p.m.	9/9 at West Holt	7 p.m.
9/15 vs. Neigh-Oakdale (Niobrara)	5:30 p.m.	9/23 Laurel-Concord-Coleridge	7 p.m.
9/20 at West Holt	5 p.m.	10/7 Plainview	7 p.m.
9/22 at Clearwater-Orchard Double Tri.	5 p.m.	10/14 Hartington-Newcastle	7 p.m.
9/27 at Clearwater-Orchard Tri.	5 p.m.	10/21 at Wakefield	7 p.m.
9/29 vs. Wausau vs. Clearwater-Orchard (Niobrara)	5 p.m.	<b>Cross Country</b>	
10/4 vs. Winside (Niobrara)	6 p.m.	9/1 Niobrara-Verdigre (N) Inv.	4:30 p.m.
10/6 at St. Mary's Double Tri.	4 p.m.	9/8 Boyd County Inv.	4:15 p.m.
10/11 at Stuart	5 p.m.	9/12 Neigh-Oakdale Inv.	4:30 p.m.
10/13 at Elgin Public-Pope John	4 p.m.	9/16 O'Neill Inv.	3:30 p.m.
10/17-18 Knox Co. Tour. (Bloomfield)	TBA	9/22 Creighton Inv.	4 p.m.
10/24-28 NVC Tour.	TBA	9/30 West Holt Inv.	4 p.m.
		10/7 NVC (Neligh)	4 p.m.

**CROFTON**

Volleyball			Cross Country		
9/1 Wynot Quad	5 p.m.	9/23 at Ponca	7 p.m.		
9/6 at Hart. Cedar Catholic	7:30 p.m.	9/30 vs. Stanton	7 p.m.		
9/8 vs. O'Neill	7:30 p.m.	10/7 vs. Hart. Cedar Catholic	7 p.m.		
9/10 Boone Central-Newman Grove Inv.	9 a.m.	10/14 at Battle Creek	7 p.m.		
		10/21 at Lutheran High Northeast	7 p.m.		
9/13 at Boone Central-Newman Grove	7 p.m.	<b>Girls' Golf</b>			
9/15 at Pierce	7:30 p.m.	(Co-op With Hartington-Newcastle)			
9/20 at Laurel-Concord-Col. Creek	7:30 p.m.	8/18 O'Neill Inv. No Team 2 in top 9 Ind.			
9/22 at Wisner-Pilger vs. Battle Creek	5 p.m.	8/26 Wayne Inv.	9 a.m.		
9/27 at Lutheran High NE vs. Norfolk Catholic	5 p.m.	9/1 West Holt Inv.	9 a.m.		
9/29 at West Holt	7:30 p.m.	9/1 Pierce Inv.	9 a.m.		
10/3 at Ponca vs. Hinton (Iowa)	5 p.m.	9/12 Battle Creek Inv.	9 a.m.		
10/6 at Wayne	7:30 p.m.	9/15 at Norfolk Catholic	4 p.m.		
10/11 at Creighton	7:30 p.m.	9/17 Plainview	4:15 p.m.		
10/13 Guardian Angels CC	7:30 p.m.	9/19 Crofton Triangular	9 a.m.		
10/17-18 Knox County Tour. (Bloomfield)	TBA	9/22 Wayne Inv.	9 a.m.		
10/24-27 Mid-State Tour. (TBA)	TBA	9/24 Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Inv	9 a.m.		
		9/27 Mid-State Conf. (O'Neill)	11 a.m.		
<b>Football</b>					
8/26 vs. Wisner-Pilger	7 p.m.				
9/2 at Bancroft-Rosalie	7 p.m.				
9/9 vs. Oakland-Craig	7 p.m.				
9/16 vs. Twin River	7 p.m.				

**Moody Motor Company**  
251 Spruce Ave. • Niobrara, NE  
**1-800-745-5650**  
**(402) 857-3711**  
moodymotor.com

**OUR MONTHLY INSPECTIONS KEEP YOUR HOME PEST FREE CALL & COMPARE!**  
**1-800-KIL-BUGS**  
SERVING NE NEBRASKA & SE SOUTH DAKOTA.  
OFFICES IN YANKTON AND NORFOLK  
**OLSON'S PEST TECHNICIANS**  
1-800-KIL-BUGS

**The Flue Doctors**  
Fireplaces and wood burning stoves were responsible for some 23,600 residential fires.  
**P.R. Olson**  
Chimney Sweeps  
Certified Dryer Exhaust Technicians  
Call for an appointment today!  
665-5181 • 1-800-545-2847