BYRON CENTER BULLDOGS

2025 RECORD:
7-4 OVERALL
4-1 OK WHITE (2ND place)
PLAYOFFS-District Finals

Byron Center Head Coach
Marc Cisco: 17th year (122-55)

Coaches' Comments: "We aren't really anything fancy - no great size, decent team speed, a bunch of kids that look the same and play hard. Hopefully, we'll continue to be very efficient on offense and make opponents work for points when we are on defense."

Key Returnees: Cam Payne - RB/LB, Ben Leifter - OL/DL, Connor Nealon - RB/KR, Will Baumbach - WR/SS, Caden Meyering - LB/TE, Keaton VanKampen - QB/DB, Owen Meginley - OL/DL, Kolton Baumbach - TE/DE, Josiah Parker - WR/DB, Parker Wiggins - K

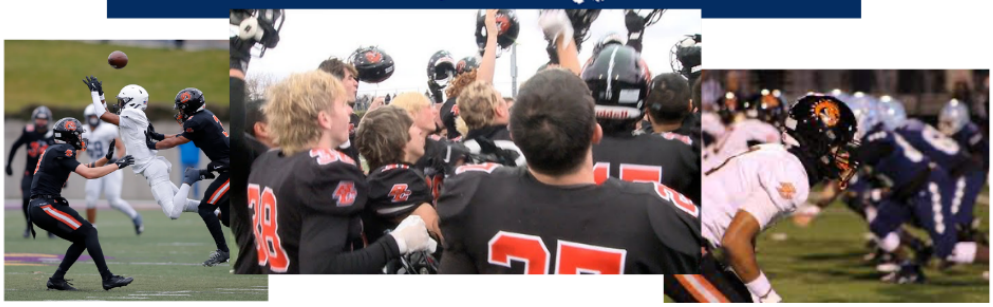
Returning Starters: Offense(5), Defense(5)

Key Newcomers: Teegan Dennett - OL/DL - Brady Hartson - QB/DB - twitchy athlete, Mikah Swagerty - OL/DE - Nash Cagen - WR/DB - Alex Mathers - WR/SS -Bishop Pelton - RB/LB - Gavin Milward - RB/DE

2026 Bulldogs Football Schedule

Thurs Aug. 27	Hudsonville	H
Thurs. Sept. 3	East Kentwood	H
Fri. Sept. 11	Morton, IN	A
Fri. Sept. 18	FH Northern	A
Fri. Sept. 25	Muskegon	H
Fri. Oct. 2	Mona Shores	A
Fri. Oct. 9	GR Union	H
Fri. Oct. 16	Reeths-Puffer	A
Fri. Oct. 23	T. Kellogg	H

WEST MICHIGAN OKSPORTS



BYRON CENTER WORKS TO CONTINUE WINNING WAYS IN 2026 SEASON

Byron Center Football Preview

Byron Center has produced one of the winningest programs in West Michigan throughout Head Coach, Marc Cisco's tenure, making the playoffs in 11 of the past 13 seasons, and reaching the state finals in 2024. The Bulldogs program has come to expect success through their culture and hard work, and this year's group is no exception. Coach Cisco is excited about the athletes he has competing this year, and expects to be in the mix for an OK Green title.

Returning to lead the offense is 3rd yr. starter, Senior RB, Cam Payne (AC '25) who has secured an offer from D1, Univ. of Toledo. Payne ran for 937 yds and 15 TD's while making the MLIVE Dream Team in 2025. Joining him will be Senior speedster, Connor Nealon, a 10.7 100m dash guy Track, giving the Dawgs a solid 1-2 punch. However BC will be breaking in a new QB this year. According to Coach Cisco, "Brady Hartson has had an oustanding "camp season" earning multiple MIAA offers and Keaton VanKampen is a high level baseball player who started every game at FS last year." They will battle it out to lead the "O" under center. Upfront, OT - Ben Liefter was state runner-up in the shootout during track season. What the Bulldogs might lack in size, they will make up for in athleticism.

As for the defense, Coach Cisco continued: "We had a GREAT turnover ratio last year (+23) and have continued to be very good in that category (plus double digits in 6 of the last seven seasons)." Payne will lead the "D" at LB with help from 3rd year starter, Will Baumbach at SS and Josiah Parker at DB. Up front, Liefter will work on the D Line along with Senior, Koton Baumbach to harass opposing offenses.

There will be no questioning Byron Center's athletic ability entering the 2026 season. Answers will have to come from dealing with a very difficult schedule, and avoiding the injuries that limited them in 2025.