

Schulte heading to Iowa as walk-on

Written by Jim Ecker

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Xavier High School quarterback Bryce Schulte has accepted an offer to join the Iowa Hawkeyes as a preferred walk-on for the 2017 season, but he'll apparently change positions.

When Schulte attended the UI camp last summer, Iowa assistant coach Reese Morgan suggested he attend the camp as a tight end or linebacker instead of quarterback. Schulte picked tight end, even though he's never played the position in his life.



From all accounts, he performed well as a tight end and that presumably will be his initial position with the Hawkeyes.

"It was fun being physical with other kids at the camp and going up against them one-on-one," he said in November. "And it was fun catching balls, too, because I'm not used to that either."

Schulte was a starting defensive back for Xavier this past season, but he was best-known as an all-state quarterback with an accurate arm and a terrific grasp of the offense.

Schulte passed for 4,347 yards, 58 touchdowns and only 10 interceptions during his three years as Xavier's starting quarterback. He ranks first all-time in the Metro area in career TD passes, third in passing yards and third in completions.

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Schulte set seven school records at Xavier for total touchdowns (90), TD passes in one game (5), completions (287), pass attempts (487), passing yards (4,347), total offense (5,129) and longest punt (66 yards).

The Saints compiled a 29-6 record with Schulte at the helm and made two trips to the UNI-Dome for the semifinals of the Class 3A playoffs as a sophomore and senior.

Smaller colleges have been interested in Schulte as a quarterback, but he said in November that he wanted to play college football at the highest level, even if it meant changing positions.

"I would go for tight end," he said at the time. "Play as high as I can.

"I would play any position for my team, basically. I want to play Division I and that would be pretty cool."

Iowa State offered Schulte a spot on its team as a preferred walk-on at quarterback, but he picked the Hawkeyes instead even though he'll be changing spots.

Schulte is a good all-around athlete. He rushed for 719 yards and 31 touchdowns for the Saints and caught two passes for 33 yards and one touchdown.

He also was a key reserve on the Xavier basketball team that won the Class 3A state title last March and was named all-conference in baseball last summer.