

High school football team in Ottawa, Kansas

The Ottawa High School football team is shown in this photograph from 1926. The team's record was 8-0, and they outscored their opponents 169 to 40. Because of their undefeated record and scoring dominance, the team was considered by some to be the unofficial state high school champions in 1926. Prior to Ottawa's 9-7 defeat of Olathe on November 19, 1926, news accounts described the game as "the battle for the high school football championship of the state." The team played its home games at Ottawa University's Cook Field. Pictured in the front row are (l to r): Gordon Schuhmacher, quarterback; Lawrence Farmer, quarterback; and Donald Strahan, end. In the middle row are (l to r): Orlis Cox, assistant coach and athletic director; Edwin Jackson, center; Merle Javaux, right tackle; Fred Clark, team captain and left tackle; Floyd Anderson, left guard; Billy Cox (brother of Orlis Cox), left halfback; and, R. E. Gowans, head coach and high school principal. In the back row are (l to r): Dick Reedy, backfield; Claude Edwards, right halfback; Arthur Burdorff, right guard; Eugene Flaherty, right end; Leo Strahan, left end; Max Fockele, captain-elect, fullback and kicker; and Lucky Williams, line.

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