

# The Greatest Championship Run in the History of Football

(At *any* level of Football – pro, college, or high school.)

## Massillon Tigers 1935-1965

Nine National championships and 20 state championships in 31 seasons.

Year	Record	Points Scored	Final Rank	Comments
1935	10-0	483 - 13	State Champs	National Champs
1936	10-0	443 - 14	State Champs	National Champs
1937	8-1-1	228 - 50	State Champs	
1938	10-0	302 - 60	State Champs	
1939	10-0	460 - 25	State Champs	National Champs
1940	10-0	477 - 6	State Champs	National Champs
1941	9-0-1	314 - 37	State Champs	
1942	9-1	282 - 80	3rd in Ohio	footnotes (a), (b), (c)
1943	10-0	278 - 12	State Champs	
1944	7-3	175 - 92		footnote (d)
1945	5-0-5	168 - 38		
1946	6-2-2	166 - 103		footnote (e)
1947	6-4	138 - 107	19th in Ohio	
1948	9-1	271 - 95	State Champs	
1949	9-1	395 - 93	State Champs	
1950	10-0	407 - 37	State Champs	National Champs
1951	9-1	316 - 65	State Champs	
1952	10-0	437 - 93	State Champs	National Champs
1953	10-0	399 - 55	State Champs	National Champs
1954	9-1	295 - 66	State Champs	footnote (f)
1955	8-1-1	262 - 99	2nd in Ohio	
1956	8-2	237 - 104	8th in Ohio	
1957	8-1	221 - 46	2nd in Ohio	
1958	8-1-1	220 - 45	4th in Ohio	
1959	10-0	431 - 46	State Champs	National Champs
1960	10-1	348 - 93	State Champs	7th in Nation
1961	11-0	332 - 64	State Champs	National Champs
1962	6-5	269 - 164		footnote (g)
1963	9-1	334 - 47	2nd in Ohio	
1964	10-0	297 - 48	State Champs	2nd in Nation
1965	10-0	247 - 78	State Champs	2nd in Nation footnote (h)

274 wins and only 27 losses in 31 football seasons. Win percentage over these 31 seasons is better than 91%.

Ranked in top 10 of Ohio 26 times in 31 seasons, with 20 state titles. (More than any team in Ohio in entire history.)

Ranked in top 10 of nation 12 times in 31 years, with 9 national titles (More than any team in America, ever.)

Outscored opposition 9632 -1975 during this 31 year period period.

Average score over these 31 seasons was 31-6. Tigers outscored opposition by roughly a 5-1 ratio.

- a) End 52 game unbeaten streak.
- b) Lost only one game in a 79 game streak
- c) End of 78 Ohio games without a loss
- d) End streak of 91 games with only 2 losses
- (e) End streak of 120 games with only 6 losses (1934-1946)
- (f) End streak of 46 games with 1 loss
- (g) End streak of 35 game with just 1 loss
- (h) 32 game unbeaten streak in progress that ended in 1966.

*NOTE: Massillon was 9-1 in 1934, and ranked 2nd in Ohio, outscoring opponents 427-21 -- however, this fine team was not included in the championship run because it was just before the run started. The Canton McKinley Bulldogs won the state (and national) championship in 1934.*

ALSO: The Massillon Tigers won more state championships outside this period, and were also highly ranked in the nation on other occasions. The purpose of this web page is to illustrate the amazing 31 year period of Massillon football that has never been equaled by any team at any level in the entire history of football.

During this 31 year period, the record of Massillon vs Canton McKinley was: 24-5-2

The champions of the 11 seasons that Massillon fell short were:

- 1942 Canton McKinley
- 1944 Canton McKinley
- 1945 Canton Lincoln & Cleveland Cathedral Latin
- 1946 Canton McKinley
- 1947 Barberton

1955 Canton McKinley  
1956 Canton McKinley  
1957 Cleveland St. Benedictine  
1958 Alliance  
1962 Toledo Central Catholic  
1963 Niles

Note that from 1934 to 1965, inclusive, Stark County teams won the state title 28 out of 32 seasons.

Virtually all the powerhouses in Ohio were on the Massillon schedule during this period. There were many super showdowns throughout this period, including the great game of 1940 against Toledo Waite (Massillon won 28-0), and the super showdown against Niles in 1964 (Massillon won 14-8, stopping the 48 game win streak of Niles). Almost every year, Massillon and McKinley were battling at the end season for the championship, as both teams frequently eliminated the other top teams of Ohio. It was a glorious period of football for the Massillon Tigers, and it's what put Tigertown on the map as the ultimate high school football power in the nation.

An entire book could be written about this golden period. The details of its history are far too deep to be encompassed within a single web page. Fair, or unfair, this era has become "the standard" that older Massillon fans use when measuring the success of Tiger football. It is deeply hoped that we will soon experience another such era.

A final note: There was a 20 year period (1935 through 1954, inclusive), during which Massillon won 15 state championships. This is a super era within a super era. Other than Massillon, no football team in *any* state has ever come close to winning 75% of the state championships over a 20 year span.

And this is why Massillon became a storybook football team.

Go Massillon Tigers! Massillon Football Forever!