

Kingston High School opened its doors in September of 1915, combining the city's longtime archrivals Kingston Academy and Ulster Academy. The 1915 football squad was the first athletic team ever to compete for newly formed Kingston High School. After Watson "Watts" Wheeler was elected captain, the boys put aside their rivalry and began to band together in hopes of a successful season.

Not only did they pull together as a team, but they also set the standard for all Kingston High School Athletic teams to follow, boys or girls, producing one of the greatest teams ever to put on a uniform for the Maroon and White. The boys took the field ten times and ten times they emerged as the victors. Their perfect record of 10 wins and no losses or ties, remained a record which stood until the Willard Burkes' undefeated powerhouse teams of 1956 (8-0-0) and 1957 (7-0-0) accomplish unblemished seasons. It wasn't until 63 years later, in 1978, that another gridiron team put up a perfect 10-0-0 record. They remain the only two teams ever to win 10 games in a season. The 1915 team scored a total of 279 points, a total which lasted for 62 years until the 1977 (9-0-0) undefeated team put up 287 points in only nine games. Their single game point total of 59 versus Mechanicville stood for 84 years until the 1999 Tigers put up 61 points against Walkkill and it still ranks as the number five-point total of all-time. The 59-0 shellacking given to Mechanicville on Thanksgiving Day, continues to rank as the largest margin of victory. The 1915 team's season average of 27.9 point per game held out until the 1948 Willard Burke's powerhouse eleven scored a 29.0 per game. Defensively, the 1915 unit only allowed a measly 2.5 points per game. It remains third on the all-time list. The Maroon's also recorded six shutouts only behind the 1921 team record of eleven. Individually, Watson Wheeler still holds the all-time scoring records for most touchdowns in a single season with 20, along with scoring the most points in a season totaling 120 points. He still holds the record for most touchdowns scored in a game with 5, along with Joe Reilly (1971) and Terrance Harris (2002).

The 1915 team was truly a team for all ages, becoming the Eastern New York State Champions. Here is a game-by-game summary of the 1915 football team.

<u>1915</u>	<u>10-0-0</u>	<u>KHS</u>	<u>OPP.</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
	<u>EASTERN NYS</u>			
	<u>CHAMPS</u>			
10/2	Albany	18	6	Kingston
10/9	Troy	34	0	Kingston
10/12	Port Jervis	19	6	Kingston
10/16	Middletown	12	7	Middletown
10/23	Newburgh	21	0	Kingston
10/30	Albany	7	6	Albany
11/6	Middletown	33	0	Kingston
11/13	Poughkeepsie	48	0	Poughkeepsie
11/20	Newburgh	28	0	Newburgh
11/25	Mechanicville	59	0	Kingston
		279	25	Total
		27.9	2.5	Average

Team members: L. Campbell, J. Schoonmaker, J. Joyce, H. Bernstein, A. Macauley, A. Hallinan, W. Wheeler, R. Terwilliger, S. Gregory, J. Palisi, W. Pehleman, H. Johnson, J. Riseley, E. Gill, S. Hasbrouck, A. Arnst, L. Silverman, Lockwood, K. Sullivan, Buster Cashin team mascot, C. Sibley team manager, Coach Schumaker.