

EDGEWOOD COUGARS

2022 H.S. FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Cougars aim for another SWOC title



EDGEWOOD OPENS UP THE 2022 SEASON AT MILFORD. PROVIDED PHOTO

By Chris Vogt, *The Report*

ST. CLAIR TWP. — The Edgewood High School football team caught fire by winning nine in a row before heading into the playoffs last season.

And the Cougars have that momentum in mind as the 2022 stint approaches.

“We always talk to the boys about playing with effort and execution,” said Edgewood coach Scott Clemmons, who is entering his 11th season at the helm. “This is a new year. I tell the guys that you’re not the league champs right now. It just doesn’t happen. We can build off of it. But you have to strive for it. You have to strive to want to come back and get that league championship.”

The Cougars finished 9-3 overall and 5-0 atop the Southwest Ohio Conference.

To get back there again, Clemmons said there’s one thing that will set Edgewood apart.

“Team speed,” Clemmons noted. “We’ve got plenty of young men who

have great team speed.”

According to Clemmons, the Cougars will be fielding their leading rusher and top three receivers from 2021.

Senior running back Tavionne Crosby will return for his fourth year as a Cougar, after rushing for 1,278 yards and 23 touchdowns a season ago.

Junior Braden Sullivan could have a breakout season in the offensive backfield, Clemmons said. “He can catch the ball, too.”

Senior defensive back Brick Barker will be the spearhead in the Cougars’ secondary. Barker had 97 total tackles and recovered four fumbles while taking three of them to the house.

Senior Jake Valerio could be used as a multi-purpose back and is expected to do big things again in the defensive backfield. He had 75 tackles and seven fumble recoveries as a junior.

Anchoring the line will be juniors Luke Halsey and Kohen Moore. Senior Evan Swartz will be back at the tight end position.

Other prospects to keep an eye out on, according to *The Report*, are junior Wyatt Walker, senior Phillip Johnson, junior David Rumppler, senior Mason Green and senior Layne Howell.

“Every class brings something different,” Clemmons said. “We always talk about tradition. And they understand that.”

“This group has a lot of continuity and togetherness,” Clemmons added.

“They’ve been playing with each other for a long time, and they believe in the system. They believe in who they are, and they believe in their teammates.”

2022 SCHEDULE

Aug. 19 at Milford
Aug. 26 Clinton-Massie
Sept. 2 Franklin
Sept. 9 at Fenwick
Sept. 16 at Chaminade-Julienne
Sept. 23 Mount Healthy
Sept. 30 Northwest
Oct. 7 at Talawanda
Oct. 14 at Ross
Oct. 21 Harrison

2022 EDGEWOOD COUGARS ROSTER

No.	Player	Pos.	Height	Weight	Class	No.	Player	Pos.	Height	Weight	Class	No.	Player	Pos.	Height	Weight	Class
1	Isiah Reid	RB, DB	5'9"	160	Sr.	27	Brick Barker	RB, S	6'0"	170	Sr.	57	Kyler Gibson	OL, DL	5'11"	250	So.
2	Layne Howell	WR, CB	5'10"	160	Sr.	29	Danny Shoe	HB, OLB	5'11"	180	Jr.	59	Mason Green	OL, OLB	5'11"	190	Sr.
3	Brayden Fitzwater	RB, DB	5'11"	160	Jr.	30	Noah Apking	TE, OLB	5'11"	170	Jr.	63	Thomas Dixon	OL, DL	5'10"	260	So.
4	Hunter Allen	TE, LB	5'10"	160	Sr.	31	Caden Jones	FB, DB	5'10"	145	So.	67	Jordan Sousa	OL, DL	5'9"	185	Sr.
5	Conner Cooper	RB, DB	5'11"	170	Jr.	32	Braden Sullivan	RB, DB	6'0"	180	Jr.	69	Kohen Moore	OT, DL	6'0"	260	Jr.
6	Xander Douglass	RB, DB	5'9"	150	So.	34	Tavionne Crosby	FB, MLB	5'11"	210	Sr.	70	Talan Schmidt	G, DL	5'11"	260	Jr.
7	Caedon Rupp	SE, LB	6'3"	170	Jr.	40	Caden Sparks	FB, LB	5'10"	180	So.	72	Brady Wagers	G, DL	6'0"	210	Jr.
9	David Rumppler	PK	5'10"	155	Jr.	41	Adam Taylor	TE, MLB	5'10"	185	Jr.	73	Josh Bartley	OL, DL	6'1"	225	So.
10	Brock Crowe	QB, DB	5'9"	150	Jr.	42	Julian Apking	RB, LB	5'9"	140	So.	74	Declan Hatti	OL, DL	6'2"	260	Jr.
11	Riley Brown	QB, CB	6'3"	185	Sr.	43	Stephen Merrill	RB, LB	5'10"	150	So.	75	Phillip Johnson	OL, DL	6'1"	225	Sr.
12	Michael Holland	RB, DB	5'9"	140	So.	44	Brayden Smith	HB, OLB	6'0"	165	Jr.	76	Asher Hall	OT, DL	6'2"	310	Jr.
14	Ryan French	QB, DB	5'11"	160	So.	46	Elliot Besingi	RB, DL	5'7"	160	So.	77	Braden Gunkle	OL, DL	5'11"	220	So.
15	Kaiden Hall	WR, CB	5'10"	130	Sr.	48	Micah Perkins	TE, DL	5'10"	175	So.	78	Wyatt Day	OL, DL	6'5"	255	Sr.
17	Charles Flege	FB, DB	5'8"	150	Jr.	50	Wyatt Gayhart	C, DL	5'9"	260	So.	79	Caleb Wise	G, MLB	5'11"	185	Jr.
20	Jake Valerio	FB, DB	5'9"	160	Sr.	51	Ethan Moore	OL, DL	5'10"	180	Jr.	80	Alex O'Campo	WR, DB	5'10"	145	Jr.
21	Clay Halsey	FB, MLB	5'9"	170	Jr.	52	Austin McAbee	OG, DL	5'11"	230	Jr.	81	Emmanuel Besingi	WR, DB	6'3"	150	So.
22	Mason Stover	HB, DB	5'9"	150	Jr.	53	Carter Smith	OL, DL	5'10"	190	So.	82	Jack Johnson	SE, LB	5'9"	140	So.
24	Jayden Hooker	SE, DB	5'9"	140	So.	54	Luke Halsey	OT, DL	6'2"	260	Jr.	85	Evan Swartz	TE, LB	6'2"	190	Sr.
						55	Brycen Robertson	G, MLB	6'0"	180	Jr.	88	Isaac Rosenfelder	SE, DB	5'10"	150	So.
						56	Wyatt Walker	OL, LB	6'3"	215	Jr.						

HEAD COACH: Scott Clemmons