

Ohio high school football 2025 | Top 10 Akron-area wide receivers / tight ends to watch

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Key Points AI-assisted summary ⓘ
Our ranking of the top 10 Greater Akron wide receivers/tight ends entering the 2025 season.
Milan Parris of Walsh Jesuit heads the list.

As we prepare for the start of the 2025 Ohio high school football season, we're breaking down the top players by position.

Throughout the preseason, we're ranking the top 10 Greater Akron quarterbacks, running backs, receivers/tight ends, offensive linemen, defensive linemen, linebackers, defensive backs, specialists and two-way players.

Today, we look at the top 10 wide receivers/tight ends, starting with Milan Parris of Walsh Jesuit and Andrew McKnight of Copley,

1. Milan Parris

Walsh Jesuit, wide receiver, (6-foot-5, 210 pounds), Class of 2026

What to know: Parris was second-team All-Ohio in Division II last year after he caught 28 passes for 597 yards and scored nine touchdowns. Parris averaged 21.3 yards per reception for Division II, Region 5 runner-up Walsh (13-1). Parris has scholarship offers from 15 Division I colleges, and has committed to Iowa State. Cincinnati Michigan, Michigan State and Wisconsin, are among his other offers.

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2. Andrew McKnight

Copley, wide receiver, (6-foot-1, 190 pounds), Class of 2026

What to know: McKnight was second-team All-Ohio in Division III last year after he caught 57 passes for 926 yards and scored 14 TDs. The versatile McKnight averaged 16.2 yards per catch. He also scored a rushing TD with 72 yards on 18 carries, lined up at quarterback on some plays, punts and is the holder on kicks for Division III playoff participant Copley (5-6). McKnight has offers from Ashland, Walsh, Lake Erie and Wheeling.

3. Calix Lemp

Wadsworth, wide receiver, (6-foot, 190 pounds), Class of 2026

What to know: Lemp was third-team All-Ohio in Division II last year after he caught 41 passes for 722 yards and scored 11 TDs. Lemp averaged 17.7 yards per reception as Wadsworth (11-2) earned a share of the Suburban League National Conference title and made a Division II, Region 6 semifinal appearance. He chose Air Force among 20 offers, including assorted MAC and Ivy League schools.

4. Elbert Hill IV

Hoban, wide receiver, (5-foot-11, 185 pounds), Class of 2026

What to know: Hill was first-team All-Ohio in Division II last year as a defensive back as he totaled five interceptions and over 65 tackles. Hill is also a wide receiver, running back and return man. He scored five TDs on offense (three receiving and two rushing), two TDs on defense and returned two kickoffs for TDs as Hoban (12-3) won the Division II, Region 5 championship and advanced to a state semifinal. Hill has scholarship offers from 33 Division I colleges and chose USC over other finalists Ohio State, Alabama, Oregon, Penn State and Michigan.

5. Payton Cook

Hoban, wide receiver, (6-foot-1, 185 pounds), Class of 2026

What to know: Cook, a second-team Division II All-Northeast Inland District defensive back in 2024, is expected to see to a jump in production as a wide receiver this season after helping Hoban (12-3) win the Division II, Region 5 title and advance to a state semifinal. Cook committed to play wide receiver at Louisville over scholarship offers from schools such as Notre Dame, Michigan, Miami, Missouri, Indiana, Tennessee and West Virginia.

6. Evan Foust

Highland, tight end, (6-foot, 205 pounds), Class of 2027

What to know: Foust, [a second-team Division II All-Northeast Inland District punter last season](#), was part of an offense that broke a school record for points (606) as Highland (13-1) won the Suburban League American Conference championship and advanced to the Division II, Region 6 final. Foust caught 28 passes for 577 yards and five TDs and rushed 27 times for 242 yards and three TDs. He also recorded a team-high 88 tackles, added four sacks and averaged 35.4 yards per punt.

7. Louie Castellarin

Hudson, wide receiver, (5-foot-10, 175 pounds), Class of 2026

What to know: Castellarin, [a honorable mention Division II All-Northeast Inland District player last season](#), averaged 14.5 yards per catch last season with 698 receiving yards and five TDs last season for playoff participant Hudson (6-6). Castellarin also contributed two interceptions and recovered two fumbles.

8. Donte Swain Jr.

East, wide receiver, (5-foot-10, 170 pounds), Class of 2026

What to know: Swain, [a second-team Division III All-Northeast Inland District wide receiver last season](#), totaled 43 receptions for 617 yards and five TDs for playoff participant East (6-5). He also made 27 tackles and had nine pass breakups, one interception and one TD on defense. He has scholarship offers from Bowling Green, Kent State, Albany and Youngstown State.

9. Rob Herndon

Twinsburg, wide receiver, (6-foot-2, 175 pounds), Class of 2026

What to know: [Herndon is primed for a big season as Twinsburg's top returning receiver](#) after posting a statistical line of 39 receptions, 530 yards and four TDs last season.

10. Buddy Willig

Norton, wide receiver, (6-foot-1, 175 pounds), Class of 2026

What to know: [Willig earned All-Ohio second team honors in Division IV last year](#) as a defensive back and is expected to see more action at wide receiver this year with Tallmadge transfer Trey Kersten at quarterback for Norton. Willig completed 55 of 78 passes for 914 yards with seven TDs and two interceptions, and had 95 carries for 628 yards and nine TDs on offense. He added 77 tackles and three interceptions as a safety on defense, and returned a punt for a TD.

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