

Class of 1925 Dr. Eugene W. Williams

The First Celebrated Athlete of Okemos Consolidated School

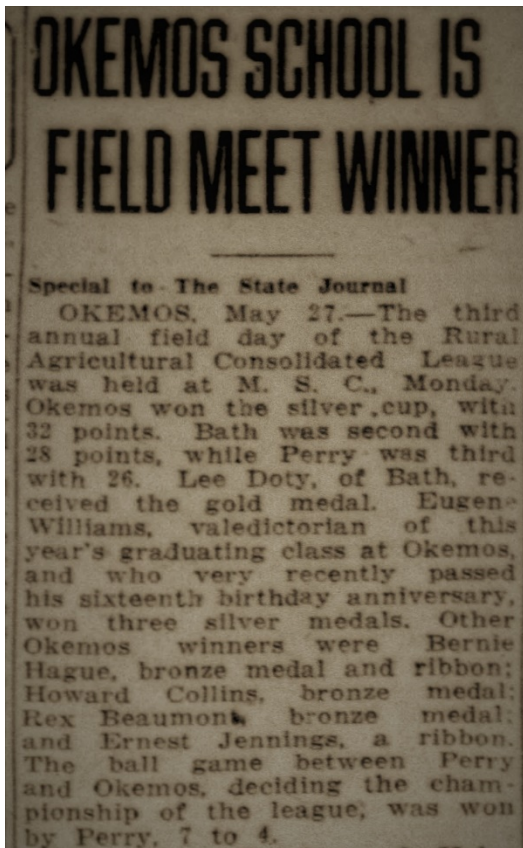


Eugene Wayne (or possibly Warren) Williams, son of Eugene R. and Helen May (Stanton) Williams, was born 10 May 1909 Plumstead, Cape Province, South Africa. Eugene, youngest of four boys, was the son of 7-Day Adventist missionaries.

He graduated in 1925, at the tender age of 16, from Okemos High School.



By 1925, G.C. White was listed as the superintendent. He oversaw the education of all the students and mentored those who wished to finish their studies at the highest level possible. The class of 1925 finished out the year with a total of seven (five males and two females) completing their exercises. Pictured here from left to right are (first row) G.C. White, Elsie Greenfield, Marie L., and Albert Dormer; (second row) Philip Woodworth, Bernie Hague, Eugene Williams, and Harold Edgar.



Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Wednesday 27 May 1925

OKEMOS SCHOOL IS FIELD MEET WINNER

Okemos, May 27, - The third annual field day of the Rural Agricultural Consolidated League was held at M. S. C., Monday. Okemos won the silver cup, with 32 points. Bath was second with 28 points, while Perry was third with 26. Lee Doty, of Bath, received the gold medal. **Eugene Williams, valedictorian of this year's graduating class at Okemos and who very recently passed his sixteenth birthday anniversary, won three silver medals.** Other Okemos winners were Bernie Hague, bronze medal and ribbon; Howard Collins, bronze medal; Rex Beaumont, bronze medal; and Ernest Jennings, a ribbon. The ball game between Perry and Okemos, deciding the championship of the league was won by Perry, 7 to 4.

Eugene Williams was the first celebrated athlete at Okemos.

Eugene R. Williams, born 16 September 1867 Utica, Oneida County, New York, married 31 August 1890 Park County, Montana, Miss Helen May Stanton. Helen was born 10 June 1868 Holt, Ingham County, Michigan. By 1900 the couple, with 3 young sons, were in Chippewa County, Michigan where Eugene was a clergyman.

The Williams family sailed and arrived as missionaries in South Africa 28 January 1908. They lived at Claremont, Cape Colony. The US Consulate prepared a "Certificate of Registration Of American Citizen" for Eugene but the certificate was never issued. The certificate's expiration date was 7 September 1910. Helen also had such a Consulate Certificate issued and with expiration date of 7 February 1914. Her certificate recorded the following; "Eugene R. Williams, who was born in Utica, N.Y. U.S.A. and is now deceased."

In 1914 widowed Helen and sons made on their way back to New York by way of two different ships. Helen, Lewis (born 1893) and Eugene (born 1909) left Liverpool, England aboard the ship Adriatic. They arrived in New York harbor 26 September 1914. The other two sons, Irwin (born 1891) and Hugh (born 1895), sailed from Southampton, England aboard the Olympic and arrived 26 March 1914 New York harbor.

Eugene accompanied his mother as she continued her work in the church. By 1918 Mrs. Williams was teaching in what is now called Silgo Adventist School in Takoma Park, D.C. The 1930 US Federal Census enumerated Mrs. Williams working in Latah County, Idaho and employed as a "district leader in local church activity." Helen Williams died 23 December 1940 Los Angeles County, California. She was interred Riverside Cemetery, Okemos.

Mrs. Helen Williams
Mrs. Helen Williams, 72, formerly of Holt, died December 23 at Los Angeles. Mrs. Williams, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Stanton, was born at Holt where she lived for 20 years. She married Eugene R. Williams in 1890. She was a member of the Adventist church, and both she and Mr. Williams were missionaries in Africa for the church. Surviving are four sons, Irwin R., of Lansing, Lewis S., of St. Joseph, Hugh W., of Mt. Pleasant, and Eugene of Nevada; nine grandchildren; and a sister. Funeral services will be held at 10 o'clock Thursday morning at the Estes-Leadley funeral home, with Elder Taylor Bunch officiating. Interment will be at Okemos.

Eugene came back to Michigan to go to school around 1920. His brother Erwin had married in Okemos in 1916 and

settled in Meridian Township. Maternal family roots were deep in Ingham County. Mrs. Williams was a Stanton and her mother was a Stillman. The Stillman's had been in Ingham County for decades and held a large family reunion yearly in the Okemos area.

EATON
Special to The State Journal.
EATON, Aug. 9.—The South Haven Ladies' Aid society will be entertained Wednesday, August 14, at the home of Mrs. Ida Van Dusen.—Mrs. Helen Williams, a teacher in the Missionary college at Takoma Park, D. C., and son, Eugene, are guests of the former's sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Gregg.—Mr. and Mrs. C.

(*Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Saturday 10 August 1918*). Eugene even had an aunt, Elisabeth "Libbie" Stanton Gregg, who kept close touch with her sister and her nephews. Libbie lived in the Holt,

Ingham County area. Eugene may have lived with Irwin and wife Blanche because his home address was always given as Okemos. Irwin was the only brother that lived for any length of time in the Okemos area.

VETERAN SPARTAN HARRIERS SCARCE

Coach Mason Must Build up New Cross Country Team This Fall

With Captain Roy Severance the only veteran available, Coach Morton Mason will face a difficult task at Michigan State this fall when he will be called on to build a cross country team to face probably the most strenuous schedule in years. In addition to the customary three dual meets with the University of Michigan, Notre Dame, and Marquette, the Spartans will run in the Central Intercollegiate and the Western conference meets, and the second team will carry the Green and White in the state intercollegiates. Both the Central and State intercollegiates will be held at East Lansing.

Five of the six letter men from last year have graduated. From last year's freshman squad and the reserves must come the Spartan harriers. Tommy Belt of Detroit, Herrick Waterman of Decker, Frank Haven of East Lansing, Guy Culbert of Hastings, Alfred Dorrance of Scotts, Royce Drake of Ypsilanti, Henry Johnson of Belding, and Ward Barnett of Rochester are some of the reserves who have had experience.

As likely a prospect as any is Henry Wylie of Sparta, probably the best distance runner in state track circles, barring the university. In his first year of competition, Wylie stepped out with the big boys and was never beaten by more than a few yards, even in the national intercollegiates. Wylie's best time for the mile is 4:25. Of course all great milers are not necessarily good cross country men, but Wylie should find a place on the Spartan squad, barring injuries.

Among the sophomores who must be figured on, are Lewis Hackney, of Flint, William Kroll of Detroit, Richard Maples of Fordson, Alvin LaPlant of Eau Claire, Leland Smith of Allegan, Victor Rossman of Onondaga, Eugene Williams of Okemos, Meredith Clark of Vicksburg, Walter Sheldon of Alger, Lowell Lamkin of Good Hart, Frank Baker of Mt. Pleasant, and George Farley of Albion. Jack O'Connor of Hastings is a man that coaches believe can go far in the running game if he cares to.

After graduation in 1925 Eugene went on to graduate from Michigan State College. He was mentioned in several Lansing State Journal newspaper articles as a member of the MSC Track Team and the MSC, Central Inter-Collegiate Cross-County Championship Team. Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Tuesday 3 August 1926 and Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Monday 12 Sept, 1927. He was also listed as a track team member in the MSC Wolverine yearbook 1927 and 1928

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Wednesday 16 Jun 1926

SPARTAN HARRIERS ARE READY TO RUN

Early Season Practice Starts Wednesday at M. S. C.; Prospects Good

To insure placing a capable team in uniform this year, Coach Morton Mason has ordered his Michigan State cross country runners to report Wednesday of this week. The early practice should give the Spartans a little jump on their opponents.

State hopes for a well balanced harrier outfit this year, with Henry Wylie of Sparta, veteran miler, as captain. Letter winners available include Leonard Blakesdale of St. Johns, Frank Haven of Lansing, Alvin LaPlante of Eau Claire, and Eugene Williams of Okemos.

Three sophomores who should make the veterans step are Loren Brown of Detroit, Elmer Roosien of South Haven, and Floyd Roberts of Rapid River. Brown as a freshman was the state intercollegiate cross country champion, as well as state two-mile champion. Roberts finished second to Brown in the state cross country run, and Roosien was eight. Roosien also starred with Brown on the freshman track team.

The 1927 schedule is as follows:

- *Oct. 15—Novice Run.
- *Oct. 22—All-College Run.
- Oct. 29—Marquette University.
- Nov. 5—University of Michigan.
- *Nov. 11—Notre Dame University.
- *Nov. 11—State Intercollegiates.
- *Nov. 19—Central Intercollegiates.
- Nov. 26—Detroit Y. M. C. A. Run.

FRED ALDERMAN SPARTAN CAPTAIN

Two Lansing Athletes Get Honors in Athletic Elections At State College

Two former Lansing High school sprinters were elected to track captaincies at Michigan State college, Tuesday, when Frederick P. Alderman was chosen as leader of next year's Spartan track team, and Lyle Henson was named honorary captain of the present freshman thinclad outfit. Henson graduated from Lansing in 1924 and entered M. S. C. in the fall of 1925. Alderman competed for the Big Reds in 1922 and became a Spartan in 1923. Both Henson and Alderman are members of the Columbian Literary society.

Fourteen men were given major letters in track, and 12 in baseball, it was announced Wednesday by Ralph H. Young, director of athletics at Michigan State. In addition to these awards, the college gave 49 numerals to freshmen in four different sports—track, baseball, tennis and fencing—and 52 service sweaters both to freshmen and members of varsity squads. Eight minor sport letters were also awarded.

For the first time in the history of the institution awards were made in fencing. This is now a recognized minor sport at the college. The fencing team boasts a victory over the University of Michigan. Yussef Waffa of Cairo, Egypt, was the captain and star of the team.

of the team.

Varsity track letters—Captain Behn Grim, Sturgis; Clarence E. Ripper, Wellsville, O.; Lloyd B. Kurts, Kalamazoo; Daniel M. Van Noppen, Niles; John P. Van Arman, Battle Creek; Horace L. Thomas, East Lansing; Floyd A. Harper, Middleville; Horace B. Farley, Albion; Frederick P. Alderman, Lansing; Paul M. Smith, Saginaw; Henry E. Wylie, Sparta; Ivan G. Tillotson, Petoskey; Thomas A. Belt, Detroit; Russell R. Lord, Owosso.

Track service sweaters—R. Nell Barney, Watervliet; Grant B. Keefer, Osseo; Frank N. Cawood, East Lansing; Arthur W. Otterbein, Elkton; Harry E. Rush, Watervliet; Max C. Hilton, Coldwater; Roy W. Severance, Decker; Her- rick Waterman, Grand Rapids; Clyde T. Mattison, Petoskey; Phillip T. Holz, Coldwater; Francis C. Miller, Traverse City; Bryson C. McCullough, Bay City; Richard R. Oehmcke, Milwaukee; Lazen J. Wall, Lansing.

Varsity baseball letters—Captain Har- old C. Keibler, Manchester; Perry J. Fremont, Bad Axe; Harry E. Wakefield, Bad Axe; George W. Kuhn, Vicksburg; Roy P. Spiekerman, Saginaw; Don R. Haskins, Grand Rapids; Carl D. Baynes, Birmingham; Gail A. Rowley, Laings- burg; Delmar M. Zimmerman, Traverse City; Donald W. Fleser, Allegan; Albert T. Tolles, Bangor; Forrest A. Rinehart, East Lansing.

Baseball service sweaters—Robert K. Bremer, Howell; Maurice R. Caldwell, Imlay City; John I. Caruso, Owosso; Russell J. Davis, Frankford; Oliver Z. Hood, Ionia; John W. Kelly, Grand Haven; George W. Macier, Richmond.

Freshman baseball numerals—Dell Blackman, Jackson; George W. Brad- ford, Baldwin; Curtis Beachum, Shelby; Fred W. Barratt, Lansing; Lisle Conk- lin, Detroit; Theodore W. Cornoron, Al- penia; Fred K. Danziger, Detroit; Vir- gil Kelly, Perry; Harry J. Morgan, Rochester; Kenneth A. Moco, Detroit; Verl E. Runner, Shelby; Theorso R. Shafter, Eaton Rapids; Donald D. Waller, Plymouth; Douglas A. Watkins, Manchester; Gordon L. Witter, Detroit.

Freshman baseball service sweaters— James V. Archer, Benton Harbor; Wil- liam H. Fitzgerald, Caro; Martin Carn, Charlotte; Melvin D. Losey, Springport; Verle Milbourne, Eaton Rapids; Burton R. Niemeyer, Caledonia; Raymond Paul, Manchester; Elwyn Tittsworth, Flint; Stanley R. Weed, Portland.

Freshman track numerals—Fred W. Barratt, Lansing; Meredith G. Clark, Vicksburg; R. Earnest Deacon, Lan- sing; Deland H. Davis, Battle Creek; Burgoyne A. Diller, Battle Creek; H. Lyle Henson, Lansing; Lewis H. Hack- ney, Flint; Joseph L. Joachim, St. Clair; Pierre M. Kenyon, Plymouth; William H. Kroll, Detroit; L. Dale Lamkin, Good Heart; Alvin A. La Plant, Eau Claire; Forrest J. Lang, Beaverton; Harold L. McAtee, Milford; Albert M. McCabe, Petoskey; Richard C. Maples, Springwells; Robert C. Ol- son, Owosso; Clarence Passink, Grand Rapids; Lorwyn E. Peterson, Brooklyn; Victor H. Rossman, Eaton Rapids; Leonard H. Schaar, Lansing; Walter H. Sheldon, Alger; Eugene W. Wil- liams, Okemos; Theodore E. Willmarth, Detroit.

Lansing State Journal (Lansing, Michigan) Tuesday 23 Nov 1926

E.W. Williams, Okemos, Sophomore, Varsity Cross-Country, is named for "High Praise for Performance of Athletes". Williams team won the first running of the Central Inter-Collegiate cross-country run.

letic work of the 'varsity and freshman teams. Six cross-country men who helped Michigan State to a clean cut victory in the first running on the Central Inter-Collegiate cross-country run were also honored with a minor letter.

Twenty-five freshman football players, headed by the yearling

21 Spartan Gridders Are Honored With Grid Awards

Coach Young Announces List of Men Winning 'S' and Has High Praise for Performance of Athletes; 25 Yearlings Are Voted Numerals for Season's Work

Twenty-one 'varsity football awards were announced by Ralph H. Young, director of athletics at Michigan State college. The announcement was made following the annual review of the athletes of the 'varsity and freshman teams. Six cross-country helped Michigan State to a clean cut victory in the first running on the Central Inter-Collegiate cross-country run were also honored with a minor letter.

Twenty-five freshman football players, headed by the yearling captain Vincent Define of Nearing, O., were awarded for their services on the gridiron. Other lists announced to athletes who did not quite make the grade for first string freshman competition but whose services were appreciated throughout the season.

Heading the 'varsity football list is the name of Captain Martin Rummell. Although this leader did not play in a single game or take active part in any practice session he was on the field every day, on the bench every game and led the team, though crippled. An automobile accident last summer kept the red-headed Spartan leader out of the rough work all season.

In making the football awards Coach Young declared that almost every man on the squad played a better game against Haskell, the closing engagement of the year, than he had at any time in the year. The stellar performance of the day perhaps, in Coach Young's estimation, was the playing of Johnny Anderson at left end.

"Anderson typified the fine play of the team last Saturday," said Coach Young. "He played just about five times as well as we had any reason to believe from watching him in practices or other games. It was almost on this great day's work alone that the college wants to honor Anderson by presenting him with his 'S'."

The State mentor had praise for almost every man on the squad. He called Boehringer, who graduates next June, the best quarterback at East Lansing in the last four years, branded Glen Deacon the squad's iron man, called Hugo Kanitz' fine play the proof that work and determination will get a football player somewhere. He said that Jack Hornbeck probably is the greatest end prospect at Michigan State in years, pointed out that Harry Kurlie fought so hard all year that he was continuously black and blue and said that Grim, Wenner, Drew, McCosh, Ross, Barratt, Crabb, Deacon, Danziger and Moeller played their best games of the year.

The list of awards follows:

'Varsity Football

Martin F. Rummell, Saginaw; R. E. Boehringer, Bay City; John E. Garver, Caro, O.; Bohn Grim, Sturgis; E. A. Wenner, Brooklyn; K. L. Drew, Adrian; O. E. Grimes, Des Moines, Ia.; J. A. McCosh, Detroit; W. F. Ross, Port Huron; Paul Smith, Saginaw; John Anderson, Lansing; Fred W. Barratt, Lansing; L. Christensen, Escanaba; C. J. Crabb, Battle Creek; F. W. Danziger, Detroit; F. E. Deacon, Lansing; H. F. Kanitz, Muskegon; G. E. Hitchings, Petoskey; L. A. Hornbeck, Lansing; Harry A. Kurlie, Owosso; W. F. Moeller, Detroit.

'Varsity Cross-Country

Captain Roy W. Severance, Cass City; Henry E. Wylie, Sparta; Herrick Waterman, Detroit; Alvin LaPlant, Eau Claire; E. W. Williams, Okemos; L. H. Blakeslee, St. Johns.

Football Manager's Letter

Afford H. Hauptli, Sault Ste. Marie.

Heavy Weight Sweaters

H. C. Arnold, Arnold; James H. Bothwell, Saginaw; R. H. Eldred, Eaton Rapids; L. H. Fraibill, Deacon; R. S. Fulton, Webberville; R. E. Gordon, Midland; L. C. Hermel, Traverse City; G. W. Needham, Saginaw; Jack O'Connor, Hastings; M. T. Schultz, East Lansing; L. G. Tillotson, Petoskey.

Lightweight Sweaters

L. A. Baker, Wayland; C. R. Felt, Muskegon; R. D. Mains, Homer; J. S. Thole, Marshall; J. A. Van Aken, Plymouth; C. F. Zimmerman, Newaygo.

FRESHMAN AWARDS

Football Numerals
T. N. Barnum, Lansing; C. L. Carpenter, Adrian; M. E. Crall, Lansing; A. B. Dahn, Dundee, Ill.; O. L. DeWitt, Whitehill; V. O. De-

YALE IS AGAINST COMBINE IN EAST

Student Paper Says Move for New Conference Would Over-Emphasize Football

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Nov. 22.—(By A.P.)—The Yale News disapproves of the suggestion that an association of eastern college football teams be formed to include, tentatively, Princeton, Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Dartmouth, Pennsylvania, Columbia, Brown, Syracuse, Virginia and possibly Army and Navy. Football already is over emphasized, it says.

"The Daily Princetonian and the Columbia Spectator have fallen in line with the New York newspaper writers who have advocated the formation of an eastern intercollegiate football league," the News will say. "Both claim the honor of initiating the idea, but before it gains headway on the assumption that other colleges and universities will favor it, we oppose the scheme on the general principle, that it must inevitably contaminate and commercialize intercollegiate football. It may be adopted by other institutions, but we hope and believe that Yale will not enter any such league. * * * "Championships and prestige are not the goal of Yale football. Victory is as dear to the hearts of Yale enthusiasts as it is to other university men; but we do not court public favor through the medium of football success. Yale has traditional rivals whom she likes to defeat in football. * * * Outside the select group we have no interest in our relative football prestige."

fine, Nevada, O.; W. E. Doyle, Milwaukee; G. D. Ferrari, Bessemer; A. A. Griffith, Medina, Mich.; J. G. Hayden, Cassopolis; M. J. Isaacson, M. L. Lewis, Midland; H. B. Morris, Lansing; J. R. O'Keefe, Evanston; C. H. Osier, Marine City; J. W. Pennington, Detroit; A. J. Sanders, East Lansing; Henry W. Shaw, Schererville, Ind.; C. Smith, Detroit; L. Smith, Lansing; H. C. Stannard, Flint; C. H. Stuart, Walled Lake; L. A. Trempler, Detroit; Cecil Turner, Port Huron.

Manager's Awards

R. L. Bird, Brighton.

Service Sweaters

A. F. Ahren, Dundee, Ill.; C. Blay, Lansing; M. Brewer, East Lansing; C. B. Crittenden, Hudson; H. C. Culp, Grand Ledge; M. J. Dickson, Boyne City; V. H. Donaldson, Pontiac; J. B. Gass, Royal Oak; N. H. Hosen, Big Rapids; M. G. Harris, Pontiac; R. O. Jackson, Adrian; E. D. Midland, Flint; Bruce Nickless, Vassar; F. H. Oswald, Vicksburg; R. W. Thompson, Pontiac; A. K. Williams, North Adams; F. G. Woodman, Owosso.

Cross Country Award

L. P. Brown, Detroit; F. T. Roberts, Rapid River; E. J. Rossen, Grand Haven.

Manager

A. O. Carlson, Newaygo.

PHILADELPHIA — Al Webster, Billings, Mont., beat Rocky Smith, Battle Creek, Mich. (10). Jimmy Jones, Youngstown, defeated Billy Wells, England (10). Milton Cohen, New York, beat Dave Adelman, Philadelphia (six).

Harry A. Kurlie, Owosso; W. F. Moeller, Detroit.

'Varsity Cross-Country

Captain Roy W. Severance, Cass City; Henry E. Wylie, Sparta; Herrick Waterman, Detroit; Alvin LaPlant, Eau Claire; E. W. Williams, Okemos; L. H. Blakeslee, St. Johns.

Football Manager's Letter

By 1930 Eugene was with his mother in Idaho but the 1940 US Federal Census enumerated him in Sonoma County, California, married, with one son and in a physicians residency program. Eugene served in the US Army as an MD during World War II, 1942-1945. He later practiced in Nevada and in Michigan. Eugene married Ethel Blanche Cates. Ethel, born 12 June 1909 Kiowa County, Oklahoma, died October 1989 Maricopa County, Arizona.

Eugene retired to Arizona. He died 25 October 1974 and was interred Sunland Memorial Park, Sun City, Maricopa County.

Unknown source:

WILLIAMS, Eugene W.

10 May 1909 - 25 Oct 1974

Wickenburg -- Eugene W. Williams, a medical doctor 37 years, died Friday, Oct. 25, 1974, in Boswell Memorial Hospital, Sun City. Wife, Ethel; son, Eugene R.; a brother out of state; and two grandchildren. Burial in Sunland Memorial Park. 10/28/1974.

---Sherrie Paty Barber, OHS 1966