



TOUCHDOWN IN THE MAKING: Hartford Public High School back Ken Bailey (arrow) follows a blocker through the stubborn Weaver High School defensive unit from 5 yards out and tackled into the end zone (right photo) to score the Owls

first touchdown in the first period action at Dillon Stadium during the traditional Turkey Day rivalry (Courant Photos by Arman G. Hatsian).

Earn Many Honors

Owls Pound Weaver, 24-6

By TOM HINE
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Hartford High put the finishing touches on its finest football season in 12 years early Thursday morning with a 24-6 victory over archrival Weaver.

The Owls' win, their first over Weaver since 1962, brought the state's fifth-ranked team all varieties of honors: a tie with New Britain and New London for the Capital District Conference Championship, sole possession of the Hartford City Series crown, and their first winning year since 1963. Their 7-1 final record matched the 1958 mark of long-time Hartford coach, Ralph Worth.

Hartford last won at least a share of the CDC title when it gained a two-way split with New Britain in 1958, last held at least a share of a City Series title in 1965, and last won that three-way rivalry alone three years before. And it now leads this 47-game series with Weaver, 30-16 with one tie.

It had to be coach Joe Cicone's finest hour—and maybe made those long, frustrating

years just a little more worthwhile.

Many Stars
Individual stars were hard to find this Thanksgiving Day morning: there were just that many. Hard-running Ken Bailey went home with the annual Syd H. Conn MVP Trophy after scoring 14 points and rushing for 94 yards but he was far from the only star.

Team mate Pablo Franco threw a 63-yd. TD pass, rushed for 124 yards, and had a 40-yd. scoring scamper called back by an offside. Bailey himself had a run of 35 yards and this, too, was nullified by a penalty.

Defensively, Hartford co-captain Larry Johnson was all over the field, mostly deep inside the Weaver backfield. He had an uncanny perception for finding the ball, forcing one key fumble and recovering another.

All the scoring was done in the first half, and it was a hard tackle by Johnson that led to the Owls' first of three TD's. After Hartford was halted at the Weaver nine following Daryl Brown's midfield interception on the second play of the game, Nick Swez jumped on a loose ball that Johnson knocked free at the Beavers' seven yardline. **Never Looks Back**

Joe Chmielecki carried two yards to the five, and Bailey followed with a burst right through the middle for the score. Sam

Canada's two-point conversion gave Hartford an 8-0 lead with 6:22 left in the first quarter.

Hartford never looked back, but Weaver rebounded for a dazzling score of its own.

The Beavers' took the kickoff that followed 65 yards for the score in just five plays. Runs by Bill Rhodes, Melvin Smith, and Walt Tullis carried to the 35 yd. marker on the Owls' side of the field and Weaver quarterback Lloyd Cooper then faded deep, found Tullis all alone at the 14 and hit him with a perfect pass for six points. The run for two points and a tie fell short and, with 4:58 left in the first period, Weaver's last threat was on the board.

Only once more did the Beavers, now 3-5, penetrate the Hartford 40 yardline through the three quarters that remained.

Early in the second quarter, Hartford struck suddenly again. A Weaver punt had left the Owls at their own 18, and rushes by Franco and Bailey carried to the 37. But setting up Weaver nicely with a reverse one play before, Chmielecki caught the Beavers napping with a sudden strike through the air.

Option Pass
He handed off to Franco who found Canada all alone at the Beavers 32. Franco lofted the option pass high and deep, Canada raced under, and six more points were on the board. Larry

Wallace's pass from Chmielecki added two more.

Another bad break, Weaver's second of the day, led to the game's final TD after Smith couldn't get a point off from his 18. Franco ran to the 12, rushes by Canada and Chmielecki clinched a first down at the six, and Bailey, carrying his defenders right with him, drove right through the middle for the score.

Bailey's run for the conversion gave Hartford its 24-6 spread with just 1:59 left in the first half.

SCORING SUMMARY
HPHS — Bailey, 5 run (Canada run)
W—Tullis, 35 pass from Cooper (run failed).
HPHS — Canada, 63 pass from Franco (Wallace pass from Chmielecki)
HPHS — Bailey, 6 run (Bailey run)