

HARTFORD HIGH ELEVEN MAKES UNUSUAL RECORD :: OHIO STATE AGAIN WINS CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

WONDERFUL RECORD COMPILED BY HARTFORD HIGH FOOTBALL ELEVEN

GEORGE L. FOX, JR.



Kept Its Goal Line Uncrossed All Season, Winning Six Contests and Playing Two Scoreless Ties—Despite Failure to Beat New Britain High, Team is Regarded as Best High School Eleven in State.

Hartford High's indelible and never-to-be-forgotten record compiled on the gridiron this season probably surpasses any made by the local institution in its football history. In keeping its goal uncrossed all season, the local lads achieved a feat that, so far as can be ascertained, was termed for the first time since football has been taken in at the school and their six victories have been bettered only on a few occasions. In 1901 eight victories and no defeats were registered, but the goal line was bombarded for sixteen points, while in 1912 the locals eluded to the greatest performance of keeping its goal free from a score until the annual clash with New Britain High, when the Hardware City lads gained the verdict, 14 to 12, in a thrilling game. Up to that time the Capital City youths won all six games played and had they succeeded in dispelling the perpetual New Britain jinx, the record that year would have stood out handily among the others.

It is seldom that a football eleven perpetrates the stunt that the high school boys made this year, and although the record of 1901 outclasses this year's in victories, the past season's showing is worthy of more consideration, as the performance of keeping its goal uncrossed was accomplished for the first time in football history. Had things turned the right way for Captain Dunn's warriors, there is no question but that the two scoreless ties against the Springfield High and New Britain High elevens would have veered into victories. In the Springfield contest the locals once carried the pigskin to the opponent's six-yard line and lost it on an intercepted forward pass, while in the New Britain struggle the ball was placed on the three-yard line, but the boys failed in this opportunity.

It is interesting to note the commendatory remarks the Springfield paper made on the combat with Springfield High. Although Captain Dunn's gridiron warriors were immensely outweighted, they were game to the core and showed real fighting spirit, which almost produced the victory. A tie with the Massachusetts eleven is practically a victory for Hartford, as the City of Homes machine always has been a thorn in the side of the locals. Captain Dunn's work in that game won for him laudable remarks from the Springfield sporting writers—being praised for his militant powers, although afflicted with an injury suffered during the game. He fought like a hero and endured through the contest, but it was his last appearance in football togs until the final encounter with New Britain, when he returned to the game. It can be said freely that the fighting spirit of the boys never relaxed, the record that they were striving for evidently serving as an incentive.

As to the New Britain contest, it is an almost safe assertion that if Hartford and her bitter rival were to come together again this season, the locals would be the winner. New Britain was far outplayed by Dunn's boys and the Hardware City crowd escaped very luckily. It was indicated that another game between Hartford and New Britain would be possible for Thanksgiving Day, but Coach Fox has spiced the report.

In only one other game were the locals forced to exert themselves to win. That was in the clash with Loomis when the Windsor boys fell, 7 to 0, Herbert racing over for the only touchdown. Loomis, it must be said, has one of the best prep school teams in the state, and the victory was a pleasing one to the followers of the Blue and White. It is deplorable, however, that games were not booked with Taft and Pomfret, two of the leading prep schools in the state, had Hartford played either of these teams, no doubt the scholastic football championship of the state would be settled.

It can be frankly admitted that Hartford High won its place at the top of all high school elevens in the state and right now stands as the superior to all high school elevens in Connecticut. It crushed New Haven High School, which usually offers stern opposition, 12 to 0, and cleaned up in its encounter with Wilbraham, Torrington and Norwich, all being triumphed by sizable scores.

The impregnable defense of the Capital City combination is attested by the fact that the nearest an opponent came to scoring this year was in the Holyoke and Springfield conflicts, when both teams reached the twenty-yard line, only to yield to Hartford. In the other contests the line of the locals proved too formidable for her opponents.

In parceling out individual glory, Sammy Sullivan, the heady quarterback, deserves the greatest share. He handled the play in first class manner and shone in every contest. He was adept in heaving forward passes, several of which were turned successfully and resulted in many points for the locals. Sammy rightly earned his name at the top of the scoring list, leading it with nine touchdowns, therefore, being responsible for fifty-four of his team's 154 points. His advance in athletics at the high school is very noticeable and he gives promise of being one of the best all-around athletes turned out at the school in some time. Davis also did commendable work in the backfield, and the work of Herbert, the punting fullback, and Layland, the alert end, deserves mention. Captain Dunn's playing in the line merited considerable praise and the goal keeping of Nordlund as well. The rest of the squad did what was expected of them and their efforts have borne fruit.

The story would not be complete without a word for George L. Fox, Jr., the physical director, to whom much credit must be attributed. Mr. Fox came into the breach when Theodore Naedle and Roswell Davis, who acted as coaches, were called to

Deserve highest praise for his ability in coaching the Hartford High School to a most successful season.

the colors, and for the crucial games of the season, had the team up to the minute. He has met with enormous success ever since he came to this city and teach is due him for his efforts in keeping Hartford in the position it has attained in all branches of sports.

The following players constituted the 1917 football squad: Goetz, Klein, L.E.; Myers, Manning, H.; Pike, Johnson, L.E.; Captain Dunn, Douke, C.; Kane, Barrows, R.E.; Wright, Powell, R.E.; Layland, Foley, R.E.; Sulman, C.H.; Davis, Hyman, L.H.; Herbert, Bowers, E.H.; Nordlund, Cohen, R.H.