

# Three Hartford High School Grid Gladiators On "Courant's" 1922 All State Team

## Van Orden, Cooney and Crosby Picked--Murphy Picked for Second Team

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Having witnessed one of the best football seasons held since the forward pass was introduced to the game, it is quite a task to pick the best of the year's players without sighting one or two men from each team.

This season introduced more upsets and reversals due to one's player's good work either in following the ball or some individual feat.

So when it comes to picking the players whose real value for the season's work would entitle them to consideration in the picking of the All-State eleven, this or that one great play must be in the memory of the picker, yet this individual's play must not overshadow the plunger whose sacrifice for team play made them possible.

### Picking State's Best.

When even the state championship for teams is in a muddle one is stumped even further trying to discern individual players whose work would entitle them to the honor roll.

In scholastic circles the one best team is a matter of opinion and as I have witnessed twenty teams play I am unable, owing to reverses suffered by all teams, to really pick the one best team.

After all the games are taken into consideration from my point of view the championship evolves around Hartford, Meriden and Naugatuck. Hartford was beaten by Crosby; Naugatuck by Stamford and Meriden by New London and the winners of all these games were in turn beaten by others.

### Scores Mean Nothing.

Ordinarily, in cases like this, comparative scores would aid to get to the ultimate winner but again you are blocked because of this; Hartford loses to Crosby 6 to 0; Naugatuck to Stamford, 6 to 0 and Meriden to New London 18 to 12, and when you turn about you find that on the other hand Naugatuck beat Crosby 26 to 0. Hartford beat both Stamford and New London by big scores which would overcome Crosby's victory over Hartford, and even up on Naugatuck, since they lost to Stamford. So, all in all, you will have to concede a tie to Naugatuck and Hartford with the rather easy schedule of Meriden, who lost to New London, having to be the trailer on that account.

### For Individual Players.

Now for the individual players. For ends I have chosen Crosby of Hartford, and Mason of Crosby. Crosby, in the three games I saw, looked like the best while Mason had to overcome the fact that in Lally, who played the opposite end to him, was about the best punter in the state. Both were good tacklers and handlers of the forward pass.

The tackles present the hardest job because of the fact that there were as many as ten good men. In Conklin of Ansonia and Sieracki of Meriden can be found the essentials for the best in the state. The first named is giant in size as he weighs 295 and is better than six feet in height. These natural requisites, combined with the good football instinct, make him the best tackle I have seen in high schools in the past decade. Sieracki lacked the size of Conklin but made up in his speed and had the same aggressiveness.

### Volcano At Center.

At guards I have selected Cooney of Hartford and Dunn of Crosby. In this pair can be found about the best of all for all-around play as in all the games I witnessed these two stood out prominently in places that are not given to spectacular playing. They are big boys and are fairly fast and are able to stand the abuse that comes with the life of a guard on a football team.

Center shows a young volcano from Naugatuck whose very presence on the gridiron was strongly reminding of Jack Heapy of Boston College and George Shea surely had the position of snapper-back clinched all to himself. Each time I saw him he was improving until I do not even for a moment, hesitate in predicting a wonderful career for him in college.

### Mullen at Quarterback.

Now comes the place I find hardest to form an absolute opinion on the best, as there was not enough difference in the three leaders to pick one without thinking of the other two.

Mullen of Crosby through his shiftiness in returning punts earned the first choice. His nearest rivals were Barcovitch of Meriden and Reynolds of New Britain, who were both field generals fully as great as Mullen and, in his running ability alone, does Mullen get the choice as the other two were good in all the other departments of the game.

For the halfback positions Van Orden of Hartford and Andrews of the Naugatuck squad have been picked. The former was an inevitable ground-gainer and was without doubt the most reliable man to get his distance of all the backfield men I saw. Andrews surely was the keenest follower of the ball I ever saw and how he could convert so many of the opposition's plays into Naugatuck scores was a marvel, as he was credited with three length-of-the-field romps and as many as ten dashes of half the distance.

### Stewart at Fullback.

The fullback position goes from shoes to head-guard to Stewart the Ansonia captain, who was a combination of both Van Orden and Andrews. Andrews and Stewart were the best pair of defensive men and seldom a play was untangled that did not find these two at the real bottom of it.

all. Of this team I would make Shea the captain because of there ever was inspiration personified, "Red" Shea was the one to do it.

For the second team I would say that the following came mighty close to being the equal of my first choice: ends, Lally of Crosby and Bloomquist of Naugatuck; tackles, Hermannott, Naugatuck and Porzenhelm, Crosby; guards, Stahl, Naugatuck and McGrath, Ansonia; center Kurz, Meriden; halfbacks, Harvey, Naugatuck and Murphy, H. P. H. S.; fullback, Kenney, Naugatuck; quarterback, Barcovitch, Meriden.

In summing up the selections there are three Hartford high men; three, Crosby; two, Naugatuck; two, Ansonia and one Meriden, on the first team while there is one from Hartford; two from Crosby; five, Naugatuck; two, Meriden and one from the Ansonia high.

For honorable mention I would name Reynolds and Murtha, New Britain; Papclak, Buckley and Nowakowski, Meriden; Carrideo, Sullivan, Purcell, Swift and Wagner, Crosby; Comcovitch, Hurley and Leggo, Ansonia; Tremonte and Ahern, Hartford; Fitzgerald and O'Sell, Wilby; Adams, Seelye, Meriden; Bridgeport, and Freedman, New Haven.

### "COURANT'S" ALL-STATE HIGH SCHOOL GRID ELEVEN

FIRST ELEVEN	SECOND ELEVEN
Crosby, Hartford High	Lally, Crosby High
Conklin, Ansonia High	Hermannott, Naugatuck High
Cooney, Hartford High	Stahl, Naugatuck High
Shea, Naugatuck High	Kurz, Meriden High
Dunn, Crosby High	McGrath, Ansonia High
Sieracki, Meriden High	Porzenhelm, Crosby High
Mason, Crosby High	Bloomquist, Naugatuck High
Mullen, Crosby High	Barcovitch, Meriden High
Van Orden, Hartford High	Harvey, Naugatuck High
Andrews, Naugatuck High	Murphy, Hartford High
Stewart, Ansonia High	Kenney, Naugatuck High