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By KEVIN LYONS Courant Staff Writer

Marcus Camby, the Parade All-American, made sure neither the past nor the present would keep Hartford Public from its first undefeated regular season in 26 years.

The past: Weaver coach Dwight Tolliver was a guard on the 1966-67 Hartford Public team that lost to Wilbur Cross-New Haven in the state final. On Monday, Tolliver was hoping his Beavers could end Hartford Public's current run.

The present: Weaver (10-10) trailed Hartford Public, ranked No. 1 in The Courant's coaches poll, by a point midway through the second quarter.

But Weaver couldn't keep pace for long.

Camby, a 6-foot-10 center, had a triple-double — 27 points, 17 rebounds and 10 blocks — to lead Hartford Public to a 90-67 victory in the CCC interconference finale for both teams

"The crowd really made it exciting [Monday]," Camby said. "When I get a slam [or] reject someone's shot, it just pumps me and the team up even more. We seem to take off from that."

With the victory, the 20-0 Owls won the City Series championship, which Weaver won last season.

Now, Hartford Public begins preparation for the CCC East tournament that begins Wednesday and the state tournament.

Hartford Public guard Kendrick Moore, who had 22 points, said his team feels no pressure to go undefeated and win the school's first basketball state championship since 1962

"Some of our classmates and other people come up to us and say maybe we should have lost a game — you know, a wakeup call — and then try to win state," said Moore, who had two three-pointers. "But we don't need a wakeup call. Our goals were to win the City Series, the CCC East and then state. We're on schedule to that."

Camby, a senior who will attend the University of Massachussets in the fall, also had a team-high seven assists and five steals as Hartford Public beat Weaver for the second time this season.

Camby also had four impressive dunks, the first of which gave Hartford Public a 12-2 lead with 4 minutes, 18 seconds remaining in the first quarter.

Weaver did not collapse at that point, however. Six consecutive points by Khari Lightner, who ended up with 12, cut the lead to 14-10 with 22 seconds remaining in the first.

And when Weaver's Troy Westberry converted his second consecutive three-point play, the Beavers had cut Hartford Public's lead to 26-25 with 5:05 remaining in the half.

But Hartford Public took over from there.

Moore scored four points in a 9-0 run to put the Owls up 35-25 shortly before halftime. Hartford Public opened the second half by outscoring Weaver 20-3 for a 62-34 lead with 2:14 remaining in the third quarter. Camby's putback gave Hartford Public its biggest lead, 87-55, with 2:08 to play.

Robert Copeland led Weaver with 13 points.

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