**Gridiron Gems for Weeks 7 of the high school football season
Oct 23, 2017, Salem News**

**PHIL DURGIN \* HAMILTON-WENHAM**Fullback/Linebacker

The Generals secured their biggest win of the season with a dominant second half Friday night in Lynnfield, beating the host Pioneers 35-7 in a battle of 6-0 teams. Durgin was a big reason why.

As the lead blocker out of Hamilton-Wenham's backfield, he drove opponents backwards while opening up huge holes for sophomore running back Ian Coffey (173 yards rushing). Durgin's physical prowess and foot speed allowed him to get to spots before his foes and hold his ground. He also showed his athletic prowess when he took a screen pass on 3rd-and-long, broke three separate tackles and barreled down the right sidelines for a 40-yard touchdown reception.

Having another monster game defensively in helping hold Lynnfield's high powered offense to 245 total yards and just a single score, Durgin wrapped up any ballcarriers who ventured his way.

# [High School football Stars of the Week](http://www.bostonherald.com/sports/high_school/2017/10/high_school_football_stars_of_the_week_2)

[**Dan Ventura**](http://www.bostonherald.com/users/dan_ventura) Sunday, October 22, 2017

**DIVISION 6**

• **Ian Coffey** rushed for 174 yards and a touchdown as Hamilton-Wenham clinched at least a share of the Cape Ann League Baker title with a 35-7 win over Lynnfield.

**HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS’ VOLLEYBALL NOTES
By Dan McLoone Globe Correspondent  October 20, 2017
Players of the Week**
**Lauren Flynn, Hamilton-Wenham** — The senior captain tallied 15 kills, 23 digs and four blocks as the Generals bested Lynnfield in four sets to win their first Cape Ann League title in 17 years.

# Hamilton-Wenham Runs Away From Lynnfield

#### Generals explode in second half and hammer Lynnfield, 35-7.

**By**[**Bob Holmes (Patch Staff)**](https://patch.com/users/robert-holmes-0)**- Updated Oct 20, 2017 11:13 pm ET**

Tied at 7 entering the second half, Hamilton-Wenham coach Jim Pugh knew what to expect from Lynnfield in the game's final 22 minutes.

"I said to the kids at halftime 7-7, this is what they've been in the last three weeks that we've seen them. Then they come out in the second half and take it to teams," said Pugh about a Lynnfield team that was behind in the first half of its last two games, only to roar back and win on the way to a 6-0 record.

But Friday night in Lynnfield was different. It was Hamilton-Wenham that put on a second-half show, outscoring the hosts, 28-0, on the way to a 35-7 win that puts the Generals at 7-0, and one Thanksgiving win away from the Cape Ann League Baker title. With the MIAA playoff pairings announced on Sunday, Hamilton-Wenham will be the top seed in Division 6 North. Lynnfield falls to 6-1 and will be either the first or second seed in Division 5, pending other results.

"We knew that physically we could match up with them," said Pugh. "Our offensive line and defensive line did a great job. Putting pressure on the quarterback, forcing some turnovers, it was great."

The second half started with the Generals going on a 10-play, 53-yard scoring drive the culminated in junior Billy Whelan's 3-yard touchdown run on fourth and goal. The drive consumed a little over 5 minutes and also included one of the stars of the game, sophomore running back Ian Coffey (20 carries, 153 yards), who had 33 of those yards on the drive.

Lynnfield fumbled on its first play of the second half and the Generals had the ball on the Pioneers' 43. Whelan hit Jake Lanciani for 22 yards and on the next play Cam Peach ran it in from 21 yards out. With 5:04 left in the third quarter H-W had run 12 plays to Lynnfield's one, and the score was 21-7. It didn't get any better for the Pioneers on the next series, with Lynnfield going three-and-out.

Offensively for Lynnfield, passes had been caught in the first six weeks of the season were being dropped, balls that were normally secured were being fumbled. It wasn't what the Pioneers had in mind.

H-W took over on its own 26 and on its next three plays Coffey ran for 31, 20, and 10 yards. Phillip Durgin added three more yards before Coffey took it in from 10 yards out. It was now 28-7 and that's how the quarter ended.

In case there was any doubt, H-W started the fourth quarter with a 7-play drive, capped off by a 40-yard scoring pass from Whelan to Durgin. Whelan's two touchdown passes give him 12 for the season.

"Billy did a great job and he does all the time," said Pugh. "He's a leader, he's a winner."

Normally the opening drive of a game isn't the difference but you could make a case that Lynnfield's failure to score after a 14-play drive that lasted nearly 7 minutes was huge. When a pass on 4th-and-7 from the 19 fell incomplete, Hamilton-Wenham had dodged a bullet and the first quarter ended scoreless.

Lynnfield gave H-W its first opportunity when it fumbled on its first series of the second quarter. On the play a number of Lynnfield players had the opportunity to fall on the loose ball but instead it was the Generals who recovered. Six plays later Whelan hit Lanciani for a 15-yard scoring pass to make it 7-0.

Lynnfield scored its only touchdown on its next possession when Matt Mortellite threw a 22-yard scoring pass to Nicholas Kinnon to tie it at 7-7. For Mortellite, it was his 12th touchdown pass this year and 35th of his career. The career total surpasses Gino Cohe (class of 2011) as the school's all-time leader. And going into halftime tied 7-7 there were plenty of reasons to believe he could add to that total. Hamilton-Wenham had other ideas.

"The kids were excited. They wanted to come here and kick some butt and they did," said Pugh, who earned his 192nd win in a career that started in 1989. "If we play like this we're tough to beat. It was a great win."

 **HIGH SCHOOL TRACK & FIELD**

# Sawyers help build historic streak at Hamilton-Wenham

**By Tom Petrini GLOBE CORRESPONDENT  OCTOBER 20, 2017**

Why has the Hamilton-Wenham girls cross country team won 145 consecutive dual meets, more than any such team in dual meets ever?

The answer has a lot to do with two brothers, Steve and Dave Sawyer, who started building a foundation of success long before the team’s most recent defeat in 2004.

Steve Sawyer has coached cross-country at Hamilton-Wenham since 1979, and his younger brother took over the middle school program 20 years ago. It’s no coincidence that that’s when the high school team began to have real success, winning its first of five state titles in 1999.

“Most of the better girls that Steve has had over the years in cross-country started at the middle school,” said Dave, who sees it as his job to get these runners excited about doing so for Hamilton-Wenham.

“That passion and that team spirit starts at a very young age,” said Grace Moroney, now a senior captain at the high school. “Those days were kind of low pressure, and time for you to see what you could do.”

Each year, the younger Sawyer tells his brother that he’s got some good ones coming.

“Kids come out as a sixth-grader, or seventh- or eighth-grader, and they find they have some talent, and have success, and they get interested in it and they want to continue on,” said Dave Sawyer.

The middle school is physically attached to the high school, so the girls develop in the shadow of a program that they could one day lead, and a historic record they could one day extend.

“I remember in middle school hearing about [the record] and thinking it was such an incredible thing to do,” said Anna Cassidento, another senior captain at the high school.

“They believe in what’s going on, and they want to be a part of it,” said Steve Sawyer. “It creates a little bit of excitement early on.”

Some might be scared off by the responsibility of carrying a torch that hasn’t been dropped since Ciara’s “Goodies” topped the charts, but for 13 years now, the ones who have faced the challenge have been up to it.

“When you get to high school, you’re already used to that pressure,” said Rebecca Erhard the other senior captain. “You already have this really strong team bond that helps us get through and push each other much harder during the season.”

Erhard has consistently been the fastest Hamilton-Wenham girl this year, but she will be the first to tell you that it’s not about individual performances. The team has been working on getting that fresh crop from the middle school closer to the front.

“The training this season has been mostly about team,” said Erhard, “and trying to get together as a pack, and keeping that gap between our first and our fifth runners as small as possible.”

At the Bay State Invitational in Wrentham Oct. 14, Hamilton-Wenham came in second of 11 teams. As for that gap between one and five, Erhard finished with a time of 19:36 and first-year runner Elisa Voss finished in 21:26, just a few seconds behind Moroney. Gaylan Ryus, another new arrival, finished third on the team and 18th overall with a time of 20:54.

“Each year it’s incredible: We’ve been able to replace the top runners we miss with the new ones,” said Moroney. “It says a lot about the program and the training.”

That training requires much more of a commitment at the high school level, and it’s beginning to show results.

“We’re getting stronger, we’re getting faster, our times are dropping, and we’re beginning to sort of peak toward the big season meets at the end of the year,” said Steve Sawyer.

The mission is the same every year: Win the league championship, win the Cape Ann League open meet, win the division meet, and compete at a high level for the Division 2 state championship.

Those postseason goals drive long-term success, and the dual-meet record keeps the girls focused on every race in the regular season.

“You think of all the hard work that all these past runners have put into this record for the past 13 years,” said Erhard. “It helps us motivate each other and focus on each race.”

“You’re running not only for the girls who are on the team now, but for all the years and all of [Steve] Sawyer’s hard work,” said Moroney. “We were so lucky to after 13 years be part of the program during this record-breaking event, and for sure it’s an inspiration for younger runners.”

The high school’s success inspires the middle school runners, who become the next great high school runners, who then inspire the middle schoolers, and so on. The Sawyer brothers have built a feedback loop of success for Hamilton-Wenham, and it means the world to them.

“Obviously it’s precious,” Steve Sawyer said about the pipeline he and his sibling have helped to build together. “I feel blessed to be in that position, to be working with my brother.”

#

 **TREMENDOUS TRIO: Hamilton-Wenham, Prep, Salem golf squads poised for strong tournament performances
By Nick Giannino Staff Writer, Salem News**

**10/22/17**

Less than two weeks ago the Hamilton-Wenham golf team continued their winning ways with a memorable performance in the Cape Ann League Open.

Not only did the Generals wrap up their second Baker Division title in as many years, but they garnered a Player of the Year in junior Aidan Daly, a first team all-star by his side in senior Ben Meahl and a Coach of the Year in Bill Corley.

Daly and Meahl’s awards were based strictly on their phenomenal performances in the Open held at Boxford’s Far Corner, as the duo combined for 106 quota points in the 18-hole afternoon. Daly’s 55 points were a close second to tournament champion Mike Twomey’s (Newburyport) 57.

It was the perfect ending to another fantastic fall season for Corley and Co. — but they’re not done yet.

Monday morning (9 a.m.) the Generals (12-2) will send their top six golfers back to familiar Far Corner to compete in the Division 3 state tournament.

“Cam Grinnell, Cam Vautour, Ben Meahl and Jason Francis ... those guys have been on three championship teams in their four years here,” said the longtime head coach Corley, who began his Generals’ reign back in 1999. The aforementioned Grinnell has also been terrific this season and was selected as a CAL second-team all-star.

“Grinnell and Meahl have started since freshman year and honestly, I think they’ve played every match. It’s been a heck of a stretch for these kids and they’ve been excellent. We’re really looking forward to Monday.”

Over the past four years Hamilton-Wenham has compiled a dominant record of 48-8 in regular season matches. That includes a 31-1 mark at their home course, Myopia Hunt Club, and it also won the CAL crown back in 2014.

This autumn, those heralded seniors have had the luxury of playing alongside an outstanding No. 1 player in Daly, who has averaged nearly 32 quota points per nine holes. Meahl is close behind at 27, while Grinnell (26) and Vautour (20) have also been steady.

It’s going to take a total team effort to finish atop the coveted D3 leaderboard on Monday — something the Generals have executed to a T since a couple of early season losses.

“I can remember Grinnell coming up to me after we lost the first two matches. He turned to me and said, ‘we’re not gonna lose again, coach’,” said Corley. “We had lost by a point at Triton at Olde Newbury and then against Newburyport, too. I told the kids you learn more by losing than you do by winning and I think, no I know, that solidified the team and allowed them to turn it on and win the Kinney Division.”

# As is the case every year, the Generals will have some stiff competition come Monday morning. But regardless of the outcome, the Hamilton-Wenham seniors have already supplanted their legacy. [Hamilton-Wenham remains unbeaten with 35-7 victory over Lynnfield](http://www.bostonherald.com/sports/high_school/2017/10/hamilton_wenham_remains_unbeaten_with_35_7_victory_over_lynnfield)

[**Sean Brennan**](http://www.bostonherald.com/users/sean_brennan), **Boston Herald**
**Saturday, October 21, 2017**

LYNNFIELD — There was more than just bragging rights on the table when Hamilton-Wenham invaded Lynnfield in a battle between unbeaten Cape Ann League rivals last night at Pioneer Stadium.

For Lynnfield, a victory would have wrapped up a sixth straight CAL Baker Division title. For Hamilton-Wenham, a win would have clinched at least a share of the Baker title while also securing the Generals the top seed in the upcoming Division 6 North playoffs.

When the dust settled, Hamilton-Wenham held the winning cards as the Generals rode a second-half performance for the ages by sophomore running back Ian Coffey to turn a halftime stalemate into a 35-7 domination of Lynnfield.

Coffey ended his night with 174 yards rushing plus a touchdown, with 140 of those yards coming after intermission as the Generals (7-0) scored 28 unanswered points to claim the win.

“We knew that physically we could match up with (Lynnfield) on the offensive and defensive lines,” said H-W coach Jim Pugh. “Ian (Coffey) made some great runs, but the entire offense did a good job. The kids wanted to come here and kick butt, and that’s what they did.”

After the two teams played a scoreless first quarter, Generals quarterback Billy Whelan (10-for-19, 154 yards, two TDs, two interceptions) found Jake Lanciani for a 15-yard touchdown to put the Generals up 7-0 with 6:19 left in the half.

Lynnfield answered when quarterback Matt Mortellite connected with Nick Kinnon to level the score at the break.

In the third quarter, Coffey perked up on the offense side as the Generals defense also dominated.

Coffey ran five times for 32 yards on H-W’s first drive of the new half as Whelan made it a 14-7 game with a 3-yard TD run. After H-W’s defense recovered its second fumble of the game, Cam Peach ran 27 yards to push the Generals’ lead to 21-7.

And after a quick three-and-out from the Pioneers (6-1), Coffey started to pour it on for the Generals. Starting at his own 26, he ran for 32 yards, 20 yards and 10 yards on consecutive plays before closing out the drive with a 10-yard TD for a 28-7 advantage.

“The offensive line just opened up holes for me all night,” said Coffey. “I wasn’t hitting them in the first half, but in the second half, everything was just working. This (win) gives us a lot of momentum and confidence heading into the playoffs.”

Phil Durgin’s 40-yard TD catch and run from Whelan late in the fourth quarter accounted for the game’s final points.

**Dominant second half sends Generals past Lynnfield in battle of unbeaten
By Phil Stacey Executive Sports Editor, Salem News
Oct 21, 2017**

LYNNFIELD — It was the kind of quarter every football coach and player dreams of having in a particularly huge contest ... but doesn’t dare think it could actually transpire.

Only it did for the Hamilton-Wenham Generals Friday night.

Scoring three times in the third quarter while dominating on both sides of the football, the Generals got 174 rushing yards and a score from sophomore running back Ian Coffey to stun host Lynnfield, 35-7, in a battle of unbeaten squads.

Not only did Hamilton-Wenham (7-0 overall) clinch at least a share of the Cape Ann League Baker championship for the first time since 2011 — a win over arch rival Ipswich on Thanksgiving Day would give the Generals the crown to themselves — but it also halted the five-time league titlist Pioneers’ 27-game winning streak within the CAL Baker.

“I’m speechless right now,” said senior captain Cam Peach, who had a 27-yard scoring run in the decisive third quarter. “I’ve never, ever beat Lynnfield in my life, so this is one of the greatest feelings ever.”

Coffey, thrust into the role of starting running back two games into the season after starter Andrew Riccio was lost for the season with an injury, had 107 of his 174 rushing yards in the third quarter, coming on 10 carries. Among those were jaunts of 32, 20, 15, 10 and another 10-yarder, the last of those finding paydirt for a commanding 28-7 H-W lead.

The visiting Generals gashed the Lynnfield defense by playing power football and pushing their foes backwards constantly. Running behind senior captain and fullback as well as linemen Evan Bucci, Henry Smith, Thomas Monahan, captain Morgan Liphardt, Matt Weiman and tight end Michael Crowley, Bucci found plenty of open space to run through, particularly on the right side.

“The line just kept pushing them back and finding me holes to run through,” said Coffey. “It was all them.”

Peach’s 33-yard kickoff return to start the second half set the stage for a 10-play, 52-yard scoring drive that gave Hamilton-Wenham a 14-7 lead. Whelan took a bootleg left and punched it home from three yards out on 4th-and-3.

Senior linebacker Hunter Wilichoski recovered a Pioneers’ (6-1) fumble on the very next offensive play, allowing his team to take over at the hosts’ 42-yard line. A 15-yard pass from Whelan to Jake Lanciani (5 catches, 78 yards) set up Peach’s 27-yard TD burst through a seam on the right side.

“Jake’s great,” Whelan said of the senior receiver. “He’s sneaky, undersized (5-foot-9, 170 pounds), but he’s tenacious. He’s got the most confidence I’ve ever seen. He wants the ball all the time.”

Lynnfield went three-and-out on its next series before the Generals marched to the end zone for the third time in the period. Three straight runs by Coffey netted 52 yards, and two plays later he burst up the middle from 10 yards out to make it 28-7.

“I told him all week in practice, ‘As soon as you touch the ball, just explode off of it and get as many yards as you can’,” Peach said of Coffey.

“We knew physically we could match up with them,” surmised Hamilton-Wenham head coach Jim Pugh, quick to give credit to defensive coach Joe Kulas for the work he’s done with the Generals (70 points allowed in 7 games) this season. “We put pressure on them, pressure on Matt (Mortellite, the Pioneers’ star QB) and caused turnovers.

“If we play like this, we’re tough to beat.”

The Generals punctuated their victory by scoring on their fourth straight possession with 6:48 to play. Facing 3rd-and-17 from the Lynnfield 40, Whelan hit Durgin in the right flat with a screen pass, and the physically powerful back broke free on three separate tackle attempts to waltz into the end zone. Lanciani then added the fifth of his extra points.

Whelan finished 10-for-19 passing for 154 yards, two picks and two scores, including a 15-yarder to Lanciani that gave the Generals a 7-0 lead in the second quarter. Lynnfield answered right away as Mortellite (11-for-21, 142 yards) hit Nick Kinnon for a 23-yard scoring strike.

Henry Schibli, a junior linebacker, also recovered a fumble for Hamilton-Wenham, which got a big 12-yard catch from Crowley on third down to set up Whelan’s third quarter scoring scamper.

“They kids have bought into our system. They believe,” Pugh, the second year H-W head coach, remarked. His team will be the No. 1 seed in Division 6 North next Saturday afternoon when the state playoffs begin.

# “We have to enjoy the moment,” added Peach. “But come Sunday, this is all forgotten and we have to focus on the playoffs.”Hamilton-Wenham golf team closes in on stellar season

**By Dom Nicastro / Correspondent**

**Posted Oct 20, 2017 at 3:26 PM**

Good news abounds for the Hamilton-Wenham golf team.

They have won the Cape Ann League Baker title for the third time in the last four years. They have won 11 in a row heading into their final match of the season (scheduled for Oct. 17).

They have three all-stars, Aidan Daly, Ben Meahl and Cam Grinnell, the two-time Cape Ann League Baker Player of the Year (Daly) and the league Coach of the Year (Bill Corley).

Good times indeed.

The only thing left to do? Make a strong showing in the state tourney, which will be held Monday, Oct. 23 at Far Corner Golf Course in Boxford.

“I talked about this in the beginning of the season: I said our two goals are to win the league and the next goal was to get into the state finals,” Corley said.

One goal achieved. The next will come if they’re one of the top teams in the Division 3 North tourney next week. They made the states in 2005, 2010 and 2011.

For now, the team is basking in its tremendous regular season.

Corley, catching up with the Hamilton-Wenham Chronicle after a 142-93 win over Lynn Classical Monday, Oct. 16, said he can’t remember a player in recent memory winning back-to-back league Player of the Year awards.

Daly, a junior, pulled it off in 2016 and now 2017, winning the respect of league coaches for an award that need votes.

“It’s a really nice honor for him,” Corley said. “That’s pretty hard to do to be honest with you. I can’t remember that happening in the last few years. That’s great for him.”

Daly shot a 36 at Myopia against Lynn Classical, which is 1-over par.

″(That’s) outstanding,” Corley said.

Daly averaged 31 points per match, which is no small feat for him.

“He’s a tremendous worker,” Corley said. “And the coaches in the league talked about his work ethic. He’s by far one of the most competitive players they’ve seen. The beauty of his play is that when he gets down that’s when he gets going. If not playing well he never gives up and comes through with big numbers.”

Daly and Meahl were selected as CAL First-Teamers, and Grinnell made the Second Team.

“Daly was not undefeated for us,” Corley said. “Other guys on our team have beaten him, and that’s how deep we are. We had the top player every match.”

Meahl averaged 27 points per match and is probably one of the longest hitters the coach has ever seen.

“He can drive it 290-300 yards, and it’s straight,” Corley said. “It’s not wild. He definitely has the potential to play at the next level.”

Meahl and Grinnell are four-year players. If they ever missed a match, it was because of sickness. Grinnell has been the team’s most reliable putter. Each of the all-stars serve as captains along with Cam Vautour.

Heading into the final match against Pentucket this week, Hamilton-Wenham was 35-1 at Myopia over this season and the last three.

They also had a record of 47-8, and only an undefeated Amesbury team in 2015 stood in the way of four CAL Baker titles in four years.

Asked about his coaching style through it all, Corley said it’s the stuff you do in practice that makes the difference.

“My philosophy is I don’t cancel practice,” said Corley, who is closing in on 20 years as head coach of the Generals. “If the school cancels practice, then we don’t practice. But we’ll be out there playing if it’s up to me. I don’t cancel. It’s as simple as that.”

**Friday's area roundup H-W, Masconomet volleyball squads snag big non-league
wins
Oct 20, 2017, Salem News**

**VOLLEYBALL
Hamilton-Wenham 3, Marblehead 1:** Senior Grace Lapain slammed six aces along with 15 digs for the Generals in their win over the Magicians. Rose Wosepka and Lauren Flynn combined for 18 kills, Jaidin Hartley Ward piled up 17 assists, and Alex Padellaro recorded 12 digs as Hamilton-Wenham improved to 17-1. For the Magicians (11-3) Lizzie Myers had a fantastic night with 11 kills and Elisa Garel added in another 10. Izzy Curtin ended the night with 31 assists and Mandy Dumais had 17 digs.

**FIELD HOCKEY
Bishop Fenwick 1, Hamilton Wenham 0:** Kailyn Wesley scored the match’s lone goal as the Crusaders blanked the Generals (4-9-3). Allie Giguere assisted on Wesley’s goal and Stephanie Steriti lead Bishop Fenwick’s defense as they now move to 6-7-2 on the season.

**GIRLS SOCCER
Hamilton-Wenham 0, Rockport 0:** Viking goalie Alex Arndt was a wall, stopping all 17 Generals shots as H-W (3-9-4) was forced to settle for a tie.

# Hamilton-Wenham Volleyball clinch CAL championship

**By****Christopher Hurley****churley@wickedlocal.com
Posted Oct 19, 2017 at 2:11 PM**

Lauren Flynn and her team helped rewrite history this week.

The Hamilton-Wenham senior co-captain registered 15 kills, 23 digs and four blocks, as the Generals volleyball team leveled Lynnfield, 4-1, Oct. 18.

With the win, Coach Jen Flynn’s squad improved to 16-1 (13-1 in the CAL), while earning its first title in over a decade.

“It has been 17 years since Hamilton-Wenham volleyball won a Cape Ann championship,” said Flynn. “Tonight we did it by beating Lynnfield in four games.”

After taking the first set 25-18, Hamilton-Wenham bounced back from a 25-19 setback, to take the next two sets 25-20, 26-24.

Senior setter Jaidin Hartley Ward paced the attack with 35 digs and 14 assists.

Senior outside hitter Katie Hankin was also in a zone posting 20 digs. Senior libero Grace Lapain picked up 23 digs. Alex Padellaro and Vanessa Brown showed plenty of hustle.

Cecily Szady, Hartley Ward, Hankin, Flynn and Brown were perfect from the serving area. Junior middle hitter Rose Wosepka made two key blocks, including the game-winning point in the deciding set.

Hamilton-Wenham heads to Marblehead to play the Headers, Friday, Oct. 20 at 5 p.m.

# Wednesday's area roundup: Hamilton-Wenham snares first volleyball title in 17 years

 **VOLLEYBALL
Hamilton-Wenham 3, Lynnfield 1:** Junior Rose Wosepka’s block in the fourth set clinched a 26-24 win and with it the first Cape Ann League title for the Generals (16-1) in 17 years. Captain Lauren Flynn collected 23 digs and 15 kills in the 25-18, 19-25, 25-20, 26-24 win. Katie Hankin had an outstanding defensive match with 20 digs, senior Jaidin Hartley Ward had 14 assists and 35 digs, libero Grace Lapain had 23 digs and Alex Padellaro and Vanessa Brown both also stood out.

**BOYS CROSS COUNTRY**

**Manchester Essex 24, Hamilton-Wenham 35:** Jake Sturim turned in a time of 17:52 to finish second overall for the Generals (1-7). Aidan Nistle was fourth in 18:35 and Charlie Butler ran 19:25 for sixth place.

**GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY**

**Hamilton-Wenham 23, Manchester Essex 39:** The unbeaten Generals (8-0) got a second place finish from Rebecca Erhard (20:43) and a third from Anna Cassidento (20:52) in the victory. Also running strong were Jemma Shea (fifth, 22:05), Maddie Katz (sixth, 22:15), Gaylan Ryus (7th, 22:16) and Elisa Voss (8th, 22:29).

**BOYS SOCCER**

# Hamilton-Wenham 6, Amesbury 1: Senior captains Alex Renaud and Nick Ong each recorded two goals and two assists in the Generals victory over the Indians. Fellow senior captain Jay Kum added a goal and an assist of his own, Connor Evers and Eli Leonard combined for three assists, and freshman Ronan Connors scored his first varsity goal. Hamilton-Wenham girls soccer ties up Manchester Essex

**By****Christopher Hurley****churley@wickedlocal.com
Posted Oct 16, 2017 at 3:12 PM**

Hamilton-Wenham’s Erin O’Shea potted her team’s lone goal as the Generals girls soccer team tied up Manchester Essex, 1-1, Oct. 12.

With the tie, Coach Nancy Waddell’s squad improved to 3-8-3 on the season.

Hamilton-Wenham got on the scoreboard in the fifth minute off O’Shea’s tally. It was her ninth goal of the season.

Generals goalie Addie Condon made six saves in the stalemate.

In earlier action, sophomore Jordan Story scored the game-winning goal as the Hamilton-Wenham girls soccer team edged Ipswich, 3-1, Oct. 10

O’Shea got the Generals got on the scoreboard at 28:00 from outside the box. It was her sixth goal in each of the last sixth contests. The Tigers got one back just two minutes later, after HW was called for a handball in the box.

The Generals picked up their play in the second half, however, to put the game away.

Story spearheaded the comeback scoring off an assist from senior Cate Pasquarello five minutes into the second half. The Generals continued to dominate out cornering Ipswich 10-1.

Junior Eliza Campbell, who was thwarted on breakaways multiple times, put the game away scoring with 11 minutes remaining.

The Generals play at Newburyport, Monday, Oct. 16.

# Hamilton-Wenham volleyball team bounces back with North Reading win

**By****Christopher Hurley****churley@wickedlocal.com
Posted Oct 16, 2017 at 8:41 PM**

Grace Lapain got the Generals back on track.

The Hamilton-Wenham senior libero led the charge with 11 digs and eight aces, as the Generals topped North Reading, 3-0, Oct. 16.

With the win, Coach Jennifer Flynn’s club improved to 15-1 on the season.

The team also showed their community spirit, sponsoring a fundraiser.

“Tonight was our Brest Cancer Awareness fundraiser night run by our captain Cecliy Szady,” Flynn said. “All proceeds from the bake sale and donations are (going to be) for the Dana Farber Cancer Center.”

Coming off their first loss of the season over the weekend, Hamilton-Wenham arrived to the gym with something to prove winning in straight sets, 25-17, 25-23 and 25-13, to complete the sweep.

Senior outside hitter Lauren Flynn was fantastic registering eight kills, nine digs. A senior middle hitter, Szady remained sharp with six kills. Both Flynn and Szady were also perfect from the serving area.

Senior setter Jaidin Hartley Ward loomed large racking up 10 assists and seven digs. Junior outside hitter Vanessa Brown also played really well for the Generals, according to Coach Flynn.

In earlier action, Friday the 13th proved to be truly unlucky for the Generals

For the first time this season, Hamilton-Wenham was grounded by Ipswich, 3-0, Oct. 13.

The loss snapped the team’s 13-game undefeated streak. Hamilton-Wenham were in for a long night losing in straight sets 25-16, 25-21 and 25-21.

Generals senior tri-captains Flynn, CeSzady and Katie Hankin, were all perfect from the servers area. Hartley-Ward had 16 digs

Hamilton-Wenham heads to Lynnfield to play the Pioneers, Wednesday, Oct. 17 at 5:30 p.m.

**Football Focus: Generals geared up for unbeaten CAL Baker title clash with Lynnfield**
**By Phil Stacey Executive Sports Editor, Salem News**

If you've got the opportunity to play a postseason game a week early, why not take advantage of the opportunity?

OK, if you want to split hairs, it's technically a 'postseason-type' contest, not an actual MIAA playoff encounter. But that matters not to the unbeaten Hamilton-Wenham football team; their mindset heading into Friday night's clash of 6-0 clubs with host Lynnfield (7 p.m.) is the virtually identical.

"At this point, every team has practiced for eight weeks and has built themselves into a family," said senior fullback and defensive back Phil Durgin. "Every game is going to be a fight from here on out, and everyone we face is going to bring their best."

While it won't be the actual playoffs, what is at stake is the Cape Ann League Baker championship. Lynnfield, which will be playing its last league contest of 2017, has won it the last four years while beating Hamilton-Wenham along the way each time. It's a streak that the Generals -- who are 2-0 in CAL competition, with only their annual tussle with Ipswich on Thanksgiving Day left after Friday -- would like to end.

"We've watched film of them and know from years past they're a tough, physical, good all-around football team," senior two-way tackle Morgan Liphardt said of the Pioneers. "Our coaches have been preaching all week that this is going to be a dogfight. It'll take everything we have to come out with a win."

**Plenty of weapons**Both squads had sloppier-than-they-needed-to-be wins a week ago, with Lynnfield trailing Ipswich at halftime before putting up 33 unanswered points in the second half to prevail, 54-29. Hamilton-Wenham trailed Manchester Essex by 14 points early and fell behind again in the fourth quarter before rallying for a 29-22 triumph, with quarterback Billy Whelan throwing his fourth touchdown pass of the game with just 11 seconds remaining.

Prior to their game-winning drive, they stopped the Hornets after the visitors had driven to H-W's 2-yard line.

"That game shows the resiliency we have," said Jake Lanciani, a senior who tied a school record with nine receptions (for 129 yards and a score) against the Hornets. "It showed we're not a one-sided team; that we can make big stops on defense. Phil broke through the hole on third down and tackled (Rob) Sarmanian for a 3-yard loss back to the five, and on fourth down Henry Schibli blocked a pass. We showed a great D can lead to great offense."

Hamilton-Wenham is allowing a hair over 10 points per game while scoring over 30 per game and averaging more than 300 yards of offense. The left-handed Whelan has flung 10 touchdown passes and thrown for 947 yards while hitting on 61 percent of his attempts.

Lanciani and Cam Peach have combined for 41 catches, over 700 yards and eight scores. Durgin (10 rec, 133 yards) and Michael Crowley (6-88, TD) are also viable weapons.

Matt Weiman (left tackle), Henry Smith (left guard) and Evan Bucci (center) are all two-year starters who have been invaluable in the trenches, as have Thomas Monahan at right guard and Liphardt at right tackle. Four of the five weigh at least 200 pounds, with Weiman, Smith and Liphardt all 230 lbs. or better. Senior Jack McWhirter has also been a terrific sub up front.

Following the guys in the trenches, Durgin is able to open a lot of holes for running back Ian Coffey. A former receiver thrust into the starter's role when three-year starter Andrew Riccio went down with a season ending injury in Game 2, Coffey slid into the backfield and has been a big-time producer, with 372 rushing yards and 8 TDs along with another one receiving.

"Ian's really stepped up and come on for us big time," said Lanciani, who like Liphardt and Peach is a team captain.

**Getting defensive**The defensive stars have been many for the Generals, including Hunter Wilichoski at defensive end and Sam Webber at linebacker.

In Lynnfield's spread offense, senior captain Anthony Murphy is the main ballcarrier; he's crossed the goal line nine times already this fall. Fellow senior Tyler Murphy has scored a half-dozen times, while wideout Nick Kinnon (5 TD) and slot receiver Jay Ndansi (4 TD) also know their way around the end zone.

"For speed reasons, we know what (Ndansi and Kinnon) going to do and what's coming at us," said Peach, whose father Bill (an H-W assistant) played at the University of Hampshire while his uncle, Steve Peach, suited up for both Syracuse and Boston College. "As defenders we need to keep an eye on them so they don't beat us down the field long."

Pioneer quarterback Matt Mortillete, another senior, has fired 11 TD passes to five different teammates, including two to classmate Peter Look.

"Mortellite is really dangerous because he gets the ball out so quickly," said Durgin. "So it's hard to get pressure on him. He does run it sometimes, too, and you can tell he has a good sense of the offense because he doesn't make many mistakes. For us, it's going to come down to getting him in situations where he has to force the ball or think about it more. We have great (defensive backs) who can go up and get the ball, so we have to give them the opportunity to do that."

Liphardt is well aware what he and his fellow linemen must do to be successful.

We have to play physical on both sides of the ball and worry about our own responsibilities," he said. "Defensively they've got a big strong line that likes to get low. We'll have to get our helmets on their hips and drive them out. Offensively, we have to stay low and drive them out."