**2018 North Shore high school golfers to watch  
Sep 7, 2018, *Salem News*  
HAMILTON-WENHAM**  
  
**Captains:** Aidan Daly, Sr.; Xander Nostrand, Sr.; Mark Roselli, Sr.  
  
**Other golfers to watch:** Jake Harrison, Sr.; Will Hogan, Sr.; Justin Tramblay, Jr.; Andrew Winch, Soph.; Peter Gordeau, Fr.; Will Moroney, Fr.; Connor Alberry, Sr.; Peter Goben, Soph.

**2018 Salem News volleyball team-by-team previews   
Sep 6, 2018**

**HAMILTON-WENHAM**

**Last year’s record:**19-3 (Lost to Arlington Catholic in D2 North quarterfinals)  
**Head coach:**Jen Flynn (9th season)

**Captains:**Vanessa Brown, Sr., outside hitter; Rose Wosepka, Sr., middle hitter; Evelyn Easton, Jr., outside hitter  
  
**Other key players:**Alessandra Brizuela Jr., middle hitter; Gwyneth Fitzpatrick, Jr., right side hitter   
  
**Outlook:** The Generals undoubtedly lost a number of great players from their terrific 2017 season. With stars like Cecily Szady, Lauren Flynn and Katie Hankin gone Hamilton-Wenham will attempt to get back into the playoffs with seniors Vanessa Brown, Rose Wosepka and Tori Belise as their senior captains and leaders.

**2018 Football Preview: Whelan, Generals believe they have the right stuff to reload**[**By Matt Williams Staff writer**](https://www.salemnews.com/users/profile/Matt%20Williams)**, *Salem News***

**Sep 5, 2018**  
  
**HAMILTON** — Size, whether in terms of the height and girth of the players or the sheer number of them on the roster, is not usually available in excess in the Cape Ann League's Baker division.  
  
It would be easy to think Hamilton-Wenham, one of three defending Baker champs after sharing last year's crown with Ipswich and Lynnfield, is undersized. But it would be foolhardy to think for one second that the Generals are undermanned.  
  
"There's definitely going to be one matchup or another in every game where we're outsized," said co-captain Thomas Monahan, an offensive guard and defensive end at 6-foot-2 and 185 pounds. "But it's not about how big a guy is; it's about his technique and how hard he can hit."  
  
Small, medium or large in the T-shirt department, the Generals have plenty of talent to build on last year's 9-2 season.  
  
Quarterback Billy Whelan has thrown for over 3,000 yards and 36 touchdowns combined over the last two seasons, and though his top four pass catchers from last year graduated, he sees plenty of skill to target in both the running and passing games.  
  
"I'm really excited for the season. We absolutely have the pieces to compete," said Whelan, another captain who has a 16-5 record as the starting QB.  
  
What's the biggest benefit of all that experience under center?  
  
"It leads to making good decisions, and even more it leads to making fast decisions," said Whelan, who could also line up in the secondary on defense and rush the ball more than in years past, quipping, "I think the bubble wrap is coming off a little bit this year."  
  
Veteran coach Jim Pugh, six wins shy of 200 in his career while entering his third season at Hamilton-Wenham, knows junior Ian Coffey has the chops to be a bell cow running back. The speedster ran for 756 yards and 11 touchdowns as a tenth grader and with a rugged, veteran offensive line in front of him is primed for an explosive season.  
  
Returning senior center Evan Bucci is flanked by Monahan, Mike Moynihan and Henry Smith, with junior Ethan Moynihan in the mix along with senior Drew Cirinna. Aidan Nistl and Finn Brophy are big, physical blockers capable of making impacts at a variety of positions, and Quinlan Kelly packs a punch at tight end.  
  
  
  
"We have a lot of guys that have stepped up, that have been working hard and studying, and now that it's their turn they're ready to make an impact," said Monahan. "We're excited to prove we can be as good as last year, and we feel like one of our strengths is the offensive line."  
  
Defense should be another strength since H-W held seven of its 11 opponents to two TDs or fewer last year. Captain Sam Webber is ready for an expanded role at middle linebacker, and with Monahan and Henry Schibli causing havoc up front, the Generals may have one of the most physical front sevens in Division 6 North.  
  
"I can't wait to get out there in a game. There's nothing better than making a big hit on defense," said Webber. "Last year I got to play next to Phil Durgin and he was such a big leader, showed me so many things, that I want to pass that on to the other guys like he did for me."  
  
Senior Giles Hubbard is poised to step into a big role on defense. Colby Cala and Cam Guyer have speed and could contribute on both sides of the ball.  
  
It's a tough slate to open the season for Hamilton-Wenham with a road game at Bishop Fenwick on tap for Week 1 before its home opener against North Reading. The Gens also picked up a road bout against Norwell to fill the void left by football independent Georgetown.  
  
"It's a good group with great leadership. I like our team chemistry," said Pugh, who had 40 players come out in Grades 9-12, up slightly from last year. "We have battle-tested players and we'll have them ready. They want it pretty bad."  
  
**PATTON'S PATTER  
  
Last year's record**: 9-2 (CAL Baker co-champs, Division 6 North finalist)  
**Head coach:** Jim Pugh (3rd season, 16-6 at H-W, 194-116 overall)  
 **Team captains:** Tom Monahan, Sr., OL/DE; Henry Smith, Sr., OL/DL; Sam Webber, Sr., FB/LB; Billy Whelan, Sr., QB/DB.  
  
**Top returning rusher:** Ian Coffey (98 carries, 756 yards, 11 TDs).  
  
**Top returning passer**: Billy Whelan (97-of-170, 1,606 yards, 18 TDs).  
  
**Top returning receiver:** Ian Coffey (8 catches, 91 yards, 2 TDs).  
  
**Last league title**: 2017 (Cape Ann League Baker)  
  
**Did you know?** Billy Whelan's 36 career touchdown passes are already an H-W program record, and he could become one of a handful of North Shore passers with 50 career scoring strikes later this season.  
  
**Salem News 2018 team-by-team high school field hockey previews  
Sep 5, 2018**  
  
**HAMILTON-WENHAM**  
  
**Last year’s record:** 4-9-3  
  
**Head coach:** Lindsey Flanagan (1st season, 0-0)  
  
**Team captains**: Samantha Cooke, Sr. midfield; Emily Ward, Sr. defense; Ashlyn Smith, Sr. defense.  
  
**Other players to watch:** Grace Condon, Sr. forward; Olivia Kurja, Sr. forward; Ronni Flanagan, Soph. midfield; Lucy Werner, Fr. midfield.  
  
**Outlook:** Having 11 seniors back is a huge boon for the Generals, who already have established camaraderie and chemistry with each other. Flanagan wants to see her team tighten up their possession and passing, leading to fewer opportunities for their foes. Commitment, teamwork and fitness will be critical to a successful season for Hamilton-Wenham.

**Salem News 2018 team-by-team girls soccer previews  
Sep 4, 2018**  
  
**HAMILTON-WENHAM  
  
Last year’s record:** 3-10-4 (did not make playoffs)  
**Head coach**: Nancy Waddell (4th season, 35-15-7)  
**Captains**: Elizabeth Gasiorowski, Sr. Mid; Shae Gransese, Sr. D.  
  
**Other players to watch**: Megan Peterson, Sr. D; Eliza Campbell, Sr. F; Emily Currier, Sr. D; Shannon O’Toole, Sr. Mid; Lily Santomenna, Sr. Mid; Alli Chapdelaine, Jr. Mid; Addie Condon, Jr. GK; Gabi Cooper, Jr. Mid; Eric Luo, Jr. Mid; Maddie Rivers, Jr. D; Jordan Story, Jr. Mid; Maddy Rostad, Soph. Mid.  
  
**Outlook**: The Generals played a boatload of low scoring games last season and struggled getting over the hump, since they scored one or zero goals in 13 of their 17 contests. The aim is that captain and midfielder Elizabeth Gasiorowski can help spark the scoring, and that combined with H-W’s trademark strong defense its record can improve immensely. The Generals did get some bad news on the injury front with junior Belle Dolan, who played every minute of every game the last two years, lost to an ACL tear. H-W is still trying to develop chemistry and put its pieces together and the CAL is typically rugged, but a return to the state tournament is the goal.

**2018 Salem News boys soccer previews  
Sep 4, 2018**

**HAMILTON-WENHAM  
  
Last year’s record:** 7-7-4 (Lost to Austin Prep in Division 4 North quarterfinals)   
**Head coach:**Matt Gauron (17th season)  
**Captains:**Nick Glovsky, Sr., CB; Clint Gourdeau, Sr., M

**Other players to watch:**Gabe Berthoud, Sr., CM; Eli Leonard, Sr., M/F; Paul Horgan, Sr., CB; Tom Flynn, Sr., GK; Conor Evers, Jr. center mid.

**Outlook:**The Generals return a strong senior class and boast some talented underclassmen ready to step up at the varsity level. If they can improve on offense from a year ago, they could very well be a serious threat in Division 4 North.

**Defensive minded Generals hoping to capitalize more on offense this fall  
By Nick Giannino Staff Writer*, Salem News*Sep 4, 2018**

Goals were tough to come by for the Hamilton-Wenham boys soccer squad last fall.  
  
The Generals managed just 22 scores in 18 games a year ago, with six of those goals coming in a lopsided triumph over Amesbury. To put that in perspective, Masconomet's Josh Rubin netted 26 goals by himself in 2017, while St. John's Prep's Steven Yakita led the area with 28 tallies.   
  
Fortunately, Hamilton-Wenham boasted perhaps the strongest defense in the Cape Ann League — and quite possibly the entire North Shore — in allowing a mere just 17 goals against, with seven shutouts. Their ability to consistently get stops allowed them to compile a .500 record (along with four low-scoring draws) and advance to the second round of the Division 4 state tournament.

This fall, head coach Matt Gauron and a rejuvenated Generals' unit are making it their goal to once again qualify for the postseason by staying the course defensively in addition to improving their attack in a big way.  
  
"We're hoping to be strong defensively again; that's definitely one of the key things we focus on," said Gauron, entering his 17th season at the H-W helm. "But the kids have been attacking really well (offensively), which is good to see. Our goal is always defense first, but if we can be a little more effective on the other side this year, it'll be good for us.  
  
Anchoring the stout Generals' defense will be senior goalkeeper Tom Flynn, who returns between the posts after a stellar junior campaign. He'll be aided by the strong defensive work of co-captains Nick Glovsky and Clint Gordeau, as well as athletic Paul Horgan in the middle.  
  
Other returning assets include senior center mid Gabe Berthoud and senior attacking mid Eli Leonard, both of whom are plenty capable of finding the back of opposing nets.  
  
Overall, the Blue-and-White futbolers are relatively young. They'll have to rely on a large yet promising sophomore class to step up and fill the void lost from departing graduates like Nick Ong and Alex Renaud (both Salem News all-stars a year ago), as well as Chris Labudde and Jay Kum (honorable mention selections).  
  
Ronan O'Connor is one of those second year athletes who figures to play a key role for the Generals, with a slew of others eager to make their mark once the regular season gets underway.  
  
Hamilton-Wenham opens the year with a good test, going up against the reigning CAL Baker champs from Manchester Essex. The two rivals split a pair of 1-0 decisions a year ago while finishing 1-2 in the standings.  
  
"We're very excited about the possibilities with this team," said Gauron. "Manchester Essex will be a good battle to open up with; hopefully we can get off to a good start."  
  
**Boys cross country 2018 team-by-team previews  
Sep 3, 2018, *Salem News***  
  
**HAMILTON-WENHAM**  
  
**Last year’s record**: 0-10  
**Head coach**: Steve Sawyer (30th season)  
**Team captains**: To be named  
  
**Runners to watch**: Jake Sturim, Sr.; Jack McMahon, Sr.; Henry Jones, Sr.; Charles Butler, Jr.; Scott James, Jr.; Alex Johnson, Jr.; Chris Romano, Jr.; Matt Botelho, Soph  
  
**Coach’s outlook**: The Generals have depth with 23 runners out for team, including 11 freshmen. How soon the young additions can develop and be able to compete at the varsity level will determine how successful the team will be in the highly competitive CAL.

**Salem News girls cross country 2018 team-by-team previews  
Sep 3, 2018**  
  
**HAMILTON-WENHAM**  
  
**Last year’s record**: 10-0 (CAL Meet and Division 5 states champions)

**Head coach**: Steve Sawyer (30th season)  
**Team captains**: To be named

**Runners to watch**: Madeline Katz, Sr.; Rylee Folger, Sr.; Bennett Nostrand, Jr.; Margot Braillard, Jr.; Jemma Shea, Jr.; Jordan Reader, Jr.; Sofia Cassidento, Jr.; Gaylan Ryus, Soph.; Elisa Voss, Soph.; Katherine Weihs, Soph.

**Coach’s outlook**: The Lady Generals lost three very talented seniors and only have a pair of 12th graders on this year’s squad. There are some promising young runners, though, and team success will depend on how fast they develop.

**H-W girls cross country carries 14 year unbeaten streak into new season  
Jean DePlacido, Salem News   
Sep 1, 2018**  
  
It all began back In October, 2004, and at the time nobody really expected the Hamilton-Wenham girls cross country team to still be undefeated 14 years later with the 2018 season right around the corner.  
  
At the time the streak started George W. Bush was in the White House, on the verge of defeating John Kerry in the presidential election. Bush would serve another four years, the price of gas was $1.73, and the Lady Generals started winning and kept on going like the Energizer Bunny. Star runners came and went, but there were always plenty of girls eager to carry on the tradition.  
  
What began October 13, 2004 now stands at 148 straight meets and counting. Veteran coach Steve Sawyer believes it’s the longest ever in the United States, but that would have to be verified if anybody wants to challenge, involving a great deal of paperwork.  
  
“The National Federation of High Schools has the record as 133. In order to have it be official the NFHS and the local state association both have to approve it with everything documented,,” said Sawyer, who has been at the helm for 30 years.  
  
The Lady Generals are coming off another perfect 10-0 season and went on to capture the Division 5 state championship for the 10th time in the last 14 years. That is pretty amazing in itself.  
  
“The last time the Hamilton-Wenham girls lost a dual meet I was still in high school,” said Ipswich coach Steve Bartholomew, who has been the Tigers coach for the past seven years and knows the meet with the Generals is always the toughest on his calendar.  
  
As talented runners graduate and a new young crop comes along, the streak has kept on going. This season there are 30 girls out for the team, and they all know the history the goes along with being a member of the Hamilton-Wenham cross country program.  
  
“They all are well aware of it,” said Sawyer. “They know it’s there, and hopefully we will get ourselves prepared to defend the streak. Our numbers are good which you can’t always count on at a small school like Hamilton-Wenham. There are so many options for kids, and not a lot of them to begin with.  
  
“It’s difficult to spread the talent around. We lost three very good seniors, and the biggest job now is seeing how fast this team comes along.”  
  
Sawyer said there are some good young runners, but the team needs to establish a running base. There are only two seniors to lead the way in Madeline Katz and Rylee Folger. But as usual Sawyer is developing his younger talent with the help of his brother Dave, who sees them at the middle school. It’s a winning combination.  
  
There are several juniors ready to step up this season with some big shoes to fill. And of course the Generals have a bunch of sophomores and freshmen wanting to be part of the rich tradition. Last year Anna Cassidento was one of the captains. Now her younger sister Sofia, a junior, is one of the up and coming runners.  
  
The first test will be at the home course against Triton on Wednesday, September 5. It’s a brand new year, and the girls are prepared to carry the torch. They run not only for themselves and their teammates, but for every girl who has ever been a part of the incredible streak.  
  
“This kids came back in good shape,” said Sawyer. “They’re working hard, and we’re off to a decent start. It will all depend on how fast this team meshes.”  
  
As it usually is the big news won’t be the wins, but if another team can knock off the always favored Lady Generals. This group is determined to work as hard as possible to see that doesn’t happen. But it’s not all work and no fun at Hamilton-Wenham. Sawyer stresses teamwork and having fun; smiling through practice is an important part of the process.

**Countdown to Kickoff: Hamilton-Wenham**

**Aug 30, 2018  
Salem News**  
  
Each day leading up to the start of the high school football season, we’ll countdown to kickoff by examining one North Shore squad and asking the same question: Over or Under? Will that team win more games than it did in 2017, or come up short?

Next up is Hamilton-Wenham, which went 9-2 last year.

**Matt Williams**: Under.

Are the Generals a playoff team? Unequivocally. Are they a contender for the Cape Ann League's Baker title? For sure. But nine wins? That's a lot of W's. In fact, Hamilton-Wenham hasn't posted back-to-back 9-win seasons in my lifetime (going back to 1980).

So while they have a very good nucleus and explosive players like Billy Whelan and Ian Coffey, an excellent 8-3 season would still be less than a nine victories. Add to that the fact that the schedule got tougher with an October trip to Norwell and four of seven regular season games on the road, and under does feel like the right call on this one.

**Phil Stacey**: Under.

My esteemed colleague hit on many of the key points above; while there's still some weaponry back for the Generals, a good chunk of their offensive explosiveness from their magical 2017 run are now college freshmen. You don't just replace generational talents.

That having been said, I don't expect a huge dropoff from Hamilton-Wenham. Seven or eight victories can be had, and the CAL Baker crown appears to be a three-team race with H-W, their arch rivals from Ipswich and Lynnfield all battling for bragging rights. I'm expecting the Generals to run the ball with much more frequency this fall, which means the offensive line play will play a major role in how many triumphs they can earn.