

SCC NEWS

Official Newsletter of the
Southern Connecticut Conference



Volume 4, Issue 2

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From the Commissioner's Desk

What a great time of the year! The weather is finally getting nice and the end of the school is almost here. I am very happy to report the SCC had many successes by its students, teams, and schools during the winter and early spring. As always, keep up the good work.

In this issue of SCC NEWS...

- Unified Basketball Event Held
- Sixth Annual Arts Exhibition
- 14th Annual Scholar Leader Banquet
- Cheerleading Competition and Captains Council recaps
- A Look Back at the Winter Sports Season - 5 more state titles!
- SCC Notebook and "Kudos"

Next issue in June: *The next issue of SCC News will be out in late June to wrap up the spring!*

Questions, Comments, Ideas...

If anyone has questions, comments, or suggestions about the SCC, our website, this newsletter, etc., please don't hesitate to contact me via email:

commissioner@southernconnecticutconference.org

*Best wishes,
Al Carbone*

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

To continue to offer top-notch programs and events, the Southern Connecticut Conference relies on financial support from the local business community.

The SCC has several sponsors for the 2007-08 academic year, including the NewAlliance Foundation, The United Illuminating Company, New Haven Register, Velocity Sports Performance, and the International Union of Operating Engineers - Local 478.

Their support is well-appreciated!



New Haven Register



SCC Hosts Unified Basketball Tournament

The New Haven Athletic Center was the site of the SCC Unified Sports Basketball Tournament on Monday, February 4.

Participating schools included Amity, West Haven, Wilbur Cross/Hillhouse, Hamden, Shelton, Jonathan Law, Lyman Hall, Cheshire and East Haven.

The student-athletes played several games and were treated to some pizza and soda and a SCC Unified Sports t-shirt.

Special thanks to Jon Capone (athletic director at West Haven High School) for coordination of the event and Joe Canzanella (athletic director - New Haven Public Schools) for allowing the league to use the Athletic Center!



14th Annual Scholar-Leader Banquet Held

The 14th annual SCC Scholar Leader Banquet was held on March 24 at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven. Forty-four students representing 22 SCC member schools were recognized for their outstanding scholarship and leadership in their respective school communities. Shelton High School headmaster Donald Ramia chaired the event.

In addition, Catherine Cheng (Cheshire) and Erin Casey (North Haven) were recognized as the recipients of the "Bill O'Brien Community Service Scholarship." Catherine and Erin, who each received \$500, were chosen by a committee composed of the league's corporate sponsors. Criteria, which included a submitted 500-word essay, included having a healthy balance of school and community activities that are value-added and embody the "spirit and passion" of Bill O'Brien, the league's Commissioner Emeritus.

2007-08 SCC Scholar Leader Recipients:

Amity - Sarah Mattessich, Adam Holzman
Branford - Kelsey Barringham, Ben Robbins
Career - Jasmine Ortiz, Otis Brown
Cheshire - Catherine Cheng, Edward Testa
Derby - Sarah Timpko, Amy Donofrio
East Haven - Molly DeLeone, Paul Hwang
Fairfield Prep - Andrew Grinalds, Richard Johnson
Foran - Manon Loomis, Jeffrey Mangels
Guilford - Brynn Huguenel, Taylor Gregoire-Wright
Hand - Martina Burn, Marcus Shak
Hillhouse - Ann-Marie Clarke, Paul Corona

Jonathan Law - Kevin Fox, Annaliese Perrett
Lyman Hall - Julia Czaplinski, Timothy Fekete
Mercy - Kate Sanderson, Rebecca Ptak
North Haven - Erin Casey, Michael Rose
Notre Dame - Jonathan Canestri, Thomas Schrader
Sacred Heart Academy - Jenna Allegretto, Meghan Crosby
Sheehan - Betsy Kadapuram, Shandesh Sekhara
Shelton - Lea Hanko, John Karpinski
West Haven - Stacey Williams, Lawrence "Ken" Clark
Wilbur Cross - Shira Winter, Toresse Ouellette
Xavier - Peter K. Halibozek, Jr., Patrick M. Koksza

Sixth ANNUAL ARTS EXHIBITION at CAW

The sixth annual SCC Student Arts Exhibition was held the week of April 21-26 at the Creative Arts Workshop on Audubon Street in New Haven. A grand opening of the show with refreshments took place on Tuesday, April 22. The exhibition featured 60 selections of outstanding student-originated visual arts in a variety of media. Each SCC member school had the opportunity to submit up to three works.

Prizes were awarded by a jury of professional artists and arts administrators coordinated through CAW Executive Director Susan Smith.

The chair of the event was Cheshire principal Judith Gallagher.

"Many thanks to Susan Smith and her staff at the Creative Arts Workshop for hosting the SCC Arts Exhibition," SCC Commissioner Al Carbone commented. "New Haven is indeed the 'creative arts capitol' of Connecticut, so it's an honor to have such a first-class venue to show off our students' great work."

Sixth Annual SCC Arts Exhibition Prizes

First Prize: Tyler E. Reep, Daniel Hand (charcoal drawing), \$100
Second Prize: Philip Beamon, Career (conceptual, basketball), \$75
Third Prize: Helen Xu, Cheshire (pastel), \$50
Fourth Prize: David Van Epps, Guilford (clay), \$40
Fifth Prize: Shawn Kavanaugh, Branford (glass), \$35

Honorable Mention:

Jessica Reeve, Guilford (pencil drawing), Ronek Patel, Lyman Hall (pastel), Benjamin Lankton, Xavier (charcoal drawing), Stephen Kupchick, Fairfield Prep (pen and ink), Felicia Astorino, Sheehan (jewelry)



Tyler Reep of Daniel Hand won first prize for his charcoal drawing.

Recapping the Winter Sports Season

SCC Teams Capture Five State Championships; Eight So Far in 2007-08

SCC member-schools fared extremely well in league and state-wide competition during the winter season. All told, SCC teams captured five state championships bringing the total to eight for the 2007-08 academic year. Nine additional teams earned runner-up status in CIAC state competition during the winter campaign. Since the league's inception in 1994, SCC schools have now won 260 state championships.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Hammonasset: Hillhouse (8-0)

Housatonic: Lyman Hall (6-2)

Oronoque: Career (8-0)

Quinnipiac: Mercy (6-0)

SCC Playoffs: Career defeated Branford, 77-49, in the championship game on February 21 at West Haven High School.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Hammonasset: Hillhouse (8-0)

Housatonic: Lyman Hall (7-1)

Oronoque: Wilbur Cross (8-0)

Quinnipiac: Xavier (7-1)

SCC Playoffs: Wilbur Cross defeated Amity, 74-58, in the championship game on February 27 at East Haven High School.

GYMNASTICS

SCC Championship Meet: February 8 at Jonathan Law High School. **Final Team Results:** 1. Foran, 130.15; 2. Jonathan Law, 129.05; 3. Hand, 128.40; 4. Hamden, 112.45; 5. Branford, 103.40; 6. Guilford, 66.45; 7. West Haven, 37.60; 8. North Haven, 28.70.

Individual All-Around Title: Jen Fuggi, West Haven

ICE HOCKEY

Division I: East Haven (6-1)

Division II: Amity (7-0)

Division II Playoffs: Amity defeated Cheshire, 4-0, in the championship game on March 1 at Bennett Rink.

BOYS SWIMMING

Regular Season: Fairfield Prep

SCC Championship Meet: February 27 at Southern Connecticut State University. **Final Team Results:** 1. Fairfield Prep, 849; 2. Xavier, 650; 3. Branford, 561; 4. Amity Regional, 524; 5. Cheshire, 491; 6. Hamden, 386; 7. Notre Dame, 379; 8. North Haven, 259; 9. Shelton, 145; 10. Foran, 126; 11. Lyman Hall, 122; 12. Sheehan, 121; 13. West Haven, 96; 14. Hand, 75; 15. Guilford, 30

Diving Champion: Mark Gracia, Xavier

WRESTLING

Division A: Hand (5-0)

Division B: Shelton (6-0)

SCC Championship Meet: February 9@Wilbur Cross High School.

Final Team Results: 1. Hand, 122; 2. Amity, 118; 3. Xavier, 115.5; 4. Jonathan Law, 95; 5. Derby, 84.5; 5. Cheshire, 84.5; 7. Shelton, 62; 8. East Haven 56; 9. Guilford, 47; 10. Branford, 21; 11. Notre Dame, 12; 12. Sheehan, 11.5; 13. New Haven, 9; 14. Fairfield Prep, 8; 15. Foran, 1

GIRLS INDOOR TRACK

SCC Championship Meet: February 1 at New Haven Athletic Center.

Final Team Results: 1. Cheshire, 72; 2. Amity, 56; 3. Hillhouse, 47; 4. Guilford, 40; 5. Daniel Hand, 32; 6. Hamden, 31; 7. Mercy, 30; 7.

Branford, 30 ;9. Wilbur Cross, 28; 10. West Haven, 19; 11. Career, 16; 12. East Haven, 15;13. Lyman Hall, 12; 13. Shelton, 12; 15. North Haven, 11; 16. Sheehan, 9; 17. Sacred Heart Academy, 5

BOYS INDOOR TRACK

SCC Championship Meet: February 1 at New Haven Athletic Center. **Final Team Results:** 1. Hillhouse, 65; 2. Branford, 61; 3. Amity, 54; 4. Xavier, 53; 5. Wilbur Cross, 52; 6. North Haven, 33; 7. Shelton, 20; 8. Hamden, 18; 8. Daniel Hand, 18; 8. Lyman Hall, 18; 11. Career, 16; 12. Cheshire, 15; 13. Sheehan, 14; 14. Notre Dame 11; 15. Guilford, 8; 15. East Haven, 8; 17. Fairfield Prep, 1

2007-08 SCC State Champions

Fall (3)

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>
Boys Cross Country	MM	Hand
Girls Cross Country	MM	Guilford
Girls Volleyball	LL	Cheshire

Winter (5)

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>
Boys Indoor Track	M	Hillhouse
Girls Indoor Track	Open	Hillhouse
Ice Hockey	I	Fairfield Prep
Ice Hockey	II	Amity
Girls Basketball	LL	Career

2007-08 SCC State Runner-Ups

Fall (5)

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>
Girls Cross Country	Open	Guilford
Girls Swimming	Open	Cheshire
Girls Swimming	LL	Cheshire
Football	LL	Shelton
Football	MM	Hand

Winter (9)

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>
Boys Swimming	LL	Fairfield Prep
Boys Swimming	M	Branford
Gymnastics	M	Hand
Girls Indoor Track	L	Hillhouse
Boys Indoor Track	Open	Wilbur Cross
Boys Indoor Track	LL	Wilbur Cross
Boys Basketball	L	Lyman Hall
Cheerleading	S	Derby
Wrestling	LL	Amity

375 Attend "New Format" SCC Spring Captains Council Event at New Haven Athletic Center

The SCC Captains Council programs are held three times a year, bringing together the captains of the 23 member schools before their respective seasons start to, more importantly, provide guidance of what it means to be a captain and the responsibility that comes with the position.

The newly-formatted SCC Spring Sports Captains Council event was held on Monday, March 24 at the New Haven Athletic Center.

Over 375 spring sport captains attended the four-hour session, which included presentations from the league's athletic directors as well as table discussions with each of the 10 spring sports.

A power-point presentation, titled "**What is Leadership?**" was the focal point of the session, highlighting and defining various leadership topics. Some of presentations explained the types, risks, responsibilities and expectations of a leader, as well as a "game plan" for captains to become more effective leaders.

All participants were treated to a healthy boxed lunch before wrapping up the session by completing an exercise called, "What Kind of Leader Are You?"

Plans are already underway for the 2008-09 sessions.



The SCC Spring Captains Council event was held at a new location - the New Haven Athletic Center - on Monday, March 24.

Special thanks to the Captains Council committee (Joe Canzanella, Craig Semple, Elaine Piazza, Tom Dyer, Tom Marcucci, and Arlene Salvati) for its fine preparation and coordination of the event.

CHEERLEADING COMPETITION A SUCCESS!

The Southern Connecticut Conference hosted another successful Cheerleading Competition on Saturday, February 2, at Shelton High School.

Twelve SCC schools participated in the competition in three different categories – Non-building, 14-under squad size, 15-over squad size, and co-ed.

"Once again it was a great event," SCC Commissioner Al Carbone said. "From the participation of the league's coaches to organize the event to the effective hosting of the event by the Shelton Cheer Parents Group, this competition has quickly become a 'marquee' league event not only for our participants but also for our fans."

Special thanks to **Bird's Eye Sports** (www.birdseyesports.com) for its sponsorship of the event.

2008 Final Results

Each division is scored separately.

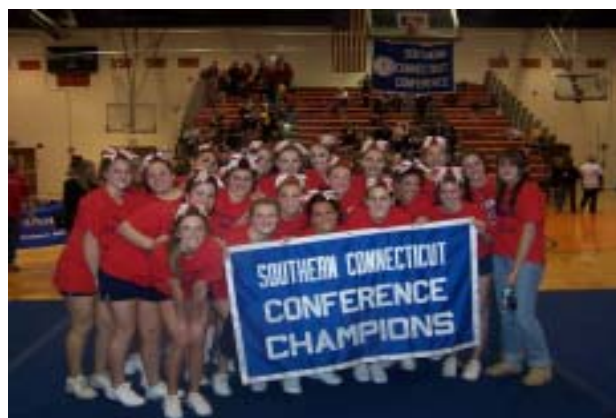
SCC Spirit Award - Mercy High School

15-over division

Champion - Foran (119 pts)

1st runner-up - Shelton (113)

Others: North Haven (108), Jonathan Law (92), West Haven (72)



Foran won the 15-over division with 119 points.

Co-ed Division

Champion - Branford (80 pts)

14-under Division

Champion - Derby (123 pts)

Others: Cheshire (107.5), Guilford (84.5)

Non-Building Division

Champion - Wilbur Cross (113 pts)

Others: Career (94.5)

SCC Notebook

Winter Postseason Facts

During the winter sports season, 42 SCC teams (out of 57 eligible teams) qualified for CIAC playoff competition in girls basketball (14-of-20), boys basketball (15-of-21), and ice hockey (13-of-16).

SCC On Top of the State?

If you review the final rankings in the sports of girls basketball and ice hockey, you can, ***once again***, make an argument for the overall strength of the SCC.

Career Tops in Girls Basketball

Career, under the direction of head coach Kevin Walton, finished as the top girls basketball team in the final state polls (*New Haven Register and Hartford Courant*)... The Panthers (26-2), who won the 2008 Oronoque Division and SCC Tournament titles, captured the Class LL state championship with a hard-fought 71-66 victory over New Britain at CCSU's Detrick Gymnasium... Mercy (21-4) also finished in the top ten, while Hillhouse (16-8) and Wilbur Cross (18-9) also receiving votes.

Fairfield Prep Ice Hockey Back on Top!

For the second straight season, Fairfield Prep finished as the top ice hockey team in the state... The Jesuits (13-10-1), who tied for second in the SCC Division I regular-season, captured the Division I state title with a 5-3 win over Notre Dame-Fairfield at Ingalls Rink... Other SCC teams finishing in the state's top ten polls included Hamden (17-4-1), SCC Division I regular-season champion East Haven (19-3), SCC and state Division II champion Amity (19-6-1), and Notre Dame-West Haven (11-9-1).

Mengold Wins National Honor

Paul Mengold, athletic director at Amity Regional, received the prestigious "Distinguished Service" award from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators (N.I.A.A.)... Paul was one of just eight administrators from the entire U.S. recognized... He accepted his award at the N.I.A.A. national conference in Nashville, Tenn. in mid-December.

Tap-Off Club Recognizes Scholar-Athletes

The New Haven Tap-Off Club will recognize 18 student-athletes from the SCC at its annual banquet on April 29.... SCC student-athletes recognized as "Scholar Athletes" include: Zach Bell and Bryce Watkins of Amity, Zach Owen and Molly Zampano of Branford, Clare Samuelson of Cheshire, Gabby Pane of East Haven, Nathan Finn of Foran, Mary Fowler of Law, Cathrine Donewald of Lyman Hall, Jennifer O'Neil, Melaine Rasmus and Jamie Therrien of Mercy, Christine Warner of North Haven, Greg Mangano of Notre Dame, Stephanie Ferreira and Lea Hanko of Shelton, and Brian Fitzpatrick and Daniel Gavagni of Xavier.

SCC Baseball Playoffs Return to Yale Field

For the 14th year, the SCC baseball playoffs will be played at historic Yale Field... With the demise of the New Haven County Cutters last fall, there was speculation the league would need another home for its tournament... However, Yale University athletic director Tom Beckett and his staff kept the tradition alive by allowing the SCC to return to the historic field... SCC Commissioner Al Carbone told the *New Haven Register*, "There is no better place than Yale Field. It's a great baseball park in an even better location. I know our players and coaches enjoy playing there"... The six-team tournament opens on Tuesday, May 20 with first-round games at West Haven High School before going to Yale Field for the semifinals and championship game.

"KUDOS" DEPARTMENT

Dancing Accolades

• Three SCC schools performed well at the Connecticut High School Dance Team Championships on March 9... For the second straight year, ***Branford*** placed first in the Hip Hop Small Division, while ***Hamden*** captured top honors in the Pom Division... ***Shelton*** finished third in the Jazz Division, while ***East Haven*** placed third in the Pom Division.

Governor's Scholar

• Sacred Heart Academy's ***Amymarie Bartholomew*** was named a 2008 Governor's Scholar - one of just 30 in the state of Connecticut... Amymarie will be honored at a luncheon at The Aqua Turf Club in Southington on May 22... In its twelfth year, the program recognizes 30 academically talented high school students in schools throughout the state.

More Awards, Honors, Accolades...

• ***Joe Canzanella***, the Supervisor of Athletics for the City of New Haven, was honored by his peers with the N.I.A.A. State Award of Merit at the 24th CAAD conference on March 27.

• Two SCC basketball coaches - Wilbur Cross' ***Jim Reynolds*** (boys) and Mercy's ***Tim Kohs*** (girls) earned Sportsmanship Awards from by the International Association of Affiliated Boys' Basketball Officials Board 10 this winter.

• ***Cheshire*** earned the "Ray Crew Sportsmanship Award," which is given to the Division II ice hockey team in honor of the former Sheehan ice hockey coach... ***North Haven*** captured the "Dick Gagliardi Sportsmanship Award," which is given to the Division I team in honor of the former Hamden coach and SCC ice hockey chairperson.

• The SCC was well-represented on the various winter sports All-State Teams, as selected by the *Hartford Courant* high school sports staff... Thirty-three student athletes earned All-State status, while 23 more were named to the Second Team or received honorable mention status.

• The 2008 Winter Sports All-Conference and All-Division selections are available on each sport's respective home page on the SCC website - www.southernconnecticutconference.org