

SCC News

Volume 5, Issue 2
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Official Newsletter of the Southern Connecticut Conference

From the Commissioner's Desk

Welcome to the spring! It's been quite a busy last few months for the Southern Connecticut Conference. In addition to hosting eight winter sports playoff competitions, the SCC hosted an Unified Sports Basketball tournament, a Cheerleading Competition, a week-long Arts Exhibition, and its annual Scholar Leader banquet.

The spring season is in full swing and very soon – in mid-May – the league will begin hosting playoff competitions for 10 sports. And, on May 26, the league will host a Music Festival at North Haven High School.

Some member school news - Derby High School recently announced it will leave the SCC to join the Naugatuck Valley League in the fall of 2009. A member of the SCC since the league's inception in 1994, Derby has been an active participant in our league and we wish them the best of luck. I will have an update in the next newsletter regarding the efforts to replace Derby.

Lastly, two events of note – the league will host a fund-raising golf tournament on Monday, June 8 at the beautiful New Haven Country Club. More information is on page six of the newsletter. And a week later on June 15, the SCC will host its annual "League Picnic" at Anthony's Ocean View at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

Best of luck on a safe and healthy remainder of the school year and I look forward to seeing you soon!

Best wishes,
Al Carbone



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Thanks to Our Corporate 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 2008-09 academic year, including the *NewAlliance Foundation*, *The United Illuminating Company*, *The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 478*, *Billings Sports* and the league's newest corporate sponsor, *Connecticut Orthopaedic Specialists*.

For the third straight year, *Dick's Sporting Goods* has partnered with the SCC to provide coupons and promotional material at league events.

All of the support is well-appreciated!



Scholar Leader Banquet

Forty-four outstanding students recognized at banquet on March 30

The 15th annual SCC **Scholar Leader Banquet** was held on Monday, March 30 at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven. Forty-four students were recognized for their outstanding scholarship and leadership in their respective school and external communities.

2008-09 SCC Scholar Leader Recipients

- Amity Regional** – Annelies Gamble, Gregory Swan
Branford – Matthew Schell, Valerie Milici
Hill Regional Career – Maya McReynolds, Michael White
Cheshire – Alexa Barchini, Marcus White
East Haven – Patrick O'Brien, Sharon Hwang
Fairfield Prep – John D. McKissick, Peter O. Gruppo
Joseph A. Foran – Megan Holton, John "Jack" Olexovitch
Guilford – Michelle Sliwinski, Parker Sulkowski
Hamden – Rong Rachel Bian, Justin Whitfield
Daniel Hand – Miller Sakmar, Emily Gao
Hillhouse – Jeremy Moore, Ashley McWilliams
Jonathan Law – Alejandro Dorado, Ryan Pandya
Lyman Hall – Christina O'Byrne, William Abildgaard
Mercy – Rachael Conte, Arissa Opalacz
North Haven – Drake Smith, Fiona Wood
Notre Dame – Michael Laracunte, Joseph Sweeney
Sacred Heart Academy – Raca Banerjee, Amymarie Bartholomew
Mark T. Sheehan – Lisa Cheung, Stephanie Dubois
Shelton – Margaret Ercolani, Neville Commissariat
West Haven – Taylor Norton, Thomas Ciarleglio
Wilbur Cross – Zach Kofoglis, Iryna Mohylnytska
Xavier – John Daniel McGrath, Adam J. Tomasiello



Congratulations to Matthew Schell (Branford) and Sharon Hwang (East Haven) who were named the recipients of the "Bill O'Brien Community Service" Scholarship. Each received a \$500 scholarship. Matthew and Sharon are pictured with Judy Gallagher, SCC president, and Bill O'Brien.

Arts Exhibition Held

Sixty pieces of art were on display in March at Creative Arts Workshop in New Haven



2009 SCC Arts Exhibition First Prize - Photo Collage by Jillian Salisbury (Hamden HS)

The seventh annual SCC Student Arts Exhibition was held the week of March 16-20 at the Creative Arts Workshop on Audubon Street in New Haven. The exhibition featured sixty selections of student-originated visual arts in a variety of media. Prizes were awarded by a jury of professional artists and arts administrators coordinated through CAW Program Director Kate Paranteau.

- 1st Prize:** Jillian Salisbury, Hamden (photo collage), \$100
2nd Prize: Shadia Silman, Cheshire (charcoal), \$75
3rd Prize: Jimima Mbaka, Career (magazine collage), \$50
4th Prize: John Galin, Jr., Foran (charcoal), \$40
5th Prize: Dmitry Mykhaylosky, Hamden (clay), \$35

Honorable Mention: Sebastion Leforest, Fairfield Prep (mixed media); Dan Silvestre, Lyman Hall (photo); Alexa Ruscinski, Branford (mixed media book); Emily Goa, Daniel Hand (plexi-sculpture drawing); Dana Grzesik, Sheehan (mixed media)

Music Festival is May 26

North Haven High School will host festival

The SCC will host a Music Festival on Tuesday, May 26 at North Haven High School. The event will start at 8:45 a.m. There is no admission charge.

Six schools - North Haven, Cheshire, Career, Foran and Hand - are scheduled to participate and will feature jazz ensembles, a cappella and an orchestra.

Recapping the 2008 Winter Sports Season

Listed below are the sport-by-sport divisional and playoff champions for the eight winter sports sponsored by the conference.

BOYS INDOOR TRACK

Housatonic Division Meet (1/12): 1. Amity 127.5; 2. Cheshire, 71; 3. Shelton, 54; 4. Sheehan, 33.5; 5. Lyman Hall, 25.5

Quinnipiac Division Meet (1/13): 1. Hamden, 96; 2. Notre Dame, 73; 3. Xavier, 71; 4. Fairfield Prep, 46; 5. West Haven, 8

Hammonasset Division Meet (1/19): 1. Hand, 89; 2. Hillhouse, 49; 3. Guilford, 8

Oronoque Division Meet (1/19): 1. North Haven, 139; 2. Branford, 135; 3. Wilbur Cross, 98; 4. East Haven, 44; 5. Career, 28; 6. Derby, 7

SCC Championship Meet - Friday, February 6 - 4 p.m. @NHAC

Final Team Standings: 1. Amity, 102; 2. Hamden, 59; 3. North Haven, 55; 4. Xavier, 54; 5. Cheshire, 43; 6. Branford, 28; 7. Wilbur Cross, 24; 8. Fairfield Prep, 20; 9. Hillhouse, 18; 10. Hand, 16; 11. Career, 14; 12. Shelton, 13; 13. Notre Dame, 6; 14. Derby, 4; 15. Sheehan, 3; 15. Lyman Hall, 3; 17. East Haven, 2

GIRLS INDOOR TRACK

Housatonic Division Meet (1/12): 1. Cheshire, 103; 2. Amity, 77; 3. Shelton, 60; 4. Sheehan, 50; 5. Lyman Hall, 18

Quinnipiac Division Meet (1/13): 1. Hamden, 79; 2. Mercy, 77; 3. Sacred Heart Academy, 38; 4. West Haven, 27

Hammonasset Division Meet (1/19): 1. Hillhouse, 63; 2. Hand, 68; 3. Guilford, 36

Oronoque Division Meet (1/19): 1. Branford, 188.5; 2. North Haven, 90.5; 3. Career, 66; 4. East Haven, 61; 5. Wilbur Cross, 53

SCC Championship Meet - February 6 @New Haven Athletic Center

Final Team Standings: 1. Cheshire, 70; 1. Hillhouse, 70; 3. Branford, 51; 4. Amity, 46; 5. Guilford, 44; 6. East Haven, 27; 7. Career, 26; 8. Hamden, 25; 9. Hand, 22; 10. Sacred Heart Academy, 20; 11. West Haven, 16; 12. Sheehan, 13; 13. Mercy, 10; 14. Shelton, 8; 15. North Haven, 7; 16. Lyman Hall, 6; 17. Wilbur Cross, 4

BOYS BASKETBALL

Hammonasset: Hillhouse (8-0)

Housatonic: Sheehan (8-0)

Oronoque: Career (7-1)

Quinnipiac: Xavier (7-1)

SCC Playoffs: Top-ranked Hillhouse defeated #6 Hamden, 55-36, in the championship game on March 4 at East Haven High School.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Hammonasset: Hillhouse (8-0)

Housatonic: Cheshire (8-0)

Oronoque: Career/Wilbur Cross (7-1)

Quinnipiac: Mercy (6-0)

SCC Playoffs: Top-ranked Hillhouse defeated #2 Career, 70-61, in the championship game on February 26 at Wilbur Cross High School.



Hillhouse won its league-best fifth SCC girls basketball title in 2009. The Academics then captured the Class L state title and finished as the top-ranked team in every state poll.

ICE HOCKEY

Division I Regular-season Champion: Hamden (7-0)

Division II Regular-season Champion: Cheshire (7-0)

Division II Playoffs : #1 Cheshire defeated #3 Branford, 4-2, in the championship game on March 7 at Northford Ice Pavilion.

WRESTLING

Division A Regular-Season Champion: Hand (6-0)

Division B Regular-Season Champion: Shelton (6-0)

SCC Championship Meet: February 14 @East Haven HS

Final Team Standings: 1. Hand, 126; 2. Xavier, 117; 3. Amity, 112; 4. Jonathan Law, 99; 5. Shelton, 89; 6. Guilford, 87.5; 7. East Haven, 85.5; 8. Derby, 51; 9. Cheshire, 31; 10. Branford, 16; 10. Sheehan, 16; 12. Foran, 14; 12. New Haven, 14; 14. Fairfield Prep, 8; 15. Notre Dame, 4.

GYMNASTICS

SCC Championship Meet: February 6 @Jonathan Law HS

Final Team Standings: 1. Hand, 133.75; 2. Foran, 127.8; 3. Jonathan Law, 126.45; 4. Branford, 117.3; 5. Hamden, 93.4

BOYS SWIMMING

Division I Regular-season Champion: Fairfield Prep (12-0)

SCC Championship Meet - March 5 at Kiputh Pool - Yale University

Final Team Results: Team Scores: 1. Fairfield Prep 820; 2. Notre Dame-WH 601; 3. Xavier 567; 4. Amity 556; 5. Cheshire 457; 6. Branford 393; 7. Sheehan 295; 8. Hamden and Shelton 202; 10. North Haven/North Branford 190; 11. Lyman Hall 186; 12. Foran 182; 13. West Haven 106; 14. Hand 41.

SCC Teams Win Five State Titles in the Winter

Once again, SCC member-schools fared well in statewide playoff competition. Thirty-nine of a possible 57 teams (qualified for CIAC fall sport playoff competition in girls basketball (14-of-20), boys basketball (13-of-21) and ice hockey (12-of-16, including seven of eight in Division I).

During the winter season, SCC teams won five state championships, including two in ice hockey. Six additional teams earned runner-up status in CIAC state competition during the fall campaign.

Since the league's inception in 1994, SCC schools have now won 271 state championships.

State Champions (8) FALL

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>
Girls Cross Country	MM	Guilford
Boys Cross Country	MM	Hand
Boys Cross Country	L	Amity

WINTER

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>
Girls Indoor Track	M	Hillhouse
Boys Indoor Track	L	Amity
Girls Basketball	L	Hillhouse
Boys Ice Hockey	I	Hamden
Boys Ice Hockey	II	Cheshire

Runners-Up (13) FALL

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>
Boys Cross Country	Open	Shelton
Girls Cross Country	Open	Guilford
Football	IL	Cheshire
Girls Swimming	Open	Cheshire
Girls Swimming	IL	Cheshire
Girls Soccer	IL	Cheshire
Girls Volleyball	M	Jonathan Law

WINTER

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>
Girls Basketball	IL	Career
Boys Swimming	Open	Fairfield Prep
Boys Swimming	IL	Fairfield Prep
Boys Swimming	M	Notre Dame
Wrestling	IL	Xavier
Wrestling	M	Jonathan Law

SportsCenter of CT/SCC Scholar Athlete of the Month Program

For the third year, the SCC is partnering with the The SportsCenter of Connecticut (www.sportscenterct.com) on a Scholar Athlete of the Month program which honors the best scholar-athletes each month.

The SportsCenter of Connecticut/SCC Scholar Athlete of the Month program will recognize outstanding young men and women from each of the conference's 23 member schools during the 2008-09 academic year...

Listed below are the honorees for the 2008-09 winter sports season.



DECEMBER 2008 recipients

Matthew Poppa (Derby, wrestling), Mary Hyde (Derby, basketball/cheerleading), Andrew Grinalds (Fairfield Prep, swimming), Brad Kontra (Fairfield Prep, indoor track & field), Kelly Last (West Haven, cheerleading), Mark Palmieri (West Haven, basketball), Kelly Cargos (Amity Regional, indoor track & field), Alexander Bell (Amity Regional, ski racing), Jimmy Connors (Jonathan Law, basketball), Grace Glennon (Jonathan Law, gymnastics), Mike Callaghan (Daniel Hand, basketball), Kate Clawson (Daniel Hand, basketball), Stephanie Grilo (North Haven, cheerleading), Geoffrey Brown (North Haven, indoor track), Cayla Lang (Lyman Hall, basketball), William Abildgaard, Jr. (Lyman Hall, ice hockey)

JANUARY 2009 recipients

Kristen Lubeski (Branford, basketball), Casey Dadio (Branford, basketball), Christina Lavigne (Shelton, indoor track), Robert Ferrante (Shelton, wrestling), Kim Murray (Hamden, ice hockey), Matt Spilka (Hamden, basketball), Teneya Jenkins (Career Magnet, basketball), Brandyn Benson (Career Magnet, basketball), Arissa Opalacz (Mercy, indoor track), Amanda Hamilton (Mercy, basketball), Sydney Hyatt (Foran, basketball), Mike Sweeney (Foran, basketball)

FEBRUARY 2009 recipients

Marcus Wright (Cheshire, indoor track), Maggie Riddle (Cheshire, basketball), Drew Madore (Notre Dame, swimming), Joseph Sweeney (Notre Dame, ice hockey), Philip Gaetano (Sheehan, basketball), Chelsea Neelon (Sheehan, basketball), Emma Kosmaczewski (Sacred Heart Academy, indoor track), James Remigino (Xavier, swimming) Dan Thompson (Xavier, wrestling), Kyle Lundberg (Guilford, wrestling), Erica Drake (Guilford, ice hockey)

Tops in the State

Hamden Ice Hockey and Hillhouse Girls Basketball Earn "Top" Honors

Two SCC winter sports teams - Hillhouse girls basketball and Hamden boys ice hockey, finished as the top squad in the state in their respective sports.

Hillhouse, which won the SCC and Class L titles, finished as the top girls basketball team in the *New Haven Register*, *Hartford Courant* and Connecticut SportsWriters Alliance season-ending state polls. The Academics defeated Fairfield Warde, 65-59, in the Class L title game on March 20. Two other SCC teams - SCC and Class LL runner-up Career and Class LL quarterfinalist Mercy - also were ranked in the top ten.

The 2009 SCC regular-season and state Division I champions, Hamden (19-4-1) finished as the top team in the final *New Haven Register* and *Hartford Courant* state rankings.

Hamden, which defeated Glastonbury, 4-1, in the Division I championship game on March 21, is one of five SCC Division I teams (Fairfield Prep, Xavier, West Haven and Notre Dame) to be ranked in the final polls.

In addition, 2009 SCC Division II regular season and playoff champion Cheshire captured the state Division II crown with a 3-2 victory over Enfield on March 20. The Rams finished seventh in the final *New Haven Register* state poll.

Matson Honored by CSWA

*Amity wrestler named
Bob Casey Courage Award recipient*

Amity Regional senior wrestler Steve Matson, who has overcome leukemia and a bone marrow transplant, was named the recipient of the Bob Casey Courage Award by the Connecticut Sports Writers Alliance. Matson was honored at the CSWA's annual "Gold Key" banquet on April 26 at the Aqua Turf in Southington.

A 2009 Second Team All-SCC performer at 103 pounds, Matson won the Class LL title and placed fifth in the State Open. He finished his scholastic career with over 110 wins. Also a fine student, Matson is a member of the National Honor Society.

Cheerleading Competition

Branford, Lyman Hall, Derby and Shelton win titles

The SCC hosted its fourth Cheerleading Competition on Saturday, January 31, at North Haven High School. Eighteen SCC school participated in four different categories. Congratulations to Lyman Hall (Novice), Branford (co-ed), Derby (14-under) and Shelton (15-over) for their first-place finishes... West Haven was also honored with the SCC Spirit Award.

Many thanks to the two event sponsors for the 2009 SCC cheerleading competition - **Bird's Eye Sports** and **Planet Stunt, LLC**

2009 SCC Spring Sports Playoff Schedule

Outdoor Track & Field

May 18 - Boys Novice Meet @Foran HS – 3:30 p.m.
 May 18 - Girls Novice Meet @Lyman Hall HS – 3:30 p.m.
 May 19 - Boys Oronoque Division Meet @East Haven HS – 2 p.m.
 May 19 - Boys Hammonasset Division Meet @Hand HS - 3:30 p.m.
 May 20 - Boys Quinnipiac Division Meet @West Haven HS – 3:30 p.m.
 May 20 - Girls Oronoque Division Meet @East Haven HS – 2 p.m.
 May 20 - Girls Housatonic Division Meet @Cheshire HS – 3:30 p.m.
 May 21 - Girls Quinnipiac Division Meet @Hamden HS – 2:30 p.m.
 May 21 - Boys Housatonic Division Meet @Cheshire HS – 3:30 p.m.
 May 21 - Girls Hammonasset Division Meet @Hand HS – 3:30 p.m.
 May 26 - Girls "Field Events" @Sheehan HS – 2:30 p.m.
 May 26 - Boys "Field Events" @Amity HS – 2:30 p.m.
 May 27 - Boys/Girls "Running" Events @Sheehan HS – 1 p.m.

Golf

May 19 - SCC Championships @New Haven Country Club – 8 a.m.

Baseball

May 26 - Quarterfinals @Quigley Stadium & West Haven HS – 4 and 7 p.m.
 May 28 - Semifinals @Yale Field – 4 and 7 p.m.
 May 30 - Championship Game @Yale Field – 12 noon

Softball

May 26 - Quarterfinals @Higher Seeds
 May 27 - Semifinals @West Haven HS – 4 and 7 p.m.
 May 28 - Championship Game @West Haven HS – 7 p.m.

Boys Volleyball

May 26 - Semifinals @Higher Seeds
 May 28 - Championship Match @Site TBA – Time TBA

Boys Lacrosse

May 26 - Quarterfinals @Higher Seeds
 May 29 - Semifinals @Branford HS - 5 and 7:30 p.m.
 June 2 - Championship Game @Branford HS - 5 p.m.

Girls Lacrosse

May 26 - Quarterfinals @Higher Seeds
 May 28 - Semifinals @Hamden HS - 5 and 7 p.m.
 June 2 - Championship Game @Branford HS - 7 p.m.

Boys and Girls Tennis

May 26 - Quarterfinals @Higher Seeds – 3:30 p.m.
 May 27 - Semifinals @Yale University – 3:30 p.m.
 May 28 - Championship Matches @Yale University – 3:30 p.m.

SCC To Host 15th Year Golf Classic

Help celebrate the league's 15th year and round of golf at the New Haven Country Club

Monday, June 8, 2009

11:45 a.m. shotgun start

New Haven Country Club

160 Hartford Turnpike

Hamden, CT

Schedule

10:45 a.m. – Registration/Barbeque Lunch

11:45 a.m. – Shotgun Start

4:30 p.m. – Refreshments/Presentation of Awards

Format

Four-player scramble.

Team prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place (Net and Gross) teams

Individual awards - Long Drive contest as well as Closest to the Pin competition on all Par 3 holes.

Proper attire is required. No denim, please.

Individual Golfer Fee: \$150

Four-Person Team Fee: \$600

Fee Includes:

- * Green Fee and Cart
- * Tournament Gifts plus Goodie Bag
- * Barbeque Lunch plus refreshments on the course

Make checks payable to:

Southern Connecticut Conference

Mail payment: Al Carbone, SCC Commissioner
29 Parkway Drive, Stratford, CT 06614

*Payment can be made the day of the tournament, but please reserve your spot no later than **Monday, June 1** by calling (203) 671-4421.*



Sponsorship Opportunities

ALL PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT THE LEAGUE'S VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

The SCC is a 501c3 organization

Presenting Sponsor - \$1,500

Recognition as Presenting Sponsor of SCC 15th Year Golf Classic

- * Foursome to play golf plus invites to the *SCC Picnic* on Monday, June 15 @Anthony's Ocean View.
- * Prominent name and logo/signage in all tournament materials, on the golf course and on the SCC "15th year Golf Classic" webpage.
- * Name/logo on all tournament collateral (handouts, gifts, etc.)

Golf Cart Sponsor - \$500

- * 2 golfers plus invites to *SCC Picnic* on Monday, June 15 @Anthony's Ocean View
- * Name/Logo on all Golf Carts, and recognition in all Tournament materials and on SCC "15th Year Golf Classic" webpage.
- * Ability to provide collateral in gift bags given to all golfers

Lunch/Practice Range Sponsor - \$300

- * 1 golfer plus invite to *SCC Picnic* on Monday, June 15 @Anthony's Ocean View
- * Signage in lunch and practice range area
- * Name/Logo recognition in all Tournament materials and on SCC "15th Year Golf Classic" webpage.
- * Ability to provide collateral in gift bags given to all golfers

Tee Sponsor - \$100

- * Ability to provide collateral in gift bags given to all golfers