

SCC NEWS

Official Newsletter of the
Southern Connecticut Conference



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From the Commissioner's Desk

Happy Holidays!

With the holiday season upon, there are many things to be thankful for. The thirteenth year of the Southern Connecticut Conference has gotten off to a wonderful start with some great events like our highly-popular Diversity Training program and annual Student Leadership Conference.

Athletically, the SCC has also fared well, hosting some exciting athletic playoff contests in the fall, and four member-school teams captured state championships.

In addition, the SCC has embarked on a great partnership with the Sports Center of Connecticut to honor our league's top scholar-athletes. So far, we've honored forty-six very impressive student athletes with our monthly program.

Congratulations to everyone and continue the success!

The 2007 calendar year looks to be even more promising! In addition to our upcoming winter sports playoffs, the SCC will host its annual Cheerleading Competition, Arts Exhibition, Scholar-Leader Banquet, and for the second year, a Jazz Festival.

Have a safe and joyous holiday season and New Year!

Best wishes!
Al Carbone

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 2006-07 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 always well-appreciated!



New Haven Register



Diversity Dream Teams

Making A Difference In The SCC

Over 100 student leaders have formed "diversity dream teams" and become specially-trained advocates for valuing, appreciating and acknowledging diversity in their respective school communities within the SCC.

Under the direction of Branford High School Assistant Principal David Maloney, facilitators from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and English teachers from SCC member-schools are serving as catalysts, leading the students to promote acceptance, heighten communication and foster the appreciation for diversity.

Diversity Dream Team Goals

- To reduce racial isolation and offer selected SCC students a forum for dialogue and bridge-building across urban-suburban-rural geographical boundaries.
- To enhance the awareness of diversity by studying the complexities of prejudice and identify ways participants have experienced bias in their lives and in society.
- To challenge the stereotypes and biases which inhibit intergroup understanding and to provide techniques for combating these stereotypes and biases.
- To acquire cross-cultural and conflict resolution communication skills.
- To expose all participants to a rich array of viewpoints, perspectives, and experiences.
- To develop a "Plan of Action" to promote acceptance, heighten communication, and the appreciation of difference. writings along with each SCC school's action planning summary.

Recapping the 2006 Fall Sports Season

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

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

SCC Championship Meet - October 19 at Hammonasset State Park - Madison

Final Team Results: 1. Xavier, 28; 2. Amity, 45; 3. Guilford, 97; 4. Hand, 146; 5. Shelton, 147; 6. Cheshire, 178; 7. Notre Dame, 218; 8. Fairfield Prep, 232; 9. Branford, 258; 10. Lyman Hall, 303; 11. North Haven, 321; 12. East Haven 321; 13. Foran, 324; 14. Sheehan, 340; 15. Law, 385; 16. Hamden, 481; 17. West Haven, 530; 18. Wilbur Cross, 561; 19. Hillhouse, 585; 20. Derby, 624

Individual Champion: Adam Vess (Xavier), 16:11

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

SCC Championship Meet - October 19 at Hammonasset State Park - Madison

Final Team Results: 1. Guilford, 50; 2. Amity, 77; 3. Cheshire, 110; 4. Mercy, 113; 5. Shelton, 179; 6. Hamden, 180; 7. Hand, 196; 8. Branford, 207; 9. Foran, 233; 10. North Haven, 284; 11. Sheehan, 302; 12. Sacred Heart Academy, 320; 13. West Haven, 362; 14. Law, 366; 15. Lyman Hall, 388; 16. Derby, 452; 17. Hillhouse, 501; 18. East Haven, 507.

Individual Champion: Courtney Dinnan (Hamden), 19:22

FIELD HOCKEY

Regular-season Champion: Hand (10-0-0-0)

FOOTBALL

Division I East: Cheshire, West Haven (3-1)

Division I West: Fairfield Prep, Shelton (3-1)

Division II East: North Haven (4-0)

Division II West: Hillhouse (4-0)

GIRLS SWIMMING

SCC Championship Meet - November 3 at SCSU

Final Team Results: 1. Cheshire, 1003; 2. Branford, 648; 3. Amity, 548; 4. Hamden, 483; 5. Hand, 475; 6. Shelton, 289; 7. North Haven, 320; 8. Sacred Heart Academy, 196; 9. West Haven, 180; 10. Foran, 163; 10. Lyman Hall, 163; 12. Sheehan, 160; 13. Mercy, 152; 14. Law, 88; 15. East Haven 80; 16. Guilford, 52

Diving Champion: Jillian Westergard (North Haven): 337 points

BOYS SOCCER

Hammonasset: Guilford (4-1-1)

Housatonic: Cheshire (8-0)

Oronoque: Branford (8-1-1)

Quinnipiac: Xavier (6-2)

SCC Playoffs: Cheshire tied Xavier, 0-0, in the championship match on November 1.

GIRLS SOCCER

Hammonasset: Hand (5-1)

Housatonic: Amity (8-0)

Oronoque: North Haven (7-1)

Quinnipiac: Mercy (6-0)

SCC Playoffs: Amity defeated Mercy, 1-0, in the championship match on November 1.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Hammonasset: Law (8-0)

Housatonic: Shelton (7-1)

Oronoque: East Haven (8-0)

Quinnipiac: Mercy (6-0)

SCC Playoffs: Law defeated Cheshire, 3-0 (25-19, 25-18, 26-24) in the championship match on November 4.

SCC Teams Win Four State Titles in the Fall

Once again, SCC member-schools fared well on the playing fields. To start, 46 teams qualified for CIAC fall sport playoff competition in girls soccer (14), boys soccer (13), girls volleyball (11), and field hockey (8).

During the fall season, SCC teams won four state championships. Seven 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 243 state championships.

State Champions (4)

Sport	Class	School
Girls Cross Country	MM	Guilford
Girls Swimming	L	Branford
Girls Soccer	LL	Amity (co-champs)
Football	M	Hillhouse

Runners-Up (7)

Sport	Class	School
Boys Cross Country	M	Guilford
Field Hockey	M	Hand
Girls Swimming	Open	Cheshire
Girls Swimming	LL	Cheshire
Girls Soccer	L	Hand
Girls Volleyball	LL	Shelton
Girls Volleyball	M	Law

SCC Captains Council

The Captains Council luncheons 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 fall Captain Council session was held on September 11 and the guest speaker was Bob Trupin, a former standout basketball player at Yale University... Bob is a former teacher, athletic director who currently is a sports psychologist working with athletes of all ages... The winter Captains Council session was held on December 4 and the guest speaker was Maria Conlon (*pictured to right*)... A former three-time All-State basketball player at Seymour High School, Maria played four years at the University of Connecticut and was a part of the Lady Huskies' three consecutive national championships... A playing professionally overseas for a few years, Maria is currently an assistant coach at Southern Connecticut, one of the top Division II teams in the nation.



Student Leadership Conference Is Once Again a Big Success!

The 5th Annual SCC "Student Leadership Conference" was held on Monday, November 20 at Quinnipiac University... Over 190 student-leaders participated and "led" the conference, doing a tremendous job... The goal of the "SCC Student Leadership Conference" is to impart a sense of obligation and commitment upon the students to continue and enhance their roles as leaders and use these roles to better their surrounding environments... The theme of the 2006 conference was "**Student Leadership - One Voice for All**"... *Special thanks to Arlene Salvati for her leadership in the coordination of the event.*

SCC Football Notables

Division Parity - Since going to a four-divisional format in football, the SCC has crowned 12 different divisional champions... In 2006, four teams (Fairfield Prep, Shelton, Cheshire, and North Haven) won or shared titles for the first time... North Haven is the first Division II East team to go undefeated in division play.

Four Playoff Teams - Four SCC teams (Fairfield Prep and Shelton, Class LL; West Haven, Class L; and Hillhouse, Class M) earned berth in the 2006 CIAC Football Playoffs... The SCC tied the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) for the most playoff teams in the state.

Final Rankings - Two schools - Hillhouse and West Haven - were ranked in the top ten in all three final state football polls (*New Haven Register, Hartford Courant and New London Day*)...

No 50-Point Games: For the second straight season, the SCC did not experience any games decided by 50-point margins... Out of 106 contests involving SCC teams in 2006, there were zero games decided by 50+ points, seven by 40+ points, and 13 by 30+ points.

SCC Cheerleading Competition is Feb. 3

After a highly-successful inaugural event, the second SCC Cheerleading Competition is scheduled for Saturday, February 3, 2007 at Shelton High School... Defending champions are Shelton (15-over), Hamden (14-under) and Branford (Co-ed).

Fall All-Conference on SCC Website

The 2006 Fall Sports All-Conference and All-Division selections are available on each sports' respective home page on the SCC website - www.southernconnecticutconference.org

SportsCenter of CT/SCC Scholar Athlete of the Month Program

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 a total of 138 outstanding young men and women – six from each of the conference's 23 member schools during the 2006-07 academic year.



SEPTEMBER 2006 recipients

Kayla Naposki (Foran), Adam Zona (Foran), Christina Dias (Shelton), Timothy Pleines (Shelton), Ashley Driscoll, Amanda Varricchio (Mercy), Kate Yanagisawa (Amity Regional), Daniel Rothberg (Amity Regional), Anthony Amaya (Career), Deandra Sheppard-Myers (Career), Jaclyn Milici (Branford), Michael D'Amico (Branford), Megan Hochstrasser (Hamden), Matt Marcus (Hamden)

OCTOBER 2006 recipients

Justin Sagnella (Guilford), Laura Cantley (Guilford), Laura Carroll (Sacred Heart Academy), Emily Bucciferro (Sacred Heart Academy), Kelly Flood (Cheshire), Matthew Labonia (Cheshire), Marvin Batts (Hillhouse), Patricia Bellamy (Hillhouse), Michelle Meoli (East Haven), Nicholas Child (East Haven), Matt Cartoceti (Xavier), Joshua Lesse (Xavier), James Cersonsky (Notre Dame), Nicola D'Amato (Notre Dame), Sonia Gogliettino (Sheehan), Kevin Whalen (Sheehan)

NOVEMBER 2006 recipients

Michael Bagnoli (Hand), Brittany Jackson (Hand), Kailee Hyde (Derby), Thomas Izzo (Derby), Brian Wooley (Fairfield Prep), Kevin Lincoln (Fairfield Prep), Marc Gosselin (Jonathan Law), Cori Hannon (Jonathan Law), Ismail Orabi (Lyman Hall), Megan Ramsey (Lyman Hall), Matt Capozziello (North Haven), Rachel Hurwitz (North Haven), Orlando DeLarosa (Wilbur Cross), Laura Visocek (Wilbur Cross), Kristen Anderson (West Haven), Michael Bova (West Haven)