

# New Haven Register

## Fairfield Prep wins crown

By Chip Malafronte  
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Early on, it looked as if the third time would be the charm for the Notre Dame High of West Haven hockey team.

But Fairfield Prep, the No. 1 team in the Register Top 10 poll, once again relied on solid defense to carry it to victory.

The Jesuits (18-1-3) broke a 2-2 tie with two second-period goals by tournament MVP Tory Jacob en route to a 5-2 win in the finals of the inaugural Southern Connecticut Conference Division I tournament Saturday at Bennett Rink in West Haven.

"We may be guilty of not getting up for all of our games," Fairfield Prep coach Adolph Brink said. "But when the games count, those seem to be the ones we're ready for."

The Green Knights (15-6-1) have played the Jesuits strong in each of the three meetings between the teams this season, but have yet to consistently put the puck in the net against Prep goalie Scott Jacob.

Notre Dame had scored just two goals in the first two games against the Jesuits and has been outscored 11-4 in the three games.

Saturday, it looked as if the Green Knights had solved their offensive woes against Jacob. They scored the game's first goal just 38 seconds into the opening period when Matt Finkle stuffed in the loose puck into the net.

But Prep quickly answered on a slap shot from about 20 feet by defenseman Andy Townsend just 13 seconds later to even the score.

The Green Knights regained the lead when Pat Turbert scored off the rebound of Kyle Miller's shot with 8:27 to play in the first.

Fairfield Prep was able to tie the score at 2-2 with 2:35 to go in the period when John Heffers hit John Longo, who broke free and scored a breakaway goal.

The Jesuits scored the go-ahead goal on a power play with 7:38 remaining in the second period after Notre Dame's Mike O'Keefe was sent off for cross-checking.

Tory Jacob, who had a good scoring opportunity saved by sprawling Green Knights goalie Ryan Beauvais only seconds earlier, beat the junior goaltender with a wrist shot.

Tory Jacob added his second goal of the period with 3:28 left on a wrist shot off a pass from Rich Chu to make the score 4-2.

Chu scored on a rebound early in the third period to put the game out of reach at 5-2.

In the Division II final, it was all East Haven as the Yellowjackets, ranked No. 1 in the Register Top 10 poll with Fairfield Prep, scored five first-period goals and eight more in the second en route to a 14-2 win over Cheshire.

The Easties (21-0), outshot Cheshire 37-16 over the first two periods.

Tournament MVP Bob Coyle led the way with three goals while junior John Pellegrino added five assists, John Brangi two goals and four assists and Ron Ferrante two goals and three assists.

"Cheshire was dominating the first four minutes, but (goalie Craig) Michalowski was able to hold them off," East Haven coach Lou Pane said. "We scored the first couple of goals and turned it around at that point."