

SCC NEWS



Official Newsletter of the Southern Connecticut Conference

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DECEMBER 2007

From the Commissioner's Desk

Happy Holidays! It's been another positive start for our 14-year-old conference. The SCC Diversity Dream Teams program, under the direction of Dave Maloney, is well underway and, once again, full of enthusiasm and promise to promote diversity and understanding in each of our school communities.

Athletically, the conference fared well in the fall, hosting some exciting playoff contests and also, our first-ever Unified Sports® event! To top it off, three of our member school teams (Guilford girls and Hand boys cross country, and Cheshire girls volleyball) captured state championships.

The SCC has continued its great partnership with the Sports Center of Connecticut to honor our league's top scholar-athletes. So far, we've honored 43 very impressive student athletes.

Congratulations to everyone and keep up the great work!

The 2008 calendar year looks to be even more promising! In addition to our upcoming winter sports playoffs, the SCC will host its annual Cheerleading Competition, an Unified Sports® basketball event, its annual Arts Exhibition and Scholar-Leader banquet, and for the third 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 2007-08 academic year, including the NewAlliance Foundation, The United Illuminating Company, New Haven Register, Boathouse Sports and The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 478. Their support is always well-appreciated!



New Haven Register



NewAlliance Foundation



Dick's Sporting Goods Partnership Benefits SCC

The SCC and Dick's Sporting Goods, the nation's top sports and fitness retailer, announced a partnership for the 2007-08 academic year.

Dick's will offer special discount coupons at all SCC playoff contests and selected league events.

Dick's has also provided information to SCC member schools with basketball and football programs about team shoe and apparel discount programs.

"Dick's Sporting Goods believes that sports play a vital role in teaching children fundamental values like a strong work ethic, teamwork and good sportsmanship," said Jeff Toler, Dick's Sporting Goods Community Marketing Manager. "Being involved in the communities in which we do business and especially with the kids in those communities is a fundamental part of who we are as a company. Through our partnership with the SCC, we hope to continue this initiative."

"Many thanks to Jeff Toler and Dick's Sporting Goods for their support of the SCC," SCC Commissioner Al Carbone added. "It's refreshing that Dick's values the same ideals our league and member schools do."

Dick's has 300 stores nationwide, including eight in Connecticut - Milford, Waterford, Meriden, Plainville, Newington, Canton, Manchester and Enfield - and 300 nationwide.

For more information on Dick's community programs, please contact Jeff at (800) 690-7655, ext.4157 or jeff.toler@dcsq.com.

Recapping the 2007 Fall Sports Season

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

BOYS SOCCER

Hammonasset: Guilford (6-0)
Housatonic: Cheshire, Sheehan (6-1-1)
Oronoque: Wilbur Cross (7-1-2)
Quinnipiac: Xavier (7-1)
SCC Playoffs: Cheshire defeated Xavier, 2-1, in the championship match on November 1.

GIRLS SOCCER

Hammonasset: Hand (6-0)
Housatonic: Cheshire (8-0)
Oronoque: Branford (8-0)
Quinnipiac: Mercy (5-1)
SCC Playoffs: Cheshire defeated Mercy, 2-0, in the championship match on November 1.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

SCC Championship Meet - October 18 at Hammonasset State Park - Madison
Final Team Results: 1. Shelton, 69; 2. Amity, 81; 3. Hand, 91; 4. Xavier, 143; 5. Guilford, 172; 6. Cheshire, 191; 7. Branford, 200; 8. Fairfield Prep, 207; 9. North Haven, 243; 10., Notre Dame, 245; 11. Hamden, 251; 12. Jonathan Law, 282; 13. Foran, 334; 14. East Haven, 432; 15. Sheehan, 447; 16. Lyman Hall, 450; 17. Wilbur Cross, 464; 18. Hillhouse, 562; 19. West Haven, 583
Individual Champion: Forrest Misenti (Xavier), 16:11

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

SCC Championship Meet - October 18 at Hammonasset State Park - Madison
Final Team Results: 1. Guilford, 46; 2. Amity, 56; 3. Shelton, 103; 4. Cheshire, 126; 5. Mercy, 159; 6. Hamden, 179; 7. Hand, 186; 8. Branford, 239; 9. Sacred Heart Academy, 255; 10. Jonathan Law, 273; 11. Sheehan, 309; 12. Foran, 332; 13. North Haven, 359; 14. West Haven, 369; 15. East Haven, 410; 16. Hillhouse, 435.
Individual Champion: Courtney Dinnan (Hamden), 19:27

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Hammonasset: Law, Hand (7-1)
Housatonic: Amity (7-1)
Oronoque: North Haven, Branford, East Haven (6-2)
Quinnipiac: Sacred Heart Academy (6-0)
SCC Playoffs: Amity defeated Cheshire, 3-0 (25-23, 25-15, 25-19) in the championship match on November 3.

FOOTBALL

Division I East: Hand (4-0)
Division I West: Shelton (4-0)
Division II East: North Haven (4-0)
Division II West: Jonathan Law (4-0)

FIELD HOCKEY

Regular-season Champions: Hand, Branford (9-0-1-0)

GIRLS SWIMMING

SCC Championship Meet - November 1 at SCSU
Final Team Results: 1. Cheshire, 1151; 2. Amity, 596; 3. Branford, 468; 4. Shelton, 463; 5. Hand, 401.5; 6. North Haven, 303; 7. Sacred Heart Academy, 291; 8. Mercy, 266; 9. Hamden, 254; 10. Foran, 175; 11. West Haven, 139; 12. Sheehan, 138; 13. Jonathon Law, 99; 14. Lyman Hall, 92.5; 15. East Haven 78; 16. Guilford, 53
Diving Champion: Amy Hudak (Cheshire), 340.55 points

Fall All-Conference on SCC Website

The 2007 Fall Sports All-Conference and All-Division selections are available on each sports' respective home page on the SCC website - www.southernconnecticutconference.org

SCC Teams Win Three State Titles in the Fall

Once again, SCC member-schools fared well on the playing fields. Forty-six out of a possible 68 teams qualified for CIAC fall sport playoff competition in girls soccer (13-of-18), boys soccer (15-of-20), girls volleyball (12-of-19), and field hockey (6-of-11).

During the fall season, SCC teams won three state championships. Five additional teams earned runner-up status in CIAC state competition during the fall campaign. 11 more teams reached the semifinal round of their respective sport divisions.

Since the league's inception in 1994, SCC schools have now won 252 state championships.

State Champions (3)

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

Runners-Up (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 |



Hillhouse athletic director Tom Dyer (standing) speaks with a group of SCC boys indoor track captains.

SCC Captains Council Held on December 3

The SCC winter sports Captains Council luncheon, which brings together the captains of the 23 member schools before their respective seasons to provide guidance of what it means to be a captain and the responsibility that comes with the position, was held on Monday, December 3 at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven... Nearly 375 student-athletes attended the session... A series of discussion questions were distributed to the captains, who sat with their peers from their respective sports, revolving around the topics of the role of a captain, sportsmanship and school spirit.

On the Tube: MSG Televises SCC Contest

On Friday, September 28, the Shelton-Fairfield Prep football game was televised on MSG... It was the first time two SCC schools were showcased on the highly-popular regional sports network... In front of an enthusiastic crowd of 6,000, the Gaels nipped the Jesuits, 26-21... The game and telecast was deemed as "one of the best ever" by Mike Quick, MSG's high school sports director.

Cheshire Girls Swimming Sets Record

With a 112-66 victory over Branford on Monday, October 15, the Cheshire girls swimming team set the national record with its 235 consecutive dual-meet victory... Elkhart Central High in Indiana had won 234 in a row (1980-94)... Coincidentally, Cheshire beat Branford in the last meet of the regular season in 1986 to start the streak.

Amity's Ehorn Earns Gatorade Honor

Amity senior girls volleyball standout Janice Ehorn was named Gatorade's Connecticut State Player of the Year... Ehorn, who was also named the All-Area MVP by both the *New Haven Register* and *Connecticut Post* this fall, led the Spartans to the SCC championship this fall.

Hand and Career Recognized by U.S. News & World Report

In a recent issue of *U.S. News & World Report*, two SCC member schools - Daniel Hand and Career Magnet - were recognized with "silver" and "bronze" stars respectively in an assessment of the nation's top high schools... Congratulations to principal Barbara Britton (Hand) and Michael Ceraso (Career) and their staffs for a wonderful accolade.

SCC Hosts Unified Sports® Event

The SCC hosted its first Unified Sports® event - a soccer tournament - on Friday, October 12 at Amity Regional High School... Participate schools included Amity, Cheshire, West Haven, East Haven and Wilbur Cross... Many thanks to Jon Capone, athletic director at West Haven High School, for his coordination of the event... The SCC will host a basketball tournament on Monday, February 4 at 3:30 p.m. at the New Haven Athletic Center with eight schools scheduled to participate... "Many of our member schools participate in Unified Sports®, so it makes sense for our league to host an event," said SCC Commissioner Al Carbone. "Unified Sports® is a program that fits nicely with our league's mission to offer positive opportunities for our students and we look forward to more events like this in the future."

SportsCenter of CT/SCC Scholar Athlete of the Month Program

For the second straight year, the SCC is partnering with the The SportsCenter of Connecticut (www.sportscenterct.com) with a Scholar Athlete of the Month program... The SportsCenter of Connecticut/SCC Scholar Athlete of the Month program will recognize over 135 outstanding young men and women during 2007-08.



NOVEMBER 2007

Courtney Stagers (Hillhouse, volleyball), Paul Corona (Hillhouse, football), Tracy Dabakis (Sacred Heart Academy, volleyball), Callie Zwahlen (Sacred Heart Academy, swimming), Gary Barbour (Career, soccer), Martza Rosemond (Career, volleyball), Curtis Gullette (Guilford, soccer), Madeline Small (Guilford, field hockey), John Santoro (Notre Dame, football), Peter Tinari (Notre Dame, cross country), Durval Pereira (Cheshire, soccer), Irene Kalbian (Cheshire, cross country), Ryan Katon (Xavier, football), Nick Kelly (Xavier, soccer), Morgan Dwyer (North Haven, volleyball), Eric Spose (North Haven, soccer)

OCTOBER 2007

Jennifer O'Neil (Mercy, soccer), Samantha Sitler (Mercy, swimming), Joseph Greenspun (Amity, cross country), Catherine Evans (Amity, swimming), Keith Sansone (Shelton, cross country), Shannon Beach (Shelton, volleyball), Ethan Ritz (Foran, cross country), Rachel Liontas (Foran, swimming), Shane Lange (Branford, football), Chelsea Sheehan (Branford, field hockey), Courtney Dinnan (Hamden, cross country), Aaron Cubells (Hamden, cross country), Matt Kellas (East Haven, soccer), Gabriele Pane (East Haven, soccer)

SEPTEMBER 2007

David Birdsall (Daniel Hand, cross country), Brittany Jackson (Daniel Hand, soccer), Zachary Hahn (Derby, football), Sarah Timpko (Derby, soccer), Colin Nevins (Fairfield Prep, crew), John Cunningham (Fairfield Prep, football), Colleen O'Flynn (Jonathan Law, volleyball), Will Turner (Jonathan Law, football), David Jordan (Lyman Hall, football), Katie Mantie (Lyman Hall, soccer), Jamal Howard (West Haven, soccer), Stacey Williams (West Haven, soccer), Zhuiyang "Dean" Chen (Wilbur Cross, soccer)