

Official Newsletter of the Southern Connecticut Conference



From the Commissioner's Desk

What a year in the Southern Connecticut Conference! The success on and off the playing fields has been well documented and publicized. For a complete recap, check out the *2011-12 SCC Year in Review*, which is available on the league's website at www.southernconnecticutconference.org.

"Everything must change except the need for change."

With this phenomenal success, how do we, as a league, keep getting better? Last fall, I posed this question to our league administrators in a presentation called "A Strategic Look at the SCC." I asked how we could implement changes that would enhance how we operate this league going forward while strengthening the value of membership for our schools and students.

Any kind of change is difficult, especially when there has been success (and the SCC has had immeasurable success in its 18 years of existence). However, the league needs to plan for, and effectively react, to the various challenges and opportunities that lie upon us – things like improving league-wide communications; increasing the exposure of the SCC brand; being fiscally responsible; having fair and competitive sport scheduling; and creating value-added student activities and recognition.

That being said, this past year the SCC made significant progress. A few examples: corporate sponsorship support increased; the league streamlined financial reporting for its activities; there was ample discussion (and some changes made) at the coach and administrator levels about sports scheduling formats; and the league enhanced the quality of its postseason tournament experience. Many more ideas and opportunities were discussed (and will keep being discussed) to keep the SCC at a high level and as *"One League, not 22 Schools."*

Best wishes for a safe and relaxing summer.

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Thanks to Our League's Corporate Sponsors...



SportsCenter of CT/SCC Scholar Athlete of the Month Program

For the sixth year, the SCC partnered with the The SportsCenter of Connecticut (www.sportscenterct.com) on a Scholar Athlete of the Month program. Below are the final three months of recipients. All told, 105 student-athletes were recognized during the 2011-12 academic year.

MARCH 2012 recipients

Chris Stachurski (Fairfield Prep, outdoor track & field), Ben Morrison (Fairfield Prep, golf), Mark Berretta (West Haven, outdoor track & field), Alyssa Perez (West Haven, tennis), Jacquelin Ferraiolo (Amity, softball), Alex Marieb (Amity, golf), Rick Spencer (Daniel Hand, baseball), Will Crisco (Daniel Hand, wrestling), Valerie Hiller (Jonathan Law, outdoor track & field), Matt Ferraiolo (Jonathan Law, baseball)



APRIL 2012 recipients

Mason Passavant (Xavier, ultimate frisbee), Alexandra Ottochian (Sheehan, softball), Tim Earley (Sheehan, tennis), Rebecca Mahoney (Guilford, softball), Ryder Miconi (Guilford, baseball), Sara Richardson (Mercy, lacrosse), Austin Connell (Branford, outdoor track & field), Madison Birney (Branford, outdoor track & field), Colin Conte (Notre Dame, lacrosse), Patrick Hayes (Notre Dame, outdoor track & field)

MAY 2012 recipients

William Maloney (Shelton, outdoor track & field), Emily Komornik (Shelton, softball), Jeff Sherwood (Lyman Hall, baseball), Emily Newhard (Lyman Hall, tennis), Jake Sussman (Career, baseball), Brianna Longley (Career, softball), Amariah Lem (East Haven, tennis), Tim Dessureau (East Haven, tennis), Nicole Casasanta (Sacred Heart Academy, lacrosse), Teal Howard (Hamden, tennis), Clare Ryan (Hamden, softball), Jaime Kader (Foran, tennis), Shawn Cariglio (Foran, baseball)

The SportsCenter of Connecticut offers an exciting and unique venue of family fun, team building events, and professional lessons for golf and ice skating/hockey! Located at 784 River Road (Route 110) in Shelton, the Sports Center of Connecticut offers and a premier weather-protected golf practice facility, 18-hole miniature golf course, baseball & softball batting stadium, lazer tag arena, game zone, fun bowl and the world's only double-decker ice arena. For more information, visit www.sportscenterct.com.

Arts Exhibition Held at Creative Arts Workshop *Ten students recognized*

The **SCC Student Arts Exhibition** was held the week of April 30 to May 4 at the Creative Arts Workshop in downtown New Haven.

The exhibition featured more than 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.

A grand opening of the show with refreshments and award presentations was held on May 1. Prizes were awarded by a jury of professional artists and arts administrators coordinated through CAW Executive Director Susan Smith.

2012 SCC Arts Exhibition Awards

1st Place: Katherine Glusac, Amity Regional

2nd Place: Gretchen Czara, Branford

3rd Place: Katherine Chester, Lyman Hall

4th Place: Alessandra Hogan, Wilbur Cross

5th Place: Tiffany Li, Daniel Hand

Honorable Mention: Cassandra VanHorn (New Haven), Rebecca Caravello (Sheehan), Alexzander Ailes (Notre Dame), Rexford Hoadley (Fairfield Prep), Sarah Gavagan (Guilford)



Katherine Glusac of Amity Regional High School won first prize in the 2012 SCC Arts Exhibition (photo by Bill O'Brien).

Recapping the 2012 Spring Sports Season

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

BOYS & GIRLS OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

East Sectional Meet – May 14 @Amity Regional HS

Boys Final Team Results: 1. Amity, 139; 2. Cheshire, 103; 3. Shelton, 96; 4. Jonathan Law, 87; 5. Daniel Hand, 83; 6. Sheehan, 62; 7. Lyman Hall, 46; 8. Hillhouse, 42; 9. Foran, 19; 10. Guilford, 18

Girls Final Team Results: 1. Hillhouse, 154; 2. Amity, 112; 3. Daniel Hand, 92; 4. Cheshire, 80; 5. Shelton, 66; 6. Guilford, 63; 7. Sheehan, 57; 8. Jonathan Law, 41; 9. Lyman Hall, 25; 10. Foran, 11

West Sectional Meet – May 16 @Amity Regional HS

Boys Final Team Results: 1. Branford, 131; 2. Xavier, 130; 3. North Haven, 105; 4. Hamden, 95; 5. Fairfield Prep, 87; 6. West Haven, 57; 7. Wilbur Cross, 41; 8. Notre Dame, 25; 9. Career, 16; 10. East Haven, 3

Girls Final Team Results: 1. Wilbur Cross, 144; 2. North Haven, 111; 3. Mercy, 93.5; 4. Branford, 82; 5. East Haven, 79.5; 6. Hamden, 61; 7. Career, 57; 8. Sacred Heart Academy, 54; 9. West Haven, 11

Championship Meet – Monday, May 21 @Sheehan HS

Boys Final Team Results: 1. Amity, 84; 2. Xavier, 77; 3. Shelton, 65; 4. Cheshire, 62; 5. Hamden, 57; 6. North Haven, 47; 7. Jonathan Law, 46.5; 8. Daniel Hand, 38.5; 9. Fairfield Prep, 37; 10. Sheehan, 35; 11. Branford, 34; 12. Lyman Hall, 28.5; 13. West Haven, 27; 14. Hillhouse, 25; 15. Wilbur Cross, 14; 16. Foran, 13.5; 17. Notre Dame, 9; 18. Guilford, 2

Girls Final Team Results: 1. Hillhouse, 130; 2. Amity, 87; 3. Daniel Hand, 72; 4. Wilbur Cross, 45; 4. North Haven, 45; 6. Cheshire, 44; 7. Shelton, 41; 8. Guilford, 36; 9. Mercy, 35; 10. Sheehan, 31; 10. Branford, 31; 12. Hamden, 26; 13. East Haven, 23.5; 14. Career, 22; 15. Sacred Heart Academy, 10; 16. Lyman Hall, 8; 17. Foran, 6; 17. Jonathan Law, 6; 19. West Haven, 3.5

GIRLS TENNIS

Division I regular-season champion: Daniel Hand (7-0)

Division II regular-season champion: Foran (8-0)

Championship Match – May 25 @Yale University

Daniel Hand 5, Amity 2

BOYS TENNIS

Division I regular-season champion: Amity, Cheshire, Daniel Hand (6-1)

Division II regular-season champion: Foran (7-0)

Championship Match – May 25 @Yale University

Amity 4, Cheshire 3



Daniel Hand captured the 2012 SCC girls tennis title – its fourth SCC title in the last five years (photo by Bill O'Brien).

BOYS LACROSSE

Regular-season champion: Fairfield Prep (7-0)

Championship Game – May 25 @Branford HS

Fairfield Prep 11, Daniel Hand 1

GIRLS LACROSSE

Regular-season champion: Cheshire (6-0)

Championship Game – May 25 @Branford HS

Cheshire 18, Guilford 9

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Regular-season champion: Cheshire (8-0)

Championship Match – May 24 @Cheshire HS

Cheshire 3, Xavier 0 (25-22, 25-18, 25-19)

BASEBALL

Division Champions

Oronoque: Branford (7-1)

Hammonasset: Guilford, Foran (4-2)

Housatonic: Shelton, Amity (7-1)

Quinnipiac: Notre Dame (7-1)

Championship Game – May 26 @Yale Field

Amity 2, Shelton 1

– continued on page 4

Spring Recap continued...SOFTBALL**Division Champions****Oronoque:** North Haven (8-0)**Hammonasset:** Foran, Jonathan Law (7-1)**Housatonic:** Amity (7-1)**Quinnipiac:** Mercy (6-0)**Championship Game – May 26 @ Biondi Field - West Haven HS**

Foran 7, Amity 6

GOLF**Division Champions****Oronoque:** North Haven (8-0)**Hammonasset:** Daniel Hand (8-0)**Housatonic:** Amity (7-1)**Quinnipiac:** Xavier (6-0)**Championship – May 29 @ Racebrook Country Club****Final Team Results:** 1. Xavier (307), 2. Daniel Hand (311), 3. Amity (318), 4. Shelton (324), 5. Fairfield Prep (334), 6. Cheshire (336), 7. Notre Dame (341), 8. North Haven (341), 9. Guilford (357)**Medalist:** Brian Carlson (Daniel Hand), +1 (72)**Other Top Finishers:** Geoff Vartelas (Xavier), +2 (73), Eric Dietrich (Cheshire), +4 (75), Eric Austin (Notre Dame), +4 (75), Alex Marieb (Amity), +4 (75), Geoff DeVille (Xavier), +5 (76), Ryan Moore (Guilford), +5 (76)

Xavier captured the 2012 SCC golf title on May 29 at Racebrook Country Club.

SCC Quartet Earn Athlete of the Year Honors

Four student-athletes from SCC schools earned “Athlete of the Year” honors from two local newspapers. Cheshire indoor and outdoor track & field/football star **Jake Scinto** and Hillhouse girls basketball standout **Bria Holmes** were named the Athletes of the Year by the *New Haven Register*.

In addition, Cheshire field hockey/lacrosse star **Maria Blois** and Xavier football/wrestling standout **Sean Marinan** earned similar accolades from the *Hartford Courant*.

SCC Partners with ScoreTrax

First HS League in State to Use Text Messaging Score Service

The Southern Connecticut Conference became the first high school league in the state of Connecticut to utilize a text-messaging score update service.

The SCC partnered with **ScoreTrax** to bring text-message updates about the league’s 2012 spring sports championships, held May 21 to 29.

In all, the SCC hosted more than 40 playoff contests and utilized the ScoreTrax system to give fans up-to-date scores.

“This is another reason why the SCC is so advanced in using the available technology to reach out and provide the latest information about our league events, member schools and teams,” explained SCC Commissioner Al Carbone.

“Hopefully our member schools and their teams will take

advantage of this partnership for their own use.”

Score Trax (www.scoretrax.com) is a free subscription service that allows sports fans to stay up-to-date with scores and news from their favorite teams.

Fans simply create their accounts/choose their teams, and ScoreTrax does the rest.

Teams, schools and conferences can build their subscriber bases, upload their schedules, input their content using a convenient game template tools and manage local advertising campaigns.

ScoreTrax provides multiple revenue-generating opportunities for teams, as well as effective, targeted

advertising channels for companies of all types.



SCC Teams Win Record 25 State Titles

349

Since the league's inception in 1994, SCC schools have now won 349 state championships.

Once again, SCC member-schools fared extremely well on the playing fields. During the 2011-12 academic year, SCC teams won a league-record 25 state championships (tying the league record set back in 1996-97). Nineteen additional teams earned runner-up status in CIAC state competition.

STATE CHAMPIONS (25)

SPRING (7)

Girls Outdoor Track & Field – Class MM – Hillhouse
Girls Tennis – Class M – Daniel Hand – *defeated East Lyme, 7-0*
Golf – Division II – Daniel Hand
Boys Volleyball – Class L – Cheshire – *defeated Ridgefield, 3-1 (25-20, 25-18, 20-25, 25-21)*
Softball – Class LL – Amity – *defeated Southington, 10-6*
Boys Lacrosse – Class L – Fairfield Prep – *defeated Ridgefield, 8-6*
Baseball – Class LL – Shelton – *defeated South Windsor, 7-2*

WINTER (12)

Boys Ice Hockey – Division I – Notre Dame – *defeated Glastonbury, 5-0*
Boys Basketball – Class L – Career – *defeated Northwest Catholic, 51-49*
Girls Ice Hockey – West Hartford – *defeated New Canaan, 3-2, in OT*
Boys Indoor Track – Class M – Hillhouse
Girls Indoor Track – Class M – Hillhouse
Girls Indoor Track – State Open – Hillhouse
Wrestling – Class L – Daniel Hand
Wrestling – Class LL – Xavier
Wrestling – State Open – Xavier
Coed Cheerleading – Shelton
Boys Swimming – Class LL – Fairfield Prep
Boys Swimming – State Open – Fairfield Prep

FALL (6)

Football – Class LL – Xavier *defeated Staples, 42-7*
Football – Class L – Daniel Hand *defeated New Canaan, 34-10*
Field Hockey – Class L – Cheshire *defeated Norwalk, 1-0*
Boys Cross Country – State Open – Fairfield Prep
Boys Cross Country – Class LL – Fairfield Prep
Girls Cross Country – Class MM – Guilford

State Championship Facts: In 2011-12, SCC member schools tied a league-record with 25 state championships (1996-97 was the other). It was the third straight year that the league won 22 or more state titles.

Eleven Schools Won Titles: Eleven different SCC schools won state titles in 2011-12 with Hillhouse and Fairfield Prep each capturing the most with five state titles... Daniel Hand won four state titles, while Xavier won three during the year.

STATE RUNNER-UPS (19)

SPRING (6)

Girls Lacrosse – Class L – Cheshire – *lost to Greenwich, 9-8*
Boys Tennis – Class L – Daniel Hand
Girls Outdoor Track & Field – State Open – Hillhouse
Golf – Division I – Amity
Golf – Division I – Xavier
Softball – Class L – Foran – *lost to Rockville, 3-2*

WINTER (7)

Boys Basketball – Class LL – Hillhouse – *lost to St. Joseph, 62-54*
Girls Basketball – Class LL – Mercy – *lost to Newtown, 44-42*
Boys Ice Hockey – Division II – Branford – *lost to Trumbull, 5-3*
Boys Indoor Track – State Open – Hillhouse
Gymnastics – Class M – Daniel Hand
Girls Indoor Track – Class M – Career
Wrestling – State Open – Daniel Hand

FALL (6)

Field Hockey – Class M – Branford – *lost to Wilton, 2-1*
Boys Cross Country – State Open – Xavier
Girls Cross Country – State Open – Guilford
Girls Cross Country – Class M – Hillhouse
Girls Swimming – Class LL – Amity
Girls Swimming – Class M – Branford

A History of Success

In 2011-12, seven SCC teams finished as the #1 team in their respective sports' season-ending media or coaches polls. That brings the total to 17 in the last three years.

Boys Cross Country – Fairfield Prep
Field Hockey – Cheshire
Football – Xavier
Ice Hockey – Notre Dame
Wrestling – Xavier
Boys Volleyball – Cheshire
Baseball – Shelton