

Official Newsletter of the Southern Connecticut Conference

## From the Commissioner's Desk

Greetings! I hope everyone is having a wonderful and relaxing summer as we gear up for our 20th year.

The 2012-13 academic year was another successful one for the league in all facets. Thank you to our league administrators, coaches, student-athletes and sponsors for their support and interest. As a result, we were able to achieve some positive results that clearly differentiate the SCC as the top high school conference in the state!

That being said, it is a good time to reflect on what has happened since the idea of this mega-conference (as some would call it) originated back in the early 1990's. And looking back over these 20 years, we've worked through the various challenges – academically, socially and athletically – to achieve some phenomenal success. We all should be proud of this! However, we also must be ready to keep moving forward and looking for ways to get better in our second 20 years.

Congratulations to everyone and let's continue the success!

All the best!



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## Thanks to Our League's Corporate Sponsors...



# Recapping the 2012–13 Spring Sports Season

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

## BOYS OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

West Sectional – May 13 @Amity Regional HS

**Final Team Results:** 1. Branford, 164.5; 2. Xavier, 145.5; 3. North Haven, 107.5; 4. Hamden, 78.5; 5. Fairfield Prep, 63; 6. West Haven, 53; 7. Wilbur Cross, 48; 8. Notre Dame, 18; 9. East Haven, 13; 10. Career, 7

East Sectional – May 14 @Amity Regional HS

**Final Team Results:** 1. Amity, 180.5; 2. Daniel Hand, 114; 3. Shelton, 97; 4. Cheshire, 79.5; 5. Jonathan Law, 68.5; 6. Sheehan, 67; 7. Lyman Hall, 30.5; 8. Hillhouse, 28; 9. Foran, 22; 10. Guilford, 11

SCC Championships – May 21 @Sheehan HS

**Final Team Results:** 1. Amity, 109; 2. Xavier, 93; 3. Branford, 73.5; 4. Shelton, 58; 5. Fairfield Prep, 54; 6. Daniel Hand, 46; 7. North Haven, 37; 8. Hamden, 36; 9. West Haven, 36; 10. Cheshire, 31.5; 11. Jonathan Law, 30.5; 12. Sheehan, 27; 13. Hillhouse, 19; 14. Wilbur Cross, 16; 15. Foran, 14; 16. Lyman Hall, 9.5; 17. Career, 5; 17. Notre Dame, 5; 19. East Haven, 1; 19. Guilford, 1



## GIRLS OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

West Sectional – May 13 @Amity Regional HS

**Final Team Results:** 1. North Haven, 128.5; 2. Branford, 123.5; 3. Mercy, 95.5; 4. East Haven, 87; 5. Career, 71; 6. Wilbur Cross, 66; 7. Sacred Heart Academy, 59.5; 8. Hamden, 37; 9. West Haven, 24

East Sectional – May 14 @Amity Regional HS

**Final Team Results:** 1. Amity, 130.5; 2. Hillhouse, 124; 3. Cheshire, 113; 4. Daniel Hand, 88.5; 5. Shelton, 82; 6. Sheehan, 51.5; 7. Jonathan Law, 49.5; 8. Guilford, 38; 9. Lyman Hall, 16; 10. Foran, 9

SCC Championships – May 21 @Sheehan HS

**Girls Final Team Results:** 1. Amity Regional, 119; 2. Hillhouse, 96; 3. Shelton, 73; 4. Cheshire, 70.5; 5. Daniel Hand, 46; 6. Wilbur Cross, 42; 7. North Haven, 36; 8. Mercy, 32; 9. Branford, 29; 10. Sacred Heart Academy, 27; 11. Career, 24; 11. Sheehan, 24; 13. East Haven, 19; 14. Guilford, 17.5; 15. West Haven 13; 16. Hamden, 11; 17. Jonathan Law, 10; 18. Lyman Hall, 7; 19. Foran, 6



## BOYS VOLLEYBALL

Regular-Season champion: Cheshire (7-1)

SCC Playoffs

**Semifinals – May 21 @Higher Seeds**

#1 Cheshire 3, #4 Shelton 2 (25-23, 20-25, 25-23, 18-25, 20-18)

#3 Amity 3, #2 Xavier 1 (20-25, 25-16, 25-14, 26-24)

**Championship Game – May 23 @Cheshire HS**

Cheshire 3, Amity 0 (25-23, 25-16, 25-20)



Cheshire captured its fourth straight SCC boys volleyball title (photo by John Wood).

## BOYS LACROSSE

Regular-Season champion: Fairfield Prep (9-0)

SCC Playoffs

**Semifinals - May 21 @Daniel Hand HS**

#1 Fairfield Prep 15, #4 Daniel Hand 11

#2 Guilford 8, #3 Xavier 7

**Championship Game - May 23 @West Haven HS**

#1 Fairfield Prep 13, #2 Guilford 6



## GIRLS LACROSSE

Regular-Season champion: Cheshire (10-0)

SCC Playoffs

**Semifinals – May 21 @Hamden HS**

#1 Cheshire 19, #4 Branford 8

#2 Daniel Hand 13, #3 Guilford 11

**Championship Game – May 23 @West Haven HS**

Cheshire 17, Daniel Hand 14



## GOLF

Divisional Champions

**Hammonasset:** Daniel Hand (8-0)

**Quinnipiac:** Xavier (5-1)

**Housatonic:** Cheshire (7-1)

**Oronoque:** North Haven (8-0)



SCC Championship – May 28

@Racebrook Country Club – Orange (par 71)

**Final Team Results:** 1. Daniel Hand, 311; 2. Cheshire, 318; 3. Notre Dame, 322; 4. Amity, 330; 5. Fairfield Prep, 333; 6. Guilford, 334; 7. Xavier, 337; 8. Shelton, 349; 9. North Haven, 366

**Medalist:** Brian Carlson (Daniel Hand), 71;

## Continued: Recapping the 2012–13 Spring Sports Season

### BASEBALL

Divisional Champions

**Hammonasset:** Daniel Hand (4-2)

**Housatonic:** Amity (7-1)

**Oronoque:** North Haven (7-1)

**Quinnipiac:** Xavier (8-0)

#### SCC Playoffs

**Quarterfinals – Tuesday, May 21 @ Higher Seeds**

#1 Xavier 14, #8 Daniel Hand 5

#2 Amity Regional 5, #7 West Haven 3

#3 Fairfield Prep 4, #6 Notre Dame 3

#4 North Haven 5, #5 Shelton 3

*The semifinals/championship game were cancelled due to the weather.*

### SOFTBALL

Divisional Champions

**Hammonasset:** Foran, Daniel Hand (7-1)

**Housatonic:** Amity (8-0)

**Oronoque:** East Haven (7-1)

**Quinnipiac:** Mercy (6-0)

#### SCC Playoffs

**Quarterfinals – Tuesday, May 21 @ Higher Seeds**

#1 Mercy 6, #8 North Haven 1

#2 East Haven 4, #7 Jonathan Law 0

#6 Foran 1, #3 Daniel Hand 0

#4 Amity Regional 2, #5 Cheshire 1

**Semifinals – Thursday, May 23 @ Biondi Field**

#1 Mercy 2, #4 Amity 1

#6 Foran 3, #2 East Haven 1

**Championship – May 26 @ Biondi Field**

Mercy 4, Foran 1

### GIRLS TENNIS

Regular-season Champions

**Division I:** Amity (7-0)

**Division II:** Cheshire (8-0)

#### SCC Division I Playoffs

**Quarterfinals – May 20 @ Higher Seeds**

#3 North Haven 6, #6 Shelton 1

#4 Guilford 6, #5 Sheehan 1

**Semifinals – May 21 @ Yale University Tennis Courts**

#1 Amity 5, #4 Guilford 2

#2 Daniel Hand 4, #3 North Haven 3

**Championship Match - May 22 @ Yale University Tennis Courts**

Daniel Hand 5, Amity 2



*Daniel Hand captured its fifth SCC girls tennis title in the last six years (photo by Bill O'Brien).*



#### SCC Division II Playoffs

**Quarterfinals – May 20 @ Higher Seeds**

#3 Sacred Heart Academy 5, #6 Hamden 2

#4 Lyman Hall 4, #5 Jonathan Law 3

**Semifinals – May 21 @ Yale University Tennis Courts**

#1 Cheshire 6, #4 Lyman Hall 1

#2 Branford 6, #3 Sacred Heart Academy 1

**Championship Match – May 22 @ Yale University Tennis Courts**

Cheshire 6, Branford 1

### BOYS TENNIS

Regular-season Champions

**Division I:** Amity (8-0)

**Division II:** Xavier, West Haven (8-1)



#### SCC Division I Playoffs

**Quarterfinals – May 20 @ Higher Seeds**

#3 Fairfield Prep 7, #6 Sheehan 0

#4 Guilford 4, #5 Branford 3

**Semifinals – May 21 @ Yale University Tennis Courts**

#1 Amity 6, #4 Guilford 1

#2 Daniel Hand 4, #3 Fairfield Prep 3

**Championship Match - May 22 @ Yale University Tennis Courts**

Daniel Hand 4, Amity 3



#### SCC Division II Playoffs

**Quarterfinals – May 20 @ Higher Seeds**

#3 East Haven 4, #6 North Haven 3

#4 Notre Dame 5, #5 Lyman Hall 2

**Semifinals – May 21 @ Yale University Tennis Courts**

#1 Xavier 4, #4 Notre Dame 3

#3 East Haven 4, #2 West Haven 3

**Championship Match - May 22 @ Yale University Tennis Courts**

Xavier 5, East Haven 2



## SCC Spring Teams Win Five State Titles

# 365

Since the league's inception in 1994-95, SCC member schools have now won 365 state championships.

Once again, SCC member-schools fared extremely well on the playing fields. During the 2012-13 spring season, SCC teams won five state championships bringing the final total to 16 for the 2012-13 academic year.

Hillhouse and Daniel Hand each won a league-best four state titles.



### STATE CHAMPIONS (16)

#### SPRING (5)

**Class MM girls outdoor track & field** – Hillhouse  
**Class L boys tennis** – Daniel Hand – *co-champions with Fairfield Warde*  
**Class L boys lacrosse** – Fairfield Prep – *defeated Staples, 14-8*  
**Class LL baseball** – Amity – *defeated Southington, 4-0*  
**Division II boys golf** – Daniel Hand

#### WINTER (6)

**Class M girls indoor track** – Hillhouse  
**Class M gymnastics** – Daniel Hand  
**Co-ed Cheerleading** – Shelton  
**Class LL boys basketball** – Hillhouse – *defeated Fairfield Prep, 52-42*  
**Class LL girls basketball** – Mercy – *defeated Luralton Hall, 54-53*  
**Division I boys ice hockey** – Fairfield Prep – *defeated Notre Dame, 3-2*

#### FALL (5)

**Boys Cross Country** – Guilford – Class MM  
**Girls Swimming** – Branford – Class M  
**Football** – Hillhouse – Class M – *defeated Berlin, 34-12*  
**Football** – Daniel Hand – Class L – *defeated Windsor, 23-6*  
**Football** – Xavier – Class LL – *defeated Norwich Free Academy, 48-14*



After winning the SCC title, Fairfield Prep won its sixth Class L state boys lacrosse title in the last eight years. The Jesuits defeated Staples, 14-8, in the championship (photo by Bill O'Brien).

### STATE RUNNER-UPS (19)

#### SPRING (5)

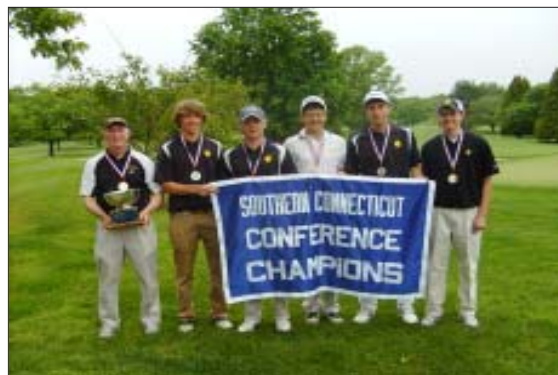
**Class LL girls outdoor track & field** – Amity  
**Class L boys outdoor track & field** – Branford  
**Class M boys tennis** – Guilford  
**Class LL softball** – Mercy – *lost to Southington, 1-0*  
**Class L softball** – Foran – *lost to Masuk, 3-2*

#### WINTER (7)

**Class S gymnastics** – Jonathan Law  
**State Open Girls Indoor Track** – Hillhouse  
**Class M wrestling** – Foran  
**Class LL boys swimming** – Fairfield Prep  
**Division I boys ice hockey** – Notre Dame – *lost to Fairfield Prep, 3-2*  
**Girls Ice Hockey** – West Hartford – *lost to New Canaan, 2-0*  
**Class LL boys basketball** – Fairfield Prep – *lost to Hillhouse, 52-42*

#### FALL (7)

**Boys Cross Country** – Xavier – State Open  
**Girls Cross Country** – Guilford – Class MM  
**Girls Swimming** – Cheshire – Class L  
**Field Hockey** – Cheshire – Class L – *lost to Darien, 4-0*  
**Field Hockey** – Guilford – Class M – *lost to Wilton, 3-0*  
**Girls Volleyball** – Cheshire – Class LL – *lost to Darien, 3-0 (25-14, 25-18, 25-21)*  
**Boys Soccer** – Fairfield Prep – Class LL – *lost to Norwalk, 2-0*



Two weeks after winning its first-ever SCC golf title, Daniel Hand captured its second-straight Division II state championship. The Tigers won by seven strokes over runner-up New Canaan.

## SportsCenter of CT/SCC Scholar Athlete of the Month Program

For the seventh year, the SCC partnering with The SportsCenter of Connecticut ([www.sportscenterct.com](http://www.sportscenterct.com)) on a Scholar Athlete of the Month program.

All told, 117 student-athletes were recognized during the academic year.

Here are the spring season recipients:

### MARCH 2013 recipients

Christian Coassin (Hamden, tennis), Lauren Gingras (Hamden, softball), Evan Schmeer (East Haven, tennis), Elise Tomasello (East Haven, tennis), Hope Tiezzi (Mercy, lacrosse), Kerry Egan (Mercy, lacrosse), Emily Simpson (Foran, tennis), Kyle Michelson (Foran, tennis), Kate Simon (Amity, outdoor track), David Karabinos (Amity, outdoor track), Lillian Brown (Branford, sailing), Jared Keck (Branford, outdoor track), Becki Golia (Sacred Heart Academy, outdoor track)



### APRIL 2013 recipients

Christopher Wilner (Career, lacrosse), Francis Madrigal (Career, softball), Evan Colechia (Cheshire, volleyball), Emily Larkin (Cheshire, golf), David Gerics (Fairfield Prep, baseball), Kevin Culligan (Fairfield Prep, tennis), Ryan Dennis (Jonathan Law, outdoor track), Bhavani Jaladanki (Jonathan Law, tennis), Robert Steele (Notre Dame, tennis), Michael Levine (Notre Dame, baseball), Craig Packnick (Shelton, volleyball), Sydney Spadinger (Shelton, lacrosse), Milton Calderon (Wilbur Cross, golf), Margaret Connors (Wilbur Cross, tennis), Michael Purcell (Xavier, baseball), Robert Coleman (Xavier, lacrosse)

### MAY 2013 recipients

Dan Baum (Sheehan, outdoor track), Riley Mayne (Sheehan, tennis), Cameron Stone (West Haven, baseball), Jordan Brereton (West Haven, lacrosse), Ryan Moore (Guilford, golf), Riley Smith (Guilford, lacrosse), Jaques Alexis (Hillhouse, golf), Ana Gomez (Hillhouse, softball), James Powell (Daniel Hand, baseball), Kate Boudreau (Daniel Hand, softball)

*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](http://www.sportscenterct.com) or follow on Twitter @SportsCenterCT*

## Two SCC Students Earn Leadership Scholarship from League Sponsor

Two students – **Amy Demers** from Lyman Hall and **Edward “Ned” Vogel** from Notre Dame – were recently recognized with \$1,000 “Leadership Scholarships” from league corporate sponsor Great Blue Research, Inc.

Ned submitted an essay outlined his efforts to coordinate a benefit concert for Healing Haiti’s Children, a non-profit dedicated to assisting children injured in the 2010 Haitian earthquake. He utilized his skills in leadership to facilitate the event and make a positive contribution to the lives of others.

An accomplished student at Notre Dame, Ned was a member of the National Honor Society and won the Harvard Book Award. He served as Editor-in-Chief of the Yearbook and captained the Green Knights’ tennis squad. He will attend the University of Notre Dame, where he plans to double major in business and music.

In applying, Demers submitted an essay detailing her efforts to enlighten children and teens about health and nutrition. Speaking specifically to individuals at-risk for topics such as obesity and energy drink abuse, Demers provides awareness and education. She is bolstering her leadership skills by gathering data, presenting results and discussing opportunities for health improvement.

Also a standout student, Amy was an AP Scholar and earned the Wellesley College Book Award. A member of the National Honor Society and was a four-year member of the Trojans’ cross country squad. Demers will apply the scholarship to her studies in physical therapy and psychology at Muhlenberg College.

*GreatBlue Research, Inc., formerly known as The Center for Research, is a national research organization uncovering What’s Next in the industries of consumer goods and retail, education, golf, healthcare, municipalities, partnerships, travel and leisure, and utilities. As a recognized leader in the world of emerging market research, GreatBlue Research partners best practices in traditional research methodologies with innovative research technologies. For more information visit [www.greatblueresearch.com](http://www.greatblueresearch.com).*



Left to right: Amy Demers, Michael Vigeant – CEO of Great Blue Research, Inc., and Edward Vogel (Photo by Al Carbone).

## SCC's Best Of... 2012-13

*Town Fair Tire was the sponsor of the SCC's "Best of... for 2012-13," an online poll to determine the best moment or performance in the Southern Connecticut Conference during the 2012-13 academic year. Nearly 1,000 votes were cast.*

**THE WINNER:** *Maria Weslyj hits a buzzer-beating three-pointer to lift Mercy to the Class LL girls basketball state title against Luralton Hall, 54-53, at Mohegan Sun Arena on March 16.*



*Mercy's Maria Weslyj (#13) celebrates with her teammates following the state championship victory (photo courtesy of New Haven Register).*

### Other candidates for the "Best of..."

- Dubbed the "Game of the Century," Daniel Hand beats Xavier in a battle of SCC football unbeatens, 40-20, on Oct. 12 in Middletown.
- Sixth-seeded Branford girls soccer team captures its first ever SCC title with a 1-0 overtime victory over Shelton on Nov. 6.
- Amity swimmer Dana Grindall completes a fabulous scholastic career earning All-America honors.
- SCC announces two-year football scheduling partnership with FCIAC for 2013 and 2014 seasons.
- SCC boys soccer champion Fairfield Prep reaches the Class LL state title game for first time; and become the first SCC team to reach a state title game in 12 years.
- Three football teams (Hand, Xavier, Hillhouse) capture state titles at Rentschler Field. It is most state titles since 2005 for the SCC.
- The state's top two boys basketball teams - Hillhouse and Fairfield Prep - play four times, including the SCC and Class LL title games. Hillhouse wins the both titles and earns state's #1 ranking.
- SCC hosts Division I/II Ice Hockey Championship Game doubleheader at Quinnipiac's High Point Solutions Arena on February 27. Daniel Hand (II) and Fairfield Prep (I) capture league titles. It is also the first Division I playoff game in 14 years.
- Fairfield Prep (24-1) captures the Division I state ice hockey title with a 3-2 win over SCC-rival Notre Dame on March 19. The Jesuits finish a perfect 20-0 against state competition.
- The Hillhouse girls indoor track squad won its third consecutive SCC and Class M state titles, both in convincing fashion.
- Hillhouse's Precious Holmes runs her way to All-American status in indoor track after winning the 400 meter national title.
- Xavier wrestler Elliott Antler captured the SCC, Class LL, State Open and New England titles in the 170-pound weight class.
- Kellie Davis (Hillhouse) and Chris Alvarado (Fairfield Prep) are the Most Outstanding Performers at all three league running championship events (cross country, indoor and outdoor track) in 2012-13.
- SCC and South-West Conference announce an ice hockey merger that will include 25 teams in three separate divisions and postseason competition.
- Daniel Hand boys and girls win the SCC Division I tennis titles with hard-fought victories over Amity on May 22 at Yale University.
- Foran's Bradley Orban wins his second straight boys tennis State Open singles title on June.
- Amity's baseball team captures Class LL baseball title behind the arm of Mike Concato, who allows just two hits in 21 innings during the entire state tournament.
- SCC champion Fairfield Prep, who was a perfect 17-0 versus state competition, won the Class LL boys lacrosse title with a 14-8 victory over Staples on June 8. It was the top-ranked Jesuits' sixth state title in last eight years.
- Amity's David Karabinos and Alexa Eldracher win the state decathlon/heptathlon, respectively. Karabinos won for the third straight year and Eldracher for the second consecutive time.

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