

# SCC News

Volume 6, Issue 2  
APRIL 2010

Official Newsletter of the Southern Connecticut Conference

## From the Commissioner's Desk

As we rapidly approach the final two months of the academic year, it's a good time to reflect on the many noteworthy events and achievements involving the SCC and its member schools.

Last month, the league held its Scholar Leader banquet – recognizing 44 truly outstanding scholar leaders. Just recently, the SCC hosted – at the Creative Arts Workshop – its annual Arts Exhibition.

Athletically, the SCC fared extremely well in the winter. Amidst some of the tremendous individual efforts and memorable league playoff contests, eight member-school teams captured CIAC state championships with many more reaching far in tournament play.

*Congratulations to everyone and continue the success!*

Lastly, our league's website –

[www.southernconnecticutconference.org](http://www.southernconnecticutconference.org) – has a new look. We recently relaunched the site with a new design and some added features. Thanks to Vin DiCarlo (Very Digital Communications) for his assistance. Check it out when you get a chance!



Best wishes,

*Ol Calme*



### In This Issue:

- 1) Corporate Sponsor Thank You
- 2) Arts Exhibition Held
- 3) Scholar Leader Banquet Recap
- 4) Winter Sports Review
- 5) Scholar Athlete of the Month program
- 6) SCC Notebook
- 6) Corporate Sponsor Corner
- 7) 2010 Spring Sports Playoff Schedule

## 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 2009-10 academic year, including the *NewAlliance Foundation*, *The United Illuminating Company*, *Billings Sports* and *Connecticut Orthopaedic Specialists*.

For the fourth straight year, *Dick's Sporting Goods* has partnered with the SCC to provide coupons and promotional material at league events, and the *SportsCenter of Connecticut* will support the Scholar-Athlete of the Month program.

All of the support is well-appreciated!



## Arts Exhibition Held

*Hosted by Creative Arts Workshop in New Haven*

The **SCC Student Arts Exhibition** is being held the week of April 19-23 at the Creative Arts Workshop in downtown New Haven. The exhibition will feature 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 April 20. Prizes were awarded by a jury of professional artists and arts administrators coordinated through CAW Executive Director Susan Smith.

### **2010 SCC Arts Exhibition Awards**

**1st Place:** Yekaterina Satania (Hamden), oil

**2nd Place:** Hannah Block (Amity), digital print

**3rd Place:** James Walwer (Guilford), pencil

**4th Place:** Jillian Pegnataro (Wilbur Cross), oil on board

**5th Place:** Kelly Read (Sheehan), photograph

**Honorable Mention:** Emily Scranton (Career), accordion book/mixed media; Alex Kintner (Shelton), color pencil; Kevin Jimenez-Cowell (Fairfield Prep), block print; Karissa Gatison (Wilbur Cross), acrylic on paper

Many thanks to Susan Smith and her staff at the Creative Arts Workshop for hosting the SCC Arts Exhibition. The Creative Arts Workshop is located at 80 Audubon Street in New Haven. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9:30 to 5:30 and Saturday, 9:00 to 12 noon. For more information or directions, go to [www.creativeartsworkshop.org](http://www.creativeartsworkshop.org).



*Yekaterina Satania of Hamden High School won first prize in the 2010 SCC Arts Exhibition with her oil painting (photo by Bill O'Brien).*

## Scholar Leaders Recognized

*Forty-four scholar leaders recognized*

The annual **SCC Scholar Leader Banquet** was held on March 22 at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven. Forty-four students were recognized for their outstanding scholarship and leadership in their respective school and external communities. Recipients were given a commemorative SCC medal and certificate.

Special congratulations to Caitlin Axtmayer (Sacred Heart Academy) and Claire Crouch (Mercy) who were selected as the recipients of the Bill O'Brien Community Service Scholarship – each receiving a \$500 scholarship award.



*(photo by Bill O'Brien)*

### **2009-2010 SCC Scholar Leaders**

**Amity Regional** – Rebekah Stein, Jack Sun  
**Branford** – Nildi Pino, Ally Perrotti  
**Hill Regional Career** – Najeia Mention, Sheldon Poole  
**Cheshire** – Marie Zhang, Nathan Gaudio  
**East Haven** – Gina Impronto, Gianluca DeLaRosa  
**Fairfield Prep** – Thomas Gaudett, Joshua J. Jowdy  
**Joseph A. Foran** – Shenali Parikh, Dylan Leonard  
**Guilford** – Kristine Trotta, Evan Brown  
**Hamden** – Crystal Johnson, Emily Lynn  
**Daniel Hand** – Julia Rubano, Bradley Napier  
**Hillhouse** – Julian Pearsall, Khamille Turnage  
**Jonathan Law** – James Quish, Nayab Mir  
**Lyman Hall** – Jennifer Ruys, Will Rodenhizer  
**Mercy** – Claire Crouch, Mallory Perry  
**North Haven** – Rachel Yen, John King  
**Notre Dame** – Brandon Gomez, Mark Powell  
**Sacred Heart Academy** – Caitlin Axtmayer, Meagan Edmonds  
**Mark T. Sheehan** – Michael Kadow, Leanna Verch  
**Shelton** – Mark Lacerna, Kelsey McDonnell  
**West Haven** – Sarah Green, Ryan Smith  
**Wilbur Cross** – Harrison V. Strom, Mackenzie Vigliotti  
**Xavier** – Giosue Improta, Casey Taillie

## Recapping the 2009-10 Winter Sports Season

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

### **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

**Hammonasset:** Hillhouse (7-1)

**Housatonic:** Sheehan/Lyman Hall (7-1)

**Oronoque:** Career (8-0)

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

**SCC Playoffs:** Seventh-seeded Branford defeated #1 Hillhouse, 70-57 in the championship game on February 23 at the TD Bank Sports Center.

### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

**Hammonasset:** Hillhouse (8-0)

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

**Oronoque:** Wilbur Cross (7-1)

**Quinnipiac:** Notre Dame (7-1)

**SCC Playoffs:** Third-seeded North Haven defeated #1 Hillhouse, 41-34, in the championship game on March 2 at the TD Bank Sports Center.

### **BOYS SWIMMING**

**Regular-season:** Fairfield Prep (12-0)

**SCC Championship Meet** – March 3 at Kiputh Pool – Yale University

Final Team Results: 1. Fairfield Prep, 866; 2. Xavier, 693; 3. Amity, 419; 4. Branford, 407; 5. Cheshire, 384; 6. Notre Dame, 381.5; 7. Sheehan, 274; 8. North Haven, 264; 9. Hamden, 252; 10. Foran, 251.5; 11. Lyman Hall, 230; 12. Shelton, 192; 13. West Haven, 145; 14. Hand, 57; 15. Jonathan Law, 26; 16. Guilford, 11

### **ICE HOCKEY**

**Division I:** West Haven, Fairfield Prep (5-1)

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

**Division II Playoffs:** Second-seeded Cheshire defeated top-seeded Amity, 3-2, in the championship game on March 6 at Bennett Rink.

### **GIRLS INDOOR TRACK**

**Housatonic Division** – Jan. 12 at New Haven Athletic Center  
Final Team Results: 1. Amity, 131.5; 2. Cheshire, 62; 3. Sheehan, 55.5; 4. Shelton, 32; 5. Lyman Hall, 30

**Quinnipiac Division** – Jan. 18 at New Haven Athletic Center  
Final Team Results: 1. Hamden, 72; 2. Mercy, 66; 3. West Haven, 44; 4. Sacred Heart Academy, 37

**Hammonasset Division** – Jan. 18 at New Haven Athletic Center  
Final Team Results: 1. Hand, 52; 2. Hillhouse, 51; 3. Guilford, 39

**Oronoque Division** – Jan. 18 at New Haven Athletic Center  
Final Team Results: 1. Career, 99; 2. Branford, 78; 3. North Haven, 70; 4. Wilbur Cross, 48; 5. East Haven, 13

**SCC Championship Meet** – Feb. 5 at New Haven Athletic Center  
Final Team Results: 1. Career, 81; 2. Cheshire, 73; 3. Hillhouse, 51; 4. Hand, 36; 5. West Haven, 35; 6. Hamden, 30; 7. Sacred Heart Academy, 26; 8. Branford, 22; 9. North Haven, 21; 10. Shelton, 20; 11. Mercy 16; 12. Wilbur Cross, 15; 12. Sheehan, 15; 14. Guilford, 12; 15. Amity, 12.



*Branford is the lowest seeded team to ever win the SCC girls basketball title – the seventh-seeded Hornets defeated #1 Hillhouse, 70-57, in the 2010 championship game on February 23 at the TD Bank Sports Center (photo by Bill O'Brien)*

### **BOYS INDOOR TRACK**

**Housatonic Division** – Jan. 12 at New Haven Athletic Center  
Final Team Results: 1. Cheshire, 114; 2. Shelton, 79; 3. Sheehan, 57; 4. Amity, 38; 5. Lyman Hall, 21

**Quinnipiac Division** – Jan. 18 at New Haven Athletic Center  
Final Team Results: 1. Hamden, 115; 2. Xavier, 88; 3. Notre Dame, 61; 4. Fairfield Prep, 27; 5. West Haven, 3.

**Hammonasset Division** – Jan. 18 at New Haven Athletic Center  
Final Team Results: 1. Hand, 84; 2. Hillhouse, 50; 3. Guilford, 15

**Oronoque Division** – Jan. 18 at New Haven Athletic Center  
Final Team Results: 1. North Haven, 110; 2. Branford, 81; 3. East Haven, 59; 4. Wilbur Cross, 56; 5. Career, 3

**SCC Championship Meet** – Feb. 5 at New Haven Athletic Center  
Final Team Results: 1. Hamden, 100; 2. Amity, 77; 3. Hillhouse, 43; 4. Notre Dame, 37; 5. Sheehan, 36; 6. Hand, 34; 7. North Haven, 30; 8. Xavier, 26; 9. Cheshire, 22; 10. Branford, 14; 11. Career, 11; 12. East Haven, 9; 12. Fairfield Prep, 9; 14. Lyman Hall, 8; 14. Shelton, 4; 16. Wilbur Cross, 3; 18. West Haven, 1; 19. Guilford, 1

### **WRESTLING**

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

**Division II:** Cheshire (5-4)

**SCC Championship Meet** – February 13 at Guilford HS  
Final Team Results: 1. Hand, 173; 2. Xavier, 157; 3. Shelton, 144; 4. Amity, 81; 5. Cheshire, 75; 6. Jonathan Law, 48.5; 7. Foran, 46; 8. Guilford, 42.5; 9. East Haven, 39; 10. New Haven, 24; 11. Branford, 20; 11. Sheehan, 20; 13. Fairfield Prep, 18

### **GYMNASTICS**

**SCC Championship Meet** – February 11 at Jonathan Law HS  
Final Team Results: 1. Hand, 132.75; 2. Foran, 129.15; 3. Jonathan Law, 128.15; 4. Branford, 84.55; 5. Hamden, 38.7

## SCC Teams Win Eight State Titles in the Winter

Once again, SCC member-schools fared well on the playing fields. To start, 71 percent of SCC teams qualified for CIAC fall team sport playoff competition in boys basketball (13-of-20), girls basketball (12-of-19), and ice hockey (14-of-16).

During the winter season, SCC teams won eight state championships. Ten additional teams earned runner-up status in CIAC state competition during the winter campaign. Since the league's inception in 1994, SCC schools have now won 290 state championships.

### State Champions (15)

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>
<b>FALL</b>		
Girls Cross Country	MM	Guilford
Girls Cross Country	Open	Guilford
Boys Cross Country	IL	Xavier
Boys Cross Country	Open	Xavier
Girls Swimming	IL	Cheshire
Football	IL	Cheshire
Football	L	Notre Dame
<b>WINTER</b>		
Girls Basketball	L	Hillhouse
Boys Basketball	M	Sheehan
Ice Hockey	I	Hamden
Ice Hockey	II	Amity
Ice Hockey	III	Guilford
Boys Indoor Track	IL	Hamden
Boys Indoor Track	L	Notre Dame
Boys Indoor Track	M	Hillhouse

### Runners-Up (11)

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>
<b>FALL</b>		
Boys Cross Country	IL	Hamden
<b>WINTER</b>		
Girls Basketball	IL	Mercy
Boys Basketball	IL	Hillhouse
Ice Hockey	I	Fairfield Prep
Cheerleading	Coed	Branford
Cheerleading	L	Foran
Boys Indoor Track	Open	Hamden
Boys Indoor Track	IL	Amity
Boys Indoor Track	L	Daniel Hand
Boys Swimming	IL	Fairfield Prep
Boys Swimming	L	Cheshire

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

For the fourth year, the SCC is partnering with the SportsCenter of Connecticut ([www.sportscenterct.com](http://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 outstanding young men and women from each of the conference's 22 member schools during the 2009-10 academic year.

### DECEMBER 2009 recipients

Avery Rourke (Jonathan Law, basketball), Ryan Ciesla (Jonathan Law, basketball), Cheetiri Smith (West Haven, swimming), Ryan Smith (West Haven, indoor track), Dominic Jones (Lyman Hall, ice hockey), Alison Bush (Lyman Hall, indoor track), Tasseine Edwards (Career Magnet, indoor track), Brandyn Benson (Career Magnet, basketball), John King (North Haven, swimming), Rachel Yen (North Haven, fencing), Nkenge Blue (Amity Regional, basketball), Ryan Laemel (Amity Regional, indoor track)

### JANUARY 2010 recipients

Megan Carroll (Shelton, indoor track), Craig Dwelle (Shelton, basketball), Jessica Nielsen (Mercy, indoor track), Maura Calamari (Mercy, basketball), Jake Miller (Foran, wrestling), Kelsey Reyher (Foran, gymnastics), John Tuelings (Hamden, ice hockey), Lee Ann Esposito (Hamden, ice hockey), Josh Morales (Notre Dame, wrestling), Trevor Madore (Notre Dame, swimming), Tyler Pramer (Fairfield Prep, swimming & diving), Darric White (Fairfield Prep, ice hockey)

### FEBRUARY 2010 recipients

Maegan Faitsch (Guilford, indoor track), Justin Gilloran (Guilford, ice hockey), Ryan Figaro (Branford, basketball), Brittney Kenney (Branford, basketball), Phil Gaetano (Sheehan, basketball), Stephanie Langan (Sheehan, cheerleading), Tyler Naumann (Xavier, swimming), Tucker Landy (Xavier, basketball), Meghan Derken (Daniel Hand, indoor track), Eddie Carroll (Daniel Hand, wrestling), Rachel Aliotta (Cheshire, indoor track), Drew Cunningham (Cheshire, ice hockey)

## SCC in Ice Hockey Heaven

*Three State Titles in 2009-10*

The SCC confirmed its dominance in the sport of ice hockey in 2009-2010. Firstly, the league sent 14 of its 16-playing schools to the state tournament. And for the first time, a SCC school won each of the three state championships – Hamden in Division I (who beat league rival Fairfield Prep, 6-5, in the final), Amity (who defeated St. Joseph's, 7-5) in Division II and Guilford (who beat Brookfield/Bethel/Danbury, 7-3) in Division III.

In the final *New Haven Register* state poll, five SCC teams finished in the top ten. Hamden (17-5-1) was first for the second straight year. Division I runner-up Fairfield Prep (18-4) was second, while Amity (22-3-1) was fourth.

SCC Division I regular-season champion West Haven (17-4) was sixth and Guilford (15-5-2) was tied for 10th.... Five additional SCC teams received votes in the poll, including North Haven, Xavier, Cheshire, Lyman Hall and Notre Dame.

### SCC Slapshots

- Since the league's inception in 1994/95, SCC teams have won 20 state championships... Fairfield Prep has the most with eight.

- The SCC has won at least two state titles in each of the last three seasons, and five of the last seven years... the last time a SCC school didn't win a state championship was 2003.

- It was the second time that the SCC was represented in all three state championship games (2006 was the other).

- The Prep-Hamden matchup in the 2010 Division I title game was the fifth time two SCC teams met in the finals.

## Hillhouse Girls Basketball No. 1 in State

*Academics Win Second Straight Class L Title*

Hillhouse was No. 1 in the final *Hartford Courant* state girls basketball rankings for the second consecutive year. The Academics (24-4) won the Class L state title defeating three tough CCC opponents (previously No. 1 Northwest Catholic, Berlin and Wethersfield in the finals) to earn their fifth state title as a SCC member.

Hillhouse finished No. 2 in the final *New Haven Register* and Connecticut Sports Writers Alliance polls.... Class LL runner-up Mercy (19-7) was fourth in the *Courant* poll and Class LL semifinalist Career (19-5) was ninth.

## "SCC" National Coach of the Year Finalists

Congratulations to the following four SCC coaches who are the Connecticut finalists for the 2010 National High School Athletic Coaches Association Coach of the Year award.

- Gary Palladino, Notre Dame - boys basketball
- Tim Kohs, Mercy - girls basketball
- Bob Orgovan, Amity - boys cross country
- Ed McCarthy, West Haven - football

## Taking It to the Bank

*Quinnipiac's TD Bank Sports Center Hosts SCC Basketball Tournaments*

For the first time, the SCC played its girls and boys basketball semifinals and championship games at Quinnipiac University's TD Bank Sports Center. Branford won the girls tournament, while North Haven captured the boys title before some enthusiastic crowds.

Special thanks to Quinnipiac's Director of Athletics Jack McDonald and his staff for their first-class hospitality. Plans are underway to return to the TD Bank Sports Center in 2011.



The SCC logo in full view on the scoreboard at Quinnipiac University's TD Bank Sports Center – the site of the 2010 SCC boys and girls basketball tournaments (photo by Bill O'Brien).

## Winter Sports All-Conference Teams on SCC Website

The 2009-10 Winter Sports All-Conference and All-Division selections are available on each sports' respective home page on the SCC website - [www.southernconnecticutconference.org](http://www.southernconnecticutconference.org)

## Corporate Sponsor Corner

### Billings Sports Offers On Line Team Store

Coaches, tired of collecting money from your players? Your problem is solved with your own individual **Billings On Line Team Store**. Billings Sports can customize a team package:

- Team Spirit Packs or team footwear packs
- Set up On Line School Stores,
- Create Fundraising Programs,
- Market on Line Team Championship Products,
- Co-brand your School or Team with Nike, Russell, Turfer and many other brands

Billings Sports in Meriden, Connecticut is a Local Team Dealer that has been in team business for over 40 years. Billings Sports is also the leading Nike Team Dealer in Connecticut.

Please contact your SCC Sales Rep, **Bob D'Ostilio** [bobd@billingsports.com](mailto:bobd@billingsports.com) or call (203) 988-2938 and he can custom fit a team store for you and your program. Visit us at [www.billingsports.com](http://www.billingsports.com). You can also check out a demo store at [www.billings.gearorder.com](http://www.billings.gearorder.com); enter Sales Code: v v w v e



### COS Has Walk-In Treatment Center

**Connecticut Orthopaedic Specialists** has a new walk-in emergency treatment center located at its Hamden office on Whitney Avenue.

Fridays 5 to 9 p.m.  
Saturdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
2408 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, CT  
(203) 407-3500

No more waiting at the Emergency Room. Get expert medical care in a convenient, comfortable, familiar location.

X-Rays • Emergency • Trauma Care • First Aid • Sports Injuries



## 2010 SCC Spring Sports Playoff Schedule

### **Boys and Girls Outdoor Track**

East Sectionals – Monday, May 17 @Amity HS – 1 p.m.

West Sectionals – Tuesday, May 18 @Amity HS – 1 p.m.

Boys Novice Meet – Thursday, May 20 – 3:30 p.m. @North Haven HS

Girls Novice Meet – Thursday, May 20 – 3:30 p.m. @Lyman Hall HS

Championship Meet – Tuesday, May 25 – 1 p.m. @Sheehan HS

### **Softball**

Quarterfinals – Tuesday, May 25 – Times TBA @Higher Seeds

Semifinals – Wednesday, May 26 – 4 and 7 p.m. @West Haven HS

Championship – Thursday, May 27 – 7 p.m. @West Haven HS

### **Baseball**

Quarterfinals – Tuesday, May 25 @Quigley Stadium & West Haven HS

Semifinals – Thursday, May 27 – 4 and 7 p.m. @Yale Field

Championship – Saturday, May 29 – 12 noon @Yale Field

### **Boys Lacrosse**

Quarterfinals – Monday, May 24 @Higher Seeds – Times TBA

Semifinals – Wednesday, May 26 – 5 and 7 p.m. @Branford HS

Championship – Friday, May 28 – 7 p.m. @Branford HS

### **Girls Lacrosse**

Quarterfinals – Monday, May 24 @Higher Seeds – Times TBA

Semifinals – Wednesday, May 26 – 5 and 7 p.m. @Hamden HS

Championship – Friday, May 28 – 5 p.m. @Branford HS

### **Boys and Girls Tennis**

Quarterfinals – Monday, May 24 @Higher Seeds – Times TBA

Semifinals – Tuesday, May 25 – 3 p.m. @Yale University

Championship – Wednesday, May 26 – 3 p.m. @Yale University

### **Boys Volleyball**

Semifinals – Tuesday, May 25 @Higher Seeds – Times TBA

Championship – Thursday, May 27 – 7 p.m. @TBA

### **Golf**

Championship - Tuesday, May 25 @Brooklawn Country Club - 12 noon