



SCC News

Official Newsletter of the Southern Connecticut Conference

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From the Desk of the Commissioner

The 2023-24 academic year has certainly flown by. As we enter May, which I consider the busiest month with our numerous playoffs and school events and ceremonies, there is a lot to look forward to.

However, its a good time to reflect a but. This newsletter is filled with lots of great achievements since our last issue in December.

Congratulations to the 10 SCC teams that won state titles during the winter sports season, and the nine teams that finished as runner-ups.

In addition, for the first time in league (and probably, state) history, the SCC had the top-ranked team in the final state polls for girls basketball (Hamden), boys

basketball (Notre Dame) and boys ice hockey (Notre Dame).

Add in Xavier's wrestling team, which won the State Open title - and that makes four #1 teams. Congratulations!

As we finish up the school year, a quick message to our graduating senior students: congratulations and best of luck in your future endeavors. Let's finish the year safe and strong!

Best wishes!

Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors



SCC Notables

SCC Wins SCC-ECC Girls Volleyball Challenge at Mohegan Sun

On Jan. 29, 18 senior girls volleyball players represented the SCC at the first-ever Mohegan Sun Volleyball Showdown against a team from the Eastern Connecticut Conference at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville.

The SCC team won 4-1 (25-19, 26-24, 25-14, 25-14, 14-16) in the pre-determined five-set match. Shelton's Brielle LaFerriere was named the game's Most Outstanding Player.

Jonathan Law's Samantha Chy earned the S.P.I.K.E. Award, which was given to the player who best exemplified the following characteristics — (Sportsmanship, Perseverance, Integrity, Kindness, and Effort).

The SCC team was coached by Jen Aguzzi (Daniel Hand) and assisted by Leanne Bianchine (Shelton).

Team Members: Carinna Anastasio (Shelton), Lea Barber (Amity Regional), Julianna Bojnec (Shelton), Alexa Bonato (Amity Regional), Ashley Borecki (Jonathan Law), Samantha Chy (Jonathan Law), Gianna Civitillo (Hamden), Emma Danaher (Cheshire), Brielle LaFerriere (Shelton), Karena Norko-Allain (Amity Regional), Mary Nugent (Cheshire), Esther Park (Shelton), Lucero Rullan-Irizarry (Cheshire), Olivia Scotti (Cheshire), Kira Strauss (Cheshire), Arianna Takyar (Daniel Hand), Mia Thomas (Daniel Hand), Ella VanValkenberg (Cheshire)



SCC Holds First-ever Football Weightlifting Competition

On March 9, the SCC held its first-ever Football Weightlifting Competition at the University of New Haven's state-of-the-art Sports Performance Center. The UNH Sports Performance staff also oversaw the judging of the event. Twelve SCC football schools participated — Shelton, Hamden, Daniel Hand, Sheehan, Lyman Hall, Amity Regional, Branford, Wilbur Cross, West Haven, Harding, Jonathan Law and North Haven.

Congrats to Sheehan, which won the Team Title, and Lyman Hall, who finished second.

Thanks to Shelton head coach Michael DeFelice and Hamden head coach/athletic director and football chairperson Tom Dyer for their coordination of the event.

Congrats to the top individual finishers:

160 lbs.: Ryan Kinik (Shelton), 825 points; Ashton Martin, Sheehan, 755 points

161-180 lbs.: Mike Moran (North Haven), 885 points; Nick Ferraro (Sheehan), 880 points

181-200 lbs.: Anthony Salerno (Lyman Hall), 1050 points; Jack Grant (Sheehan), 1000 points



201-220 lbs.: Lance Mahon (Amity Regional), 920 points; Brian Moran (North Haven), 895 points

220 lbs.: Kenny Krause (Lyman Hall), 1130 points; Joe Vargas (Shelton), 1045 points

Number 1! Number 1!

For the first time in the league's 30-year history, the SCC had the #1 teams in the final boys basketball, girls basketball and boys ice hockey state polls.

Notre Dame (28-0), under the direction of head coach Jason Shea, won the Division I state boys basketball title on March 17 with a 52-46 victory over St. Bernard. It was ND's first-ever state title. The Green Knights also won their third straight SCC title on Feb. 28.

Hamden (25-3), led by head coach Amanda Forcucci, won the Class LL girls basketball state title on March 17 with a 46-40 victory over SCC-rival Sacred Heart Academy. It was Hamden's second straight state title. The Green Dragons also won the SCC title for the second straight year on Feb. 21.

Notre Dame (19-4-2) won the Division I state boys ice hockey title on March 19 with a 4-1 victory over New Canaan. The Green Knights, under the direction of head coach Larry Vieira, also captured the 2024 SCC Division I playoff title, and finished the season with a perfect 14-0 record against teams from Connecticut.

In addition, the Xavier wrestling team - which captured the SCC, Class L and State Open titles in 2024, is the fourth winter team to finish as the top team in the the state. Congratulations to head coach Mike Cunningham and the Falcons.



#1 TEAM
IN THE STATE POLLS
Notre Dame boys basketball
Hamden girls basketball
Notre Dame boys ice hockey



2024 Winter Sports Recap

Boys/Girls Indoor Track

Scoring provided by Paynes Corner Timing

West Sectional Meet - Jan. 24 @Floyd Little Athletic Center

Boys: 1. Xavier, 175; 2. Hamden, 64; 3. Notre Dame, 51; 4. North Haven, 38; 5. Fairfield Prep, 32; 6. East Haven, 31; 7. Wilbur Cross, 27; 8. West Haven, 25; 9. Branford, 19; 10. Career, 3

Girls: 1. Mercy, 91; 2. Sacred Heart Academy, 86; 3. Career, 58, 4. Hamden, 49.5; 5. Branford, 36; 6. Luralton Hall, 33.5; 7. Wilbur Cross, 28; 7. West Haven, 28; 9. East Haven, 20; 10. North Haven, 19

East Sectional Meet - Jan. 25 @Floyd Little Athletic Center

Boys: 1. Lyman Hall, 115; 2. Hillhouse, 84; 3. Amity Regional, 69; 4. Daniel Hand, 50; 5. Shelton, 46; 6. Sheehan, 42; 7. Guilford, 26; 8. Cheshire, 24; 9. Foran, 9

Girls: 1. Shelton, 107; 2. Hillhouse, 93; 3. Cheshire, 79; 4. Amity Regional, 54; 5. Daniel Hand, 37; 6. Sheehan, 33; 7. Guilford, 24; 8. Jonathan Law, 19; 9. Foran, 15; 10. Lyman Hall, 1

Championship Meet - Feb. 3 @Floyd Little Athletic Center

Boys: 1. Xavier, 128; 2. Lyman Hall, 85; 3. Hillhouse, 53; 4. Amity Regional, 40; 5. Shelton, 26.5; 6. Daniel Hand, 25; 7. Hamden, 18; 8. North Haven, 15; 9. Sheehan, 13; 10. Notre Dame, 11; 11. East Haven, 10; 12. Branford, 8; 12. Cheshire, 8; 12. Guilford, 8; 15. Wilbur Cross, 6.5; 16. Fairfield Prep, 5; 17. Foran, 3; 18. West Haven, 2

Most Outstanding Performer: Jack Ouellette, Xavier

SCC Event Winners

4 x 200 meter Relay – Lyman Hall (Owen Rich, Michael Fisher, Aaron Rich, Timothy Conklin). 1:33.01

4 x 800 meter Relay – Xavier Laudati, James Adu, Landon Rubano, John Larkin), 8:27.01

1000 meters – Owen Martin (Xavier), 2:33.95

600 meters – Timothy Conklin (Lyman Hall), 1:24.58

55 meter Hurdles – William Gibson (Hillhouse), 7.68

55 meters – Stylz Mitchell (Xavier), 6.49

1600 meters – Jack Ouellette (Xavier), 4:17.14

1600 meter Sprint Medley Relay – Daniel Hand (Nathaniel Kraft, Liam Elliott, Aedan Virgulito, Christopher Bonavita), 3:45.76

300 meters – Michael Fisher (Lyman Hall), 35.70

3200 meters – Jack Ouellette (Xavier), 9:42.82

4 x 400 meter Relay – Lyman Hall (Michael Fisher, Owen Rich, Timothy Conklin, Thomas Conklin), 3:30.20

High Jump – Khalil Antoine (Hillhouse), 6-10* (SCC championship meet record)

Long Jump – Micah Blair (Amity Regional), 22-06

Pole Vault – Hunter Feitel (Xavier), 13-06

Shot Put – Jacob Harkins (Xavier), 49-02

Girls: 1. Cheshire, 63; 1. Shelton, 63; 3. Hillhouse, 48; 4. Mercy, 42; 5. Career Magnet, 41; 6. Sheehan, 31.5; 7. Daniel Hand, 29; 8. Sacred Heart Academy, 25; 9. Branford, 24; 10. Amity Regional, 23.5; 11. Guilford, 17; 12. Hamden, 16; 12. West Haven, 16; 14. Wilbur Cross, 14; 15. Jonathan Law, 6; 16. Foran, 3; 17. Luralton Hall, 2; 18. North Haven, 1



North Haven captured the 2024 All-Girl SCC cheerleading title (Steady Photography photo).

Most Outstanding

Performer: Leonaya Knox, Hillhouse

SCC Event Winners

4 x 200 meter Relay – West Haven (Sadea Robinson, Llyanna Griffith-Waite, Paige Davis, Victoria Parshley), 1:51.54

4 x 800 meter Relay – Jordan Kells, Alica Agovino, Annecy Vlieks, Margaret Lavin), 10:10.95

1000 meters – Clara Gahm (Guilford), 3:07.91

600 meters – Glorianna Buckley (Branford), 1:43.21

55 meter Hurdles – Leonaya Knox (Hillhouse), 8.24

55 meters – Leonaya Knox (Hillhouse), 7.31

1600 meters – Hannah Andrejczyk (Shelton), 5:08.02

1600 meter Sprint Medley Relay – Mercy (Ella Barone, Veronika Meriano, Tess Wasiolek, Calista Nephew), 4:30.22

300 meters – Kiera Baxter (Career Magnet), 41.56

4 x 400 Meter Relay – Shelton (Sailor Martin, Micaela Meaney, Tessa Kovarczi, Stephanie Sanborn), 4:17.5

High Jump – Victoria Baker (Sacred Heart Academy), 5-05

Long Jump – Kiera Baxter (Career Magnet), 17-08.75

Pole Vault – Liliana Quill (Amity Regional), 9-06

Shot Put – Maya Quaranta (Sacred Heart Academy), 36-10

Cheerleading

Competition - Feb. 3 at North Haven HS

Co-ed Division: 1. Shelton, 85.5; 2. Jonathan Law, 61

All-Girl Division: 1. North Haven, 85.5; 2. Lyman Hall, 79.60; 3. Branford, 77.85; 4. Cheshire, 77.55; 5. Luralton Hall, 71.25; 6. Mercy, 66.70; 7. Sacred Heart Academy, 64.65; 8. East Haven, 63.95; 9. Amity Regional, 63.70; 10. Foran, 58.20; 11. Sheehan, 46.80

Spirit Award: Cheshire

Wrestling

Championship Meet - Feb. 10 @East Haven HS

1. Xavier, 281.5; 2. Foran, 150.5; 3. Guilford, 141; 4. Notre Dame, 128.5; 5. Amity Regional, 76; 6. Fairfield Prep, 75; 7. Shelton, 72; 8. Branford, 66; 9. East Haven, 51.5; 10. Daniel Hand, 47; 11. Cheshire, 46.5; 12. North Haven, 39; 13. Morgan, 32; 14. Jonathan Law, 27; 15. Lyman Hall, 20; 16. Sheehan, 18; 17. New Haven, 13

Championship Matches

- 106 lbs.** – Zack Dixon (Xavier) pinned Sawyer Miller (Foran), 1:29
- 113 lbs.** – Raekwon Shabazz (Xavier) technical fall Jack Fletcher (East Haven), 18-3, 3:16
- 120 lbs.** – Mason Hallstrom (Foran) major decision Seamus Hallinan (Xavier), 14-6
- 126 lbs.** – Braylon Gonzalez (Xavier) major decision Christopher Manganiello (Notre Dame-WH), 14-5
- 132 lbs.** – Kevin Kasperowski (Xavier) technical fall Alex Uzzo (Guilford), 17-1, 4:17
- 138 lbs.** – Anthony Basile (Xavier) technical fall Jay Chase (Sheehan), 20-5, 4:49
- 144 lbs.** – Kyle Levesque (Xavier) pinned Elijah McDermott (Guilford), 1:36
- 150 lbs.** – John Lagana (Xavier) major decision Dylan Warner (Branford), 10-2
- 157 lbs.** – Jack Lilly (Fairfield Prep) decision Ryan Sevigny West Haven, CT (Notre Dame-WH), 6-0
- 165 lbs.** – Zachary Fong (Xavier) major decision Cooper Macnevin (Amity Regional), 8-0
- 175 lbs.** – Maximus Morse (Xavier) pinned Tyler Smith (Fairfield Prep), 1:24
- 190 lbs.** – Cole Snider (Branford) pinned Gavin Janowski (Lyman Hall), 2:16
- 215 lbs.** – Charles Weidman (Xavier) pinned Patrick Dabrowski (Shelton), 2:57
- 285 lbs.** – Jagger Rees (Foran) decision Christopher Matos (Notre Dame-WH), 3-1 SV

Championship Meet Most Outstanding

Wrestler: *Mason Hallstrom, Foran*

Gymnastics

Championship Meet - Feb. 8 @ Jonathan Law HS

- 1. Daniel Hand, 138.95; 2. Jonathan Law, 133.0; 3. Foran, 116.7; 4. Hamden, 108.6; 5. Mercy, 54.7; 6. North Haven, 29.6

Most Outstanding Performer: *Natalie Morrell, Jonathan Law*

All-Around: Natalie Morrell (Jonathan Law), 36.1; 2. Hadley Reiss (Daniel Hand), 35.15; 3. Kelly Kelly (Daniel Hand, 35.0; 4. Olivia Consiglio (34.2); 5. Kayla Johnson (Foran), 33.6; 6. Abigail Simpson (Daniel Hand), 33.45

Vault: Natalie Morrell (Jonathan Law), 9.25
Bars: Natalie Morrell (Jonathan Law), 9.2
Beam: Kelly Kelly (Daniel Hand), 9.2
Floor: Hadley Reiss (Daniel Hand), 9.35

Girls Basketball

Presented by Vertical Hoops



Regular-season Division Champions

Hammonasset: Hamden (8-0)
Housatonic: Sacred Heart Academy (8-0)
Oronoque: Mercy (8-0)
Quinnipiac: Foran (7-1)

SCC Playoffs

First Round – Thursday, Feb. 15
 #1 Hamden 69, #16 Cheshire 40
 #2 Sacred Heart Academy 61, #15 Lyman Hall 29
 #3 Amity Regional 53, #14 Guilford 36
 #4 Mercy 53, #13 Daniel Hand 22
 #5 Sheehan 66, #12 Branford 31
 #6 North Haven 71, #11 Hillhouse 42
 #10 West Haven 46, #7 Foran 42
 #8 East Haven 46, #9 Jonathan Law 38
Quarterfinals – Feb. 17 @Sheehan HS
 #1 Hamden 66, #8 East Haven 18
 #4 Sheehan 54, #5 Mercy 40
 #2 Sacred Heart Academy 69, #10 West Haven 32
 #6 North Haven 59, #3 Amity Regional 57
Semifinals – Feb. 19 @Jonathan Law HS

- #1 Hamden 42, #5 Sheehan 41
- #2 Sacred Heart Academy 73, #6 North Haven 49

Championship Game – Feb. 21 @M&T Bank Arena – Quinnipiac University

- #1 Hamden 82, #2 Sacred Heart Academy 58

Most Outstanding Player: *Kamora Moore, Hamden*

Boys Basketball

Presented by Vertical Hoops



Regular-season Division Champions

Hammonasset: Notre Dame (8-0)
Housatonic: Hillhouse (8-0)
Oronoque: Wilbur Cross (8-0)
Quinnipiac: Daniel Hand (7-1)

SCC Playoffs

First Round – Feb. 22
 #1 Notre Dame 73, #16 Fairfield Prep 50
 #2 Hillhouse 88, #15 Amity Regional 68
 #3 Xavier 62, #14 Branford 43
 #4 Wilbur Cross 73, #13 Guilford 54
 #5 Daniel Hand 67, #12 Sheehan 28
 #6 West Haven 57, #11 Career 41
 #7 East Haven 58, #10 Foran 48
 #8 North Haven 64, #9 Hamden 51
Quarterfinals – Feb. 24 @Branford HS
 #1 Notre Dame 68, #8 North Haven 40
 #5 Daniel Hand 57, #4 Wilbur Cross 53
 #2 Hillhouse 84, #7 East Haven 56
 #6 West Haven 52, #3 Xavier 45
Semifinals – Feb. 26 @Shelton HS
 #1 Notre Dame 58, #5 Daniel Hand 39
 #2 Hillhouse 72, #6 West Haven 61
Championship Game – Feb. 28 – M&T Bank Arena – Quinnipiac University
 #1 Notre Dame 61, #2 Hillhouse 47

"Tom Fleming" Most Outstanding Player: *Abdou Toure, Notre Dame*

Hamden won the 2024 Girls Basketball title for the second straight year, and fifth time in the last six years (Steady Photography photo).



Cheshire captured the Division II SCC/SWC title with a 7-1 victory over Amity Regional. The Rams would go on to capture the state Division II title (Steady Photography photo)



Boys Swimming

Championship Meet - Feb. 28 @SCSU

1. Fairfield Prep, 1215; 2. Hamden, 765.50; 3. Greater New Haven co-op, 736; 4. Amity Regional, 671.50; 5. Daniel Hand, 649; 6. Sheehan/Lyman Hall co-op, 622; 7. Notre Dame, 487; 8. Xavier, 397; 9. Shelton, 349; 10. Milford co-op, 326; 11. HK co-op, 290; 12. West Haven, 203; 13. Cheshire, 155

Championship Meet Most Outstanding Performer: *Owen Tharrington, Fairfield Prep*

Championship Meet Event Winners

200 yard Medley Relay: Fairfield Prep (Evan VanVelzor, Gabe Swarowsky, Owen Tharrington, Brandon Bonilla), 1:39.11

200 yard Freestyle: Timothy King (Fairfield Prep), 1:47.18

200 Yard IM: Owen Tharrington (Fairfield Prep), 1:55.12

50 yard Freestyle: Jack Cunningham (Fairfield Prep), 21.99

100 yard Butterfly: Julian Adu (Notre Dame), 52.44

100 yard Freestyle: Jack Cunningham (Fairfield Prep), 48.06

500 yard Freestyle: Timothy King (Fairfield Prep), 4:51.80

Diving: Orion Heiser (Hamden), 471.90

200 yard Freestyle Relay: Fairfield Prep (Brandon Bonilla, Rohan Thung, Timothy King, Jack Cunningham), 1:30.69

100 yard Backstroke: Owen Tharrington (Fairfield Prep), 51.34

100 yard Breaststroke: Brayden Hale (Sheehan-Lyman Hall co-op), 1:01.38

400 yard Freestyle Relay: Fairfield Prep (Owen Tharrington, Evan VanVelzor, Timothy King, Jack Cunningham), 3:17.84

Girls Ice Hockey

Regular-season Champion: Amity/Cheshire/NH co-op (7-3)

SCC Playoffs

First Round – Feb. 19 @higher seeds

#3 Hamden co-op 5, #6 Guilford co-op 0

#4 West Haven/SHA co-op 3, #5 Masuk co-op 2 (2 OT)

Semifinals – Wednesday, Feb. 21 @Higher Seeds

#3 Hamden co-op 4, #2 Daniel Hand 1

#4 WH-SHA co-op 2, #1 Amity/Cheshire/North Haven co-op 1

Championship Game – Friday, Feb. 23 @Bennett Rink

Hamden co-op 3, West Haven/SHA co-op 1

Tournament Most Outstanding Player: *Kyra Sweeney, Hamden*

Boys Ice Hockey

Regular-season Champions

Tier 1: Notre Dame-West Haven (3-0)

Tier 2: Cheshire (10-1)

Tier 3: New Milford/Masuk (5-1)

Division I

Semifinals – Feb. 28 @Higher Seeds

#1 Notre Dame-West Haven 6, #4 Notre Dame-Fairfield 1

#2 Fairfield Prep 4, #3 Xavier 1

Championship Game – March 1 @Bennett Rink

#1 Notre Dame-West Haven 3, #2 Fairfield Prep 0

Tournament Most Outstanding Player: *Layne Jackson, Notre Dame-West Haven*

Division II

Semifinals – Feb. 28 @Bennett Rink

#1 Cheshire 5, #4 West Haven co-op 2

#2 Amity Regional 1, #3 Watertown-Pomperaug co-op 0

Championship Game – March 1 @Bennett Rink

#1 Cheshire 7, #2 Amity Regional 1

Tournament Most Outstanding Player: *Ryan Miller, Cheshire*

Division III

Semifinals – Feb. 27 @Danbury Ice Arena

#1 New Milford 4, #4 Newtown/New Fairfield 2

#3 BBDI co-op 4, #2 Masuk 2

Championship Game – Feb. 29 @Danbury Ice Arena

#3 BBDI co-op 5, #1 New Milford 4 (OT)

Tournament Most Outstanding Player: *Jovanni Smeriglio, BBDI*





Xavier won the Class L and State Open wrestling titles in 2024. The Falcons, under the direction of Mike Cunningham, also finished second in New England (SCC photo).

SCC Winter Teams Win 10 State Titles!

WINTER 2024

STATE CHAMPIONS (10)

Xavier boys indoor track (Class L)
Lyman Hall boys indoor track (Class M)
Hillhouse girls indoor track (Class S)
Xavier wrestling (Class L and State Open)
Daniel Hand gymnastics (Class S)
Hamden girls basketball (Class LL – defeated Sacred Heart Academy, 46-40)
Notre Dame boys basketball (Div. 1 – defeated St. Bernard, 52-46)
Cheshire boys ice hockey (Div. 2 – defeated East Haven co-op, 6-3)
Notre Dame boys ice hockey (Div. 1 – defeated New Canaan, 4-1)

STATE RUNNER-UPS (9)

Lyman Hall boys indoor track (State Open)
Sacred Heart Academy girls indoor track (Class S)
Daniel Hand gymnastics (State Open)
North Haven cheerleading (Class L)
Fairfield Prep boys swimming (Class L)
Sheehan girls basketball (Class MM – lost to Northwest Catholic, 43-37)
West Haven boys basketball (Div. 2 – lost to Windsor, 59-57 in OT)
Sacred Heart Academy (Class LL – lost to Hamden, 46-40)
East Haven boys ice hockey co-op (Div. 2 – lost to Cheshire, 6-3)

548

A History Lesson:
 SCC member school teams have won 548 state championships since 1994-95 (169 fall, 209 in winter, and 170 in the spring).

Member School State Titles:
 Following the conclusion of the 2023-24 winter season, here are the SCC schools with the most state titles since the league was formed in 1994-1995:

1. Hillhouse (80); 2. Cheshire (68); 3. Daniel Hand (66);
4. Xavier (48); 5. Amity Regional (41); 5. Guilford (41); 7. Fairfield Prep (38); 8. Branford (27); 9. Notre Dame (21); 10. Wilbur Cross (15)

FALL 2023

STATE CHAMPIONS (5)

- Daniel Hand football (Class M – defeated Rockville, 57-20)*
- North Haven football (Class MM – defeated Wilton, 21-0)*
- Daniel Hand field hockey (Class M – defeated New Canaan, 1-0, in OT)*
- Xavier boys cross country (Class L)*
- Mercy girls cross country (Class M)*

STATE RUNNER-UPS (4)

- West Haven football (Class LL – lost to Staples, 21-20)*
- Cheshire girls swimming (Class L)*
- Cheshire girls cross country (State Open)*
- Notre Dame boys soccer (Class L – lost to East Lyme, 3-2)*

Connecticut Orthopaedics Urgent Care/SCC 2024 Winter Player/Coaches of the Year



Thanks to the support of long-time league corporate sponsor Connecticut Orthopaedics, the SCC recognizes a Player of the Year and Coach of the Year in each of the 28 sports the league sponsors.

What makes Connecticut Orthopaedics different? There's simply no other Connecticut practice that offers the convenience, speed and comprehensive experience that you'll find with us. From your first visit, to diagnosing your injury, to treatment and rehabilitation, we offer end-to-end orthopaedic services designed to accommodate your every need. We started in 1963 with only two physicians. Today we are the largest privately-owned orthopaedic practice in New England. With over 50 doctors serving 20 locations – including multiple Urgent Care | Walk-In centers and our own surgical center – we make it convenient for you to get the orthopaedic care you need, close to where you live.

Visit them at www.ct-ortho.com

Players of the Year

- Cheerleading** – Alyssa Capello, Lyman Hall
- Girls Basketball** – Alana Philpotts, Hamden
- Boys Basketball** – Abdou Toure, Notre Dame
- Boys Indoor Track** – Khalil Antoine, Hillhouse
- Girls Indoor Track** – Leonaya Knox, Hillhouse
- Wrestling** – Raekwon Shabazz, Xavier
- Boys Swimming – Div. I** – Owen Tharrington, Fairfield Prep
- Boys Swimming – Div. II** – Jerick Lagamao, Lyman Hall/Sheehan co-op
- Gymnastics** – Tallulah Malz, Mercy
- Girls Ice Hockey** – Trinity Sweeney, Hamden co-op
- Boys Ice Hockey – Div. I** – James Mascari, Notre Dame
- Boys Ice Hockey – Div. II** – Evan Vasiljevs, Cheshire
- Boys Ice Hockey – Div. III** – Nick Kondub, Masuk

Coaches of the Year

- Cheerleading** – Stephanie Redding, Sacred Heart Academy
- Girls Basketball** – Mike Busillo, Sheehan
- Boys Basketball** – Mike Kohs, Xavier
- Boys Indoor Track** – David Palmer, Lyman Hall
- Girls Indoor Track** – Allen Dvaskas, Cheshire
- Wrestling** – Craig Vedrani, Guilford
- Boys Swimming – Div. I** – Nate Hill, Hamden
- Boys Swimming – Div. II** – Keith Cargan, Lyman Hall/Sheehan co-op
- Gymnastics** – Kelly Smith, Daniel Hand
- Girls Ice Hockey** – John Peschell, Amity/Cheshire/North Haven co-op
- Boys Ice Hockey – Div. I** – Larry Vieira, Notre Dame
- Boys Ice Hockey – Div. II** – Anthony Giusto, Cheshire
- Boys Ice Hockey – Div. III** – Terry Stroz, Masuk



Player of Year: Alana Philpotts, Hamden
Coach of Year: Mike Busillo, Sheehan



Player of Year: Trinity Sweeney, Hamden co-op
Coach of Year: John Peschell, Amity/Cheshire/NH co-op



SCC Athletes of the Month presented by j.roo's of North Haven

With the support of presenting sponsor **j.roo's of North Haven**, the SCC, once again, is recognizing a female and male athlete of the month during the 2023-24 academic year.

Nominations come from SCC's athletic directors and/or head coaches each month, and each recipient receives a plaque and \$25 gift card to j.roo's.

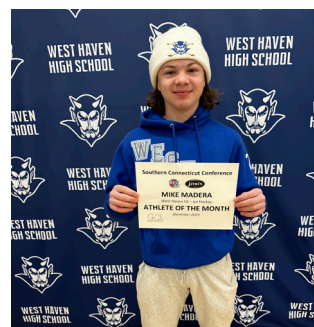


j.roo's is located at 243 State Street in North Haven. Visit them at <https://www.jroosrestaurant.com/>

DECEMBER

**FAITH DOYLE, FORAN
BASKETBALL**

**MIKE MADERA, WEST HAVEN
ICE HOCKEY**



JANUARY

**HANNAH ANDREJCZYK, SHELTON
INDOOR TRACK**

**THOMAS CONKLIN, LYMAN HALL
INDOOR TRACK**



FEBRUARY

**KYRA SWEENEY, HAMDEN
ICE HOCKEY**

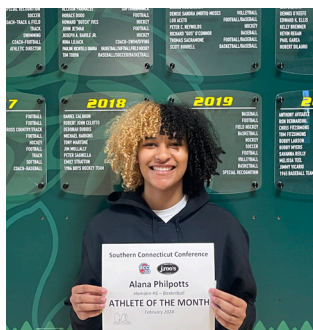
**ABDOU TOURE, NOTRE DAME
BASKETBALL**



MARCH

**ALANA PHILPOTTS, HAMDEN
BASKETBALL**

**BIAGIO PEPE, CHESHIRE
ICE HOCKEY**



SCC Scholar Athlete Recognition Program

presented by Great Blue Research

The Scholar Athlete recognition program recognizes the “best of the best” in the SCC. Recipients are selected by their school’s coaches and athletic directors. Recipients must have a minimum of a B (3.0) average overall and be a varsity letterwinner. The recipients should also demonstrate leadership qualities by: being a positive role model for other students both on and off the field; exhibiting an ability to help a teammate overcome adversity; showing a commitment to self-improvement; and putting the needs of the team before themselves.

Great Blue Research is the presenting sponsor of the SCC Scholar Athlete Recognition program. Based in Cromwell, Conn., Great Blue Research Inc. is a full-service, in-house Market & Public Policy Research company utilizing a variety of methodologies, including telephone, email, web-based surveys, focus groups, and one-on-one interviews.



Here are the 2023-24 winter season recipients:

Amity Regional

Eydan Lavi (indoor track), Sarah Fortin (ski racing)

Branford

Eric Zielinski (basketball), Joelle Budz (indoor track)

Career Magnet

Kiera Baxter (indoor track), Elijah Cohen (indoor track)

Cheshire

Ryan Grove (basketball), Tessa Trocchi (cheerleading)

Daniel Hand

Dylan Friedmen (gymnastics), Adam Signorello (swimming)

East Haven

Paul Carangelo (indoor track), Olivia Martin (basketball)

Fairfield Prep

Ben Hauptman (Swimming), Large; James Murphy (ice hockey)

Foran

Jacob Collette (swimming), Emily Maruottolo (indoor track)

Guilford

Alexa Kukta (basketball), Tim Hastings (wrestling)

Hamden

Trinity Sweeney (ice hockey), Orion Heiser (swimming)

Hillhouse

Eric Jones (basketball), Dillyn Boyd (basketball)

Jonathan Law

Natalie Morrell (gymnastics), Nathan Galicinao (indoor track)

Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, Luralton Hall

Sheila Northrup (indoor track), Camille Irby (basketball)

Lyman Hall

Jerick Lagamao (swimming), Kaitlyn Mather (indoor track)

Mercy

Tallulah Malz (gymnastics), Tiana Harley (indoor track)

North Haven

Ava Halovatch (basketball), Jack Keaney (ice hockey)

Notre Dame

Justin Garretson (basketball), Ryan Sevigny (wrestling)

Sacred Heart Academy

Meghan Kirck (basketball), Lauren Thompson (basketball)

Sheehan

Ryan Carmen (basketball), Megan Wresien (basketball)

Shelton

Matthew Sahagun (basketball), Alexandra Davidson (basketball)

Wilbur Cross

Christopher Van Tassel (basketball), Anna Omelchenko (indoor track)

West Haven

Taylor Alfano (ice hockey), Andrew McLarty (swimming)

Xavier

Darren Sengphachanh (swimming), Kyle Levesque (wrestling)



SHA's Meghan Kirck and Lauren Thompson



Jonathan Law's Nathan Galicinao and Natalie Morrell

Forty-Six SCC Scholar Leaders Recognized

presented by UI-SCG-CNG - part of Avangrid family

The 2024 SCC Scholar Leader Banquet was held on Monday, April 1 at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven. The event was presented by CNG-SCG-UI (Part of the Avangrid family). Forty-six "Scholar Leaders" were honored. Scholar leaders, two from each SCC member school, were chosen from each member school principal for their work in the classroom and in the community.

[Click here for the event program with recipient biographies](#)

2023-24 SCC Scholar Leaders

- Amity Regional** – Benjamin Aviad, Annika Yun
- Branford** – Carter Moore, Ridhima Shrestha
- Hill Regional Career** – Kiya Jefferson, Adnan Ahmed Rizal
- Cheshire** – Madisyn Bernier, Alexa Ciccone
- Daniel Hand** – Paige Steffen, Matthew Kasper
- East Haven** – Lainie D'Auria, Melania Korenovsky
- Fairfield Prep** – Ralfs Viguls, Phillip Martins
- Joseph A. Foran** – Jacob Collette, Erin Schmitt
- Guilford** – Molly Peterson, Jason Li
- Hamden** – Greshana Ward, Aidan Swan
- James Hillhouse** – Finn Crumlish, Omar Bibi Rabani
- Jonathan Law** – Joseph (JT) Nelly, Natalie Morrell
- Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, Lauralton Hall** – Michaela Day, Shyanne Roman
- Lyman Hall** – Mert Ozturkoglu, Riley LaBombard
- Mercy** – Sophia Franchi, Tiana Harley
- North Haven** – Ava Halovatch, Nico Boyle
- Notre Dame** – Nicolas Bauer, Peter Swanson
- Sacred Heart Academy** – Quinn Michels, Madison Rossetti
- Mark T. Sheehan** – Olivia Fritz, Ronan Liu
- Shelton** – Dillon Durante, Kaelyn Horn
- West Haven** – Olivia Trenchard, Jason Alling
- Wilbur Cross** – Sophia Zhang, Christopher Vera
- Xavier** – Simon Cordes, Gianni Brescio



Two Scholar Leaders – Ava Halovatch (North Haven) and Greshana Ward (Hamden) were recognized as the recipients of the "Bill O'Brien Community Service Scholarship." Each received \$500.



2024 SCC Arts Exhibition

presented by UI's Lighting Up the Arts

The SCC held its annual Arts Exhibition at New Haven's Creative Arts Workshop during the month of April. Many thanks to event sponsor, UI and SCG — part of the Avangrid Family.

Creative Arts Workshop is one of the many local arts organizations that UI and SCG support through its "Lighting Up the Arts" program, and has hosted the SCC for nearly 30 years.

More than 40 students submitted pieces to the 2024 exhibition, which was displayed at CAW's gallery on Audubon Street in New Haven. You can also view the gallery online — <https://creativeartsworkshop.org/southern-connecticut-conference-2024-gallery/>



Congratulations to the SCC's 2024 prize winners (as selected by a jury of professional artists coordinated by the CAW staff).

1st Place: Madyson Renna (North Haven) for Rush Hour / photography

2nd Place: Cora Doucette (Amity Regional) for Drowning / Watercolor on Paper

3rd Place: Mary-Amma Blankson (Daniel Hand) for Mischief-Maker / Oil on Canvas



First place: Madyson Renna (North Haven)



Second place: Cora Doucette (Amity Regional)



Third place: Mary Amma Blankson (Daniel Hand)

2024 Spring Sports Playoff Schedule

Updated as of May 5: Please note: all games/events can be changed due to weather and school event conflicts.

Boys/Girls Outdoor Track

Defending champions: Xavier (boys), Shelton (girls)

EAST Sectional Meet* – Monday, May 13 @Lyman Hall HS – 2 p.m. (Shelton, Cheshire, Daniel Hand, East Haven, Amity Regional, Guilford, Sheehan, Luralton Hall, Fairfield Prep, Wilbur Cross, Lyman Hall)

WEST Sectional Meet* – Tuesday, May 14 @Bowen Field, New Haven – 2 p.m. (Hillhouse, Sacred Heart Academy, Notre Dame, Mercy, Xavier, Career, Hamden, Jonathan Law, Branford, West Haven, Foran, North Haven)

Championship Meet* – Tuesday, May 21 @Amity Regional HS – 1 p.m.

Boys/Girls Tennis (8 teams)

Defending champions: Fairfield Prep (boys), Amity Regional (girls)

Quarterfinals – Saturday, May 18 @Higher Seeds

Semifinals – Monday, May 20 @Higher Seeds

Championship – Tuesday, May 21 @Amity Regional HS – 9 a.m. (boys), 11 a.m. (girls)

Baseball (8 teams)

Defending champion: Guilford

Quarterfinals – Monday, May 20 @Higher Seeds

Semifinals – Tuesday, May 21 @Higher Seeds

Championship* – Thursday, May 23 @Piurek Feld – West Haven HS – 7 p.m.

Softball (8 teams)

Defending champion: Amity Regional

Quarterfinals – Monday, May 20 @Higher Seeds

Semifinals* – Tuesday, May 21 @Biondi Field - West Haven HS – 4 and 6:30 p.m.

Championship* – Thursday, May 23 @Biondi Field - West Haven HS – 4:30 p.m.

Girls Lacrosse (6 teams)

Defending champion: Cheshire

First Round – Saturday, May 18 @Higher Seeds (6 at 3, 5 at 4)

Semifinals – Tuesday, May 21 @Higher Seeds

Championship – Thursday, May 23 @West Haven HS – 5 p.m.

SCC Playoff Tickets are Sold Online!

The purchase of tickets for most SCC spring postseason events will be online via Hometown Ticketing's app. Postseason games where admission will be charged are denoted with an asterisk*.

Visit the SCC's main ticketing page for a list of the games and events -- <https://events.ticketspicket.com/agency/d0bdfac6-5156-4208-830b-c5e1fbf20901>



Boys Lacrosse (6 teams)

Defending champion: Cheshire

First Round – Saturday, May 18 @Higher Seeds (6 at 3, 5 at 4)

Semifinals – Tuesday, May 21 @Higher Seeds

Championship* – Thursday, May 23 @West Haven HS – 7 p.m.

Boys Volleyball

Defending champion: Cheshire

First Round – Tuesday, May 21 (5 at 4)

Semifinals – Wednesday, May 22 @Higher Seeds

Championship* – Friday, May 24 @Higher Seed – 6 p.m.

Boys Golf

Defending co-champions: Cheshire/Daniel Hand

Championship – Tuesday, May 28 – 8 a.m. @The Farms Country Club – Wallingford

Girls Golf

Defending champion: Luralton Hall

Championship – Thursday, May 30 – 9 a.m. @Silo Point Country Club – Southbury

