

# **The “No ‘I’ in Team” Awards Dinner**

*sponsored by*

**the Southern Connecticut  
Diamond Club, Inc.**



*“To foster and promote the game of baseball”*

**June 12, 2022**

**6 p.m.**

**Monticello’s Restaurant  
S. Broad St., Meriden**

**EAST SHORE TRAVEL LEAGUE would like to congratulate all the recipients of the 2022 No 1 IN TEAM AWARD**

**It is truly an honor to be picked for this award by your school and the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club Board.**

**Consider yourself very lucky and respected by your peers. We as an organization of AAU BASEBALL are truly proud of everyone's success in your high school program. We hope that all of you go on to have very bright futures.**

**Congratulations to all!**

**MICHAEL LAMBERTI  
CHUCK COYLE  
SAL PUNZO**

**CO-DIRECTORS & FOUNDERS**

# PROGRAM

**Master of Ceremonies** ..... Ned Burt  
**Pledge of Allegiance** ..... Ed Klinkhammer  
**Invocation**..... Rev. Owen Sanderson, *Christ Lutheran Church*  
**History of SCDC/Introductions**..... Ned Burt

## DINNER

**Guest Speaker** ..... Dan Gooley, *Quinnipiac University*  
**Presentation of the Whitey Piurek Award Recipients** ..... Ned Burt  
**Presentation of the George Klivak  
Team of the Year Award** ..... Ron Luneau  
**Acceptance** ..... Sal Coppola for Amity Regional HS  
**Presentation of the Sam Burrell Jr.  
Coach of the Year Award** ..... TBA  
**Acceptance** ..... Nick Cerreta, Xavier HS  
**Closing Remarks** ..... Rose V. Mentone, *Executive Director, SCDC*  
**Benediction**..... Rev. Owen Sanderson

## COMMITTEE

<b>Rich Altieri</b>	<b>Mike Lamberti</b>	<b>Matthew Mentone</b>
<b>Chris Borelli</b>	<b>Burt Leventhal</b>	<b>Rose V. Mentone</b>
<b>Ned Burt</b>	<b>Ron Luneau</b>	<b>Tony Notarino</b>
<b>Dan Gooley</b>	<b>Joe Mattei</b>	<b>Fred Norman</b>
<b>Ed Klinkhammer</b>	<b>Frank Mentone Jr.</b>	<b>Vin Virgulto</b>

# TONIGHT'S GUEST SPEAKER

## DAN GOOLEY

Our speaker tonight is an SCDC Hall of Famer and completed his final season as head baseball coach at Quinnipiac University in 2014.



Dan Gooley was hired as Quinnipiac's 10th head baseball coach on June 7, 2001. Gooley, who coached the Bobcats from 1977-1987 and is its all-time leader in coaching victories, replaced Joe Mattei, who retired in May 2001 after five seasons.

In 27 years as a head coach at Quinnipiac and the University of Hartford, Gooley accumulated an impressive 507 wins. In 23 years as Quinnipiac's head coach he coached former major leaguers Turk Wendell (Quinnipiac) and Jeff Bagwell (Hartford) and current major leaguer Pat Egan.

In his first tenure as head coach at Quinnipiac, Gooley led the Bobcats to a 203-122-5 record in 11 seasons, including five 20-win campaigns, three NCAA Division II regional appearances (1979, 1983, and 1984) and the school's lone College World Series appearance (1983). In a three-year span from 1982-84, Gooley's team totaled a 72-25-1 mark (.740).

Gooley then moved to the University of Hartford and served five seasons as the head coach of the Hawks' Division I program. From 1988-1992, Gooley compiled a 101-90-1 (.529) record and led the Hawks to two appearances in the ECAC Division I Championships.

In 1988, Gooley was named the New England Intercollegiate Baseball Coaches Association's Coach of the Year after leading the Hawks to a outstanding 29-12 record and a runner-up finish in the ECAC Championships.

For three years before his return to coach the Bobcats, Gooley served as Quinnipiac's director of athletic development, spearheading corporate and alumni support for the University's three-year Division I athletic program. Prior to his arrival at Quinnipiac, Gooley spent six years as the director of team services/major league baseball for the Starter Corporation in New Haven.

A member of the Quinnipiac Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame, Gooley had a storied playing career for the Bobcats. The school's career strikeout leader (316), Gooley ranks second with 20 victories and a 2.47 earned run average. After graduation, Gooley served six seasons as an assistant baseball coach at Quinnipiac.

In 2004, he guided the Bobcats to a 23-21 overall record, 16-7 in Northeast Conference play. Quinnipiac finished second in the league during the regular season and advanced to the NEC Playoffs. He was named the Northeast Conference Coach of the Year and the Connecticut Baseball College Coach of the Year.

In 2005, the Bobcats finished 26-24 and captured their first-ever NEC regular season and tournament championships. Gooley's Quinnipiac squad improved in each season since his return. The 26 wins matches a high for wins in a single season at Quinnipiac. The 1988 club went to a Division II regional after posting a 26-8-1 record. In addition, the 2005 squad advanced to their first-ever Division I NCAA Regional at the University of Texas. 2007 was a banner year for the Quinnipiac baseball team. The Bobcats took the Northeast Conference Championship and were seeded No. 1 in the NEC Championship Tournament. The Bobcats also tied the 1988 team for the most wins in a season while also setting the Division I mark at Quinnipiac.

Gooley's 2008 team featured four players who would go on to play professionally in Pat Egan, Tim Binkoski, Randy Gress and Wilson Matos.

Gooley, who holds a B.S. in marketing from Quinnipiac and a master's degree in sociology from Southern Connecticut State University, resides in Hamden with his wife Susan and daughter Bree.

## THE AWARDS

The “There’s No ‘I’ In Team” Award was initiated in the late 1990s by the Greater New Haven Baseball Umpires Association (GNHBUA). It originally honored a single athlete in the GNHBUA’S coverage area. In 2005, the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club (SCDC) assumed responsibility for and expanded the awards program. The Diamond Club’s stated mission is “to foster and promote the game of baseball” in the New Haven area.

The award is named for longtime West Haven High baseball coach and GNHBUA commissioner John “Whitey” Piurek. The GNHBUA tagged one of Piurek’s favorite phrases from his coaching days onto the award’s name.

Tonight, more than 30 athletes from area high schools will be presented with the John “Whitey” Piurek “There’s No ‘I’ In Team” Award. Athletics directors and coaches jointly made the decision for their school. While it was recommended they choose a senior, they were free to selected any player they felt gave most unselfishly to their team.

The George Klivak “Team of the Year” Award was another award initiated by the GNHBUA. In 2007, the SCDC instituted the Samuel A. Burrell Jr. Coach of the Year Award.

### WHITEY PIUREK

John “Whitey” Piurek holds the distinction of being the only Connecticut coach to earn state championships in three sports -- football, basketball and baseball.

He is best known for his accomplishments as the baseball coach at West Haven High. In 36 seasons, Piurek posted a record of 526-115-2, won two state championships (with two runner-up finishes as well), and won the District League title 21 times. West Haven’s varsity baseball field is named in his honor.

Piurek was a 1935 graduate of Bulkeley High of Hartford and received a bachelor’s degree from the College of the Holy Cross in 1939. From 1948 to 1989, he was a professional baseball scout for the Seattle Mariners. He was inducted into the SCDC Hall of Fame in 1981 and the National High School Hall of Fame in 1998. Piurek passed away at age 94 on December 3, 2009.

### GEORGE KLIVAK

George “Ginger” Klivak signed with the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International League out of high school in 1938. After being drafted, Klivak was stationed at Manhattan Beach for the U.S. Coast Guard. He still found time to play baseball, coming home on weekends to pitch for the West Haven Sailors and other local teams.

After the war ended, Klivak opted to stay in West Haven, where he had a comfortable job during the week and could play for the Sailors in his spare time. He was one of the Sailors’ top pitchers and was called upon for a game in 1948 against the Birmingham Black Batons of the Negro League.

Klivak pitched for the Baltimore Orioles Triple-A organization. He served as secretary/treasurer for the Greater New Haven Board of Umpires Association for more than 20 years. He is a 1988 inductee into the SCDC Hall of Fame. Klivak passed away on August 16, 2007, at age 91.

### SAMUEL A. BURRELL JR.

Sam Burrell taught in the New Haven public school system and worked in the central office of the physical education department. He coached at Wilbur Cross High School and was later the head baseball coach at Hillhouse High. He also coached American Legion Post 47 baseball from 1956 to 1967 and won several zone championships.

In 1968, Burrell was appointed head freshman baseball coach at Yale University, where he coached for many years and is believed to be the first black intercollegiate coach at Yale. He later became an assistant freshman football coach at Yale from 1979 to 1992. In 1993, he was appointed to the Yale varsity football staff, where he served until 1996.

Burrell was the community outreach coordinator for the Yale athletics department. He was a co-founder of the SCDC and was placed in its Hall of Fame in 1990. He passed away April 11, 2022 at the age of 89.

# AWARD WINNERS

## AMITY REGIONAL HS

COACH: SAL COPPOLA A.D.: ERNIE GOODWIN

ATHLETE: **CHRISTIAN DASTOUS** POS: P

Said Coach Coppola, "*Christian can be best described as a player-coach for our team. His senior year didn't turn out the way he had hoped due to an arm injury in the beginning of the year. He worked his butt off in the Amity Weight Room setting an example for our team from October until the start of the season. He has continued to help this team in so many ways making my job easier as a coach. He helps to run drills during practice spending all of his time trying to make teammates better. I've also asked him to collect different types of data on our players as well as opposing teams to help me in my decision making. He is by far the most selfless player on our team. This award is made for players like Christian.*"

## ANSONIA HS

COACH: PAT LYNCH A.D.: TOM BROCKETT

ATHLETE: **BRENDAN PALMER** POS: 1B/P

57.1 IP - 34 hits - 10 Earned Runs - 3 Walks - 89 K' s .360 batting average - 15 RBI's

## BRANFORD HS

COACH: STEVE MALAFRONTE A.D.: TOM ERMINI

ATHLETE: **TYLER JARVIS** POS: P/OF

Coach Malafronte commented, "*Tyler Jarvis is one of the most team oriented players I have had the privilege to be around. Tyler believes that success in baseball is found in selfless actions. Tyler believes in giving everything you can on the baseball field, in the dugout, and in school and always finds a way to contribute to the success of the team. Tyler has brought energy and team spirit to every game, practice or event our team has been apart of. Whether he is in the game or on the bench he shows up the same every-day. He leads by example and has tried his best to inspire the young players on our team to become great teammates. He is the first player out of the dugout to help warmup an outfielder, after every play whether a strike out, or a hit, whatever it may be he is always trying to pick up his teammates and keep their heads held high. He is a player who accepts his role and when on the field does everything in his power complete his job and help his team be better then they were the day before. It has been an honor to be around such a well rounded person, who I believe is going to go on to do amazing things in life.*"

## CANTERBURY SCHOOL

COACH: TODD MATHEWSON A.D.: JIM STONE

ATHLETE: **WILL GRANATA** POS: P/1B

Said Coach Mathewson, "*Will is a selfless player who always puts the team's goals ahead of his own. Without me even knowing until recently, he took a young player under his wing on and off the field. Will is an ideal recipient of the No 1 in Team Award. He will be playing next year at the College of Mount Saint Vincent.*"

## AWARD WINNERS

### CHESHIRE HS

COACH: MICHAEL LUSSIER A.D.: STEVE TRIFONE

ATHLETE: **PHOENIX KASINKAS** POS: 1B/3B

*"He is unselfish player who has shown tremendous heart and hustle on the diamond. His work ethic and drive to compete has mde him a great teammate,"* said Coach Lussier.

### DERBY HS

COACH: ROBERT SWIERBITOWICZ A.D.: RUSSELL BALDWIN

ATHLETE: **AARON GRAMMATICO** POS: LF/P

Senior captain....*"He has been a member of the DHS Baseball team for 4 years, and has started varsity for the past 2. He brings a calmness to the dugout and a bit of intensity when needed. You can find him engaging with his teammates pre-game talking about this and that, but when the game is ready to begin, he becomes focused. He also never lets that focus get the best of him, and controls every emotion perfect. He is both a leader on and off the field giving back to the community of Derby while volunteering for the derby little league baseball clinics,"* according to Coach S.

### EAST HAVEN HS

COACH: BUTCH JOHNSON A.D.: ANTHONY VERDERAME

ATHLETE: **MARCELLO PROTO** POS: OF

*"Four year player-puts team ahead of himself. Keeps team loose and always there to pick teammates up,"* according to Coach Johnson.

### FAIRFIELD PREP

COACH: RUDOLPH MAURITZ IV A.D.: TOM CURRAN

ATHLETE: **A.J. PREISANO** POS: P

Said Coach Mauritz, *"AJ has been a two year varsity player. While AJ has had limited time he has put the team first every day. The Fairfield Prep Graduate at Graduation Profile has five pillars, one of which is to be open to growth. AJ's growth has been tremendous over the last year and he has emerged as a very mature leader for the Fairfield Prep Baseball Team."*

### FORAN HS

COACH: GARRETT WALKER A.D.: ANTHONY VITELLI

ATHLETE: BRAYDEN YOUNG POS: OF

Four-year member... batted at the top of the lineup....*"He is a tireless worker, who has earned the admiration of everyone he encounters. Brayden is a tremendous leader, a dependable teammate, and an outstanding young man. His future is very bright as he will pursue a career in the medical field,"* said coach Walker.

## AWARD WINNERS

### GUILFORD HS

COACH: NICK MERULLO A.D.: JAKE JARVIS  
ATHLETE: **AIDEN MCBRIERTY** POS: 1B

*"Aiden is a co-captain of our team, and has always placed the success of the team over his individual performance. As a returning Varsity player, he had high expectations for his senior year. He struggled early in the season, and embraced a reduced role in our lineup when asked. Even when he was on the bench, he was always the loudest leader in the dugout, and first one to greet a teammate after scoring a run or making a big play. He never let his individual frustrations interfere with the success of the team. In the 2nd half of the year, his humility and positive attitude have been a huge reason why he has had a great 2nd half of the season and is one of our top players again heading into the post season,"* said Coach Merullo.

### HAMDEN HALL COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

COACH: JOE FONTANA A.D.: DAVID DOYLE  
ATHLETE: **ANTHONY ACETO** POS: P/3B

Said Coach Fontana, *"Anthony has had arm problems for the last two years. He has never given up, or stopped working to get back on the field. He has always been a leader on and off the field."*

### HAMDEN HS

COACH: MIKE DWYER A.D.: TOM DYER  
ATHLETE: **DANIEL MOORE** POS: OF

*"Daniel Moore is the epitome of no "I" in team. He has not gotten to play much in game but during practices he gives 100% and that is an understatement. He makes the team better by his worth ethic and others playing off of him!"* said Coach Dwyer.

### DANIEL HAND HS

COACH: TRAVIS LAPOINTE A.D.: CRAIG SEMPLE  
ATHLETE: **WILL BAZENAS** POS: 1B

*"Will is an extraordinary young man. He is selfless, respectful, hard-working and is a role model to anyone that is lucky enough to spend time with him. Will has helped establish the culture of our program because of the way he practices, plays, and supports his teammates. He will be leaving this program better than he found it and I am so proud of him,"* said Coach LaPointe.

### HILLHOUSE/CAREER

COACH: RJ VOELKER Ath. Facil.: ERIC PATCHKOFISKY  
ATHLETE: **JOHNNY GUARAYA (CAREER)** POS: 1B

4 year high school baseball player. Said Coach Voelker, *"Johnny has never missed a practice this season. He has the team first attitude which every coach asks for."*

ATHLETE: **DONTE CARTER (HILLHOUSE)** POS: OF

4 year player with the program. *"He was nominated as a captain his senior year. He also ranks in the top 8 of his senior class,"* said his coach.



# AWARD WINNERS

## HOPKINS SCHOOL

COACH: ROCCO DEMAIO A.D.: ROCCO DEMAIO

ATHLETE: **MATTHEW SPENNER** POS: P/LF

*"Matthew is strong with an athletic frame and a live arm fastball that hits mid- to upper-80s, complemented by a nasty slider! He was the No. 1 starter the last two seasons and a top pitcher in the Fairchester League. Matt is a team captain, quiet leader by example, and will pitch at MIT in the fall,"* said Coach DeMaio.

## JONATHAN LAW HS

COACH: GREG SIMLER A.D.: VJ SARULLO

ATHLETE: **KIAN MCENERNEY** POS: INFIELD

According to Coach Simler, *"Kian has been a great leader and teammate over the past 4 seasons. He plays baseball with a focus that is unmatched. Kian shows up every day to games and practice ready to lead the way and help his team get better. He leads by example and is always there to pick his teammates up. Kian truly symbolizes what it means for there to be "No I in Team." I am proud that he represents Jonathan Law Baseball and the community of Milford."*

## MORGAN SCHOOL

COACH: MIKE GRANT A.D.: LEW PAPPARIELLA

ATHLETE: **GARETT GARBINSKI** POS: P/SS

4 year senior starter.... *"It has been my pleasure to coach this gifted athlete and natural leader. Garret is a once in a decade talent. He had an incredible year both as a pitcher and starting shortstop. We relied on him to carry most of the load this season and he delivered every game even played a few games with a badly bruised foot after being hit by a batted ball. He would not come out of game he would not let his teammates down. I'm thankful I was able to coach him,"* said Coach Grant.... He's going on to pitch at D-1 Manhattan College.

## NORTH BRANFORD HS

COACH: BILLY MITCHELL A.D.: LORI CONNOLLY

ATHLETE: **RYAN NUZZO** POS: 1B/2B/DH

*"Ryan truly epitomizes the meaning of the " No I in team" award. After having played every game at second base last year he was called upon to play different positions this year and has done so admirably with no complaint. He also takes charge with all other team duties such as field maintenance, equipment setup as well as many other responsibilities. He is truly a leader on our team and an inspiration to the younger players. It has been an honor and a privilege to have coached Ryan for the past four years,He will be greatly missed,"* said Coach Mitchell...Ryan will continue his baseball and academic career at St. Joseph's next year.

## AWARD WINNERS

### NORTH HAVEN HS

COACH: BOB DeMAYO

A.D.: STEVEN BLUMENTHAL

ATHLETE: **MICHAEL BRANDT**

POS: P/O

Coach DeMyo said, "Mikey is a true three-sport athlete, playing soccer (captain), basketball (captain) and baseball throughout his high school career. He is the dream teammate – skilled, unselfish and supportive of his team. He willingly steps into whatever task needs to be addressed at the moment, whether encouraging team members or acting as a role model for the younger players. His positive outlook, generous attitude and thoughtful commitment to the team concept make him well respected and genuinely liked by the team and coaches. Mikey is also involved in every facet of student life. He is a member of numerous honor societies (the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, and Mu Alpha Theta), the Student Council, Diversity Team, Future Business Leaders, Latin Club, Key Club, the Mock Trial Club and Best Buddies. In his spare time, Mikey is President of the Class of 2022."

Coach DeMayo continued, "It is said that the busier someone is, the more they can accomplish. That defines Mikey perfectly. He has received multiple awards for Sportsmanship in Soccer as well as All Academic Honors for the SCC in both Soccer and Basketball. He was honored to be awarded the CIAC 2021-2022 Scholar Athlete Award for North Haven. Mikey's life goal is to attain that perfect balance of work and fun throughout his life, cultivating long-lasting friendships along the way. He certainly is well on his way to realizing that dream! Mikey will attend Bucknell University in the fall where he plans to major in Markets, Innovation & Design in Business."

### NOTRE DAME HS

COACH: DON MARTONE

A.D.: JASON SHEA

ATHLETE: **MATT PRETE**

POS: P

According to Coach Martone, "As a junior Matt was an integral part of our pitching staff logging valuable Varsity innings on the mound to prepare him for his senior campaign. Matt's season was over before he started after he suffered an arm injury which shut him down for the season. Matt proceeded to attend every single practice all year. He performed every drill possible, mastered our signs in case we needed him to pinch run, and he dressed and attended every game. Matt was a true war dog; he kept charts, worked the Freebie board, helped down in the bullpen, he carried equipment, and he just did anything possible to help make his teammates better. Matt did this knowing he would not throw one pitch this season; that epitomizes this award; Matt is a true War Dog and our No 1 In Team recipient."

# AWARD WINNERS

## PLATT HS

COACH: TIM REDICAN

A.D.: RICH KATZ

ATHLETE: **TUCKER SPERRY**

POS: RF/P

*"Tucker does everything he can to help the team. When playing, he plays with a lot of GRIT and passion. When not playing, he helps set up the field, prepare for practice, carry balls, etc. All around great player to coach,"* said Coach Redican.

## SHEEHAN HS

COACH: DOM LOMBARDOZZI

A.D.: CHRISTOPHER DAILEY

ATHLETE: **ANDRY GUY**

POS: P

*"Andry is the ultimate team player. He always does whatever is asked of him and is a great teammate. He consistently shows great sportsmanship and is passionate about the game of baseball. He is the type of player that every coach wants to have on their team,"* said Coach LombardoZZi.

## SHELTON HS

COACH: SCOTT GURA

A.D.: SCOTT SNELL

ATHLETE: **RYAN BLAKESLEE**

POS: 1B

*"Ryan is an unselfish player who put the team first, He never worried about his personal accomplishments and concentrated on how the team performed. He was one of the first players at the field and the last one to leave. He would take extra batting and fielding practice at the end of the day. He excelled in the little things that are not always seen in box scores. He is a great role model for the younger players on the team. It will be hard to replace his great leadership,"* said Coach Gura.

## WESTBROOK HS

COACH: DEREK HANSSEN

A.D.: CAITLIN EICHLER

ATHLETE: **CHARLES SCHNEIDER**

POS: P/C

Four year member of the Westbrook Baseball Team... named team captain for the 2022 season. Said Coach Hanssen, "As a catcher, Charlie is a natural leader on the field. Over his four years on the team, he has grown to become a leader on and off the field. After missing his sophomore season due to the pandemic, Charlie emerged as an important contributor for both his junior and senior seasons. Hindered by a thumb injury his senior year, Charlie persevered, and even when not playing, aided his teammates through his example and leadership. Charlie embodies the ideals behind the "No 1 in Team" Award, putting his teammates before himself at all times."

# AWARD WINNERS

## WEST HAVEN HS

COACH: RON LUNEAU

A.D.: JOE MORRELL

ATHLETE: **DAMIAN GAZZANEO**

POS: 1B

A two-year starter at 1B and DH.... served as captain of this year's team and has been an outstanding leader in that role...Said Coach Luneau, *"He is hardworking, dedicated and disciplined baseball player. His 3.81 Grade point average was one of the best on the team. He was part of a team that was recognized by the American Baseball Coaches Association in 2021 for having a team GPA of 3.4 or better. In 2021, the Westies baseball team competed for the SCC baseball tournament championship only to be bested by Fairfield Prep, Damian was an integral part of that run to the finals. Damian Gazzaneo is the reason why coaches coach. To see hard work and dedication to team and school. Damian is most deserving of this award from the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club."* ... will be attending the University of Rhode Island this upcoming Fall.

## WILBUR CROSS HS

COACH: ANGEL RAMOS

Ath. Facil.: ERIK PATCHKOFISKY

ATHLETE: **ALBERTO RIVAS**

POS: SS/2B

*"Alberto Rivas has 15 stolen bases, a fielding percentage of 960 and only six strikeouts the whole season,"* according to Coach Ramos. He added, *"Alberto Rivas is an excellent infielder. He always works hard and is coachable. We call him the little Altuve."*

## XAVIER HS

COACH: NICK CERRETA

A.D.: DAN DECONTI

ATHLETE: **JAKE GESSECK**

POS: P

4-year member of the baseball program... According to Coach Cerreta, *"He is the consummate team player. Everything Jake does he does for the betterment of the team. Never once has it ever been about him. He supports his teammates every day and motivates them to work hard. All you have to do is ask Jake one time to do something and you can guarantee he will get it done, and it will get done exceptionally well. In order for a team to have a successful season you need to have a player like Jake on it. The intangibles he brings every single day are invaluable. No one has more character and integrity than Jake. He loves and respects the game more than anyone I have ever coached. Due to his humility, loyalty, and love for his teammates and coaches there is no better recipient for the "No I in Team Award" than Jake Gesseck."*

**COACH OF THE YEAR -  
NICK CERRETA -- XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL**



After graduating from Xavier in 2001 Cerreta received his undergraduate degree from Providence College in secondary education and English, and earned a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from CCSU. He has worked for the last 17 years at Xavier High School, serving as Dean of Students for the past 15 years. In 2006 he was named Head Freshman Coach at Xavier, a position he held for 9 years. After the retirement of long-time legendary Head Coach Rich Magner, Nick was appointed Head Coach beginning in 2015. Having just completed his eighth season at the helm, Nick has led Xavier to 5 State Tournament appearances, reaching the state quarterfinals in 2016. This past season he led Xavier to one of its best regular seasons in recent years with an 18-2 mark and a Hammonasset Division Title. Xavier was also the runner-up in this year's SCC tournament.

Over the past 5 years Nick also has served as an assistant coach in the summer and fall for the CT Cougars, an AAU travel team out of Cromwell, CT.

**TEAM OF THE YEAR -  
AMITY REGIONAL HS, --COACH SAL COPPOLA**



The 2022 Amity Baseball Team started their season in the weight room in October of 2021! Their work ethic has continued straight through the season both in the classroom and on the field. They are only one of a handful of Amity teams to start the season with 16 straight wins. What is unique about this team is that they have found a way to come back from behind in several games to keep that early streak alive. After hitting a small slump near the end of the season, they have bounced back as they have all season regaining their early form. This team has wins over some tough opponents including Fairfield Prep, Xavier and Trumbull. My staff and I are extremely proud of our team and what they have accomplished. This group of players are a class act and an absolute pleasure to coach.

**PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS  
"NO I IN TEAM" AWARD**

**2005**

Amity - Pat McKenna  
 Branford - Edward Bethke  
 Cheshire - Bobak "Bob" Emamian  
 Choate - Brian Marcus  
 Cross - Rich Rivera  
 Hand - Nick Brettingen  
 Derby - Michael Smith  
 East Haven - Ryan DaCorte  
 Foran - Mike Dooling  
 Guilford - Stuart Campbell  
 Hamden Hall - Jon Swirsky  
 Hamden - Kevin Stanford  
 Hill Career - Luis Gaston  
 Hopkins - Craig Cooper  
 Hyde - Brendan Logan  
 Lyman Hall - Mike Oswald  
 Morgan - Eraclito Rapuano  
 North Branford - Kyle Beefus  
 North Haven - Dan Golden  
 Notre Dame - Mike Flynn  
 O'Brien RTVS - Chris Smith  
 Platt - Nick Culver  
 Platt RTVS - Pat Dixon  
 Sheehan - B.J. Senna  
 Shelton - Brian Marsegua  
 West Haven - Steve Alves  
 Westbrook - Chris Lombardozi

**2006**

Amity Regional - Brian Paturas  
 Branford - Doug Papuga  
 Cheshire - Matt Cesca  
 Choate - Michael Cecchi & Timothy Brettinger  
 Derby - Jason Devonshuk  
 East Haven - Casey Tyler  
 Foran - Corey Lydiksen  
 Guilford - Anthony Callegari  
 Hamden Hall - Sam Eldrich  
 Hamden High - Justin Chabot  
 Hand - Travis Gulick  
 Hill Career Regional - Tom Hauburger  
 Hopkins - Chris Santopolo  
 Hyde - T.Q. Gray & Jesse Camacho  
 Hillhouse - Danny Burke  
 J. Law - Brandon Edo  
 Lyman Hall - Michael Mccarthy  
 Lyme-Old Lyme - Rob Neaton  
 Morgan - Scott Rembisz  
 North Branford - Mark Giannelli  
 North Haven - Nate Shatsoff  
 Notre Dame - Mike Kolakowski  
 Platt - Rene Nieves  
 Platt RVTS - Mike Bereza  
 Sheehan - John Gumkowski  
 Shelton - Mark Garamella  
 Westbrook - Justin Lawrie  
 West Haven - Steve Carden  
 Wilbur Cross - Rob Tammaro

**2007**

Amity Regional - Kyle Birdsall  
 Branford - Brian Maturo  
 Cheshire - Thomas Sirois  
 Choate - Mark Beaudoin, Jr.  
 Derby - Mlichael Matosian  
 East Haven - Joe Lucibello  
 Eli Whitney RVTS - Luis Garayua  
 Fairfield Prep - Kevin Collins  
 Foran - Cody Quinn  
 Guilford - Nick Hahn  
 Hamden Hall - Jackson Arpine  
 Hamden High - Richard DeMatties  
 Hand - Kevin Korwek  
 Hill Career Regional - Austin Edwards  
 Hillhouse - Brandyn Wright  
 Hopkins - Sam Schrieber  
 Hyde - Tiquentes Gray  
 J. Law - Chris Kochiss  
 Lyman Hall - Paul Thurston  
 Lyme-Old Lyme - Eddie Freeman  
 Morgan - Adam Taylor  
 North Branford - Greg Remyey  
 North Haven - Jeff Gaudioso  
 Notre Dame - Michael Biondi  
 O'Brien RVTS - Peter Jankauskas  
 Platt - Jim Wielgosz  
 Platt RVTS - Tom Green  
 Sheehan - Mike Dean  
 Shelton - Tom Lindberg  
 Westbrook - Matt Trasacco  
 West Haven - John Wezenski  
 Wilbur Cross - James Shapiro  
 Xavier - Will Hendel

**2008**

Amity Regional- Steve Siena  
 Branford - John Ahern II  
 Hill Career Regional - Otis Brown  
 Cheshire- Dan Feldshon  
 Choate - Ben Pascale  
 Derby - Tim Geer  
 East Haven - Stephen Pelliccia  
 Eli Whitney RVTS - Tylor Wetmore  
 Fairfield Prep - Peter Eason  
 Foran - Ben Besket  
 Guilford - Mike Pavelko  
 Hamden Hall -Alessandro Gasparro  
 Hamden - MJ Lombardozi  
 Hand- Chris DiMarco  
 Hillhouse -Danny Burke  
 Hopkins - Keith Bolles  
 Hyde - Bobby Coleman  
 J. Law - Steve Kubik  
 Lyman Hall - Michael McCarthy  
 Lyme- Old Lyme - Rob Gentile  
 Morgan - Steve French  
 North Branford - Frank Mentone III  
 North Haven - Steve Rudiewicz  
 Notre Dame - Anthony Pisani  
 O'Brien RVTS - John Gromotskie

**PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS  
"NO I IN TEAM" AWARD**

Old Saybrook - Frank Eucalitto  
 Platt - Raymond Thayer  
 Platt RVTS - Nick Dudek  
 Sheehan - Ben DiTota  
 Shelton - Marek McCormack  
 Westbrook - Ryan Riggio  
 West Haven - Mike Carden  
 Wilbur Cross -Elvin Rodriguez

**2009**

Amity Regional - Ryan Adams  
 Branford - Justin Giddings  
 Cheshire - Steve Howard  
 Choate- Jason Cohen  
 Derby - Tim Geer  
 East Haven - Daniel Russo  
 Fairfield Prep - John Blagys  
 Foran - Chris Folsom  
 Guilford - Matt Anthonis  
 Hamden Hall - Nolan Rich  
 Hamden - Kingsley Birdsall  
 Hand - Brendan Maghini  
 Hill Career Regional - Aaron Perry  
 Hillhouse - Leon Davis Jr.  
 Hopkins - Thomas Driscoll  
 Hyde - Jordan Green  
 J. Law - Mike Nelson  
 Lyman Hall - Lloyd Jacques  
 Lyme-Old Lyme - Mike Smith  
 Morgan - Mitch DeMazza  
 North Branford - Jeff Rivellini  
 North Haven - Frank J. Barbiero  
 Notre Dame - Eric Romano  
 O'Brien RVTS - Gary Britto  
 Old Saybrook - Jon Palmer  
 Platt - Patrick Bruenn  
 Platt RVTS - Nick Cowell  
 Sheehan - Nick Hatcher  
 Shelton - Nick Georgalas  
 Westbrook - Dylan Twigg  
 West Haven - Rich Prydol  
 Wilbur Cross - Jose Acosta  
 Xavier - Bob Stachura

**2010**

Amity - Brian Kernan  
 Branford - Chris Carbone  
 Cheshire -Mike Severino  
 Choate -Kyle McDonough  
 Cross - Edinson Rodriguez  
 Derby - Ryan Skelly  
 East Haven - Paul Spadacenta  
 Eli Whitney RVTS - Brian Aquino  
 Fairfield Prep - Andrew Fitzsimmons  
 Foran - Dan Geier  
 Greens Farms Academy - Gerard Connelly  
 Guilford - Craig Schlitter  
 Hamden Hall -Jordan Kubilus  
 Hamden -Will Hindinger  
 Hand - Jeff Buck  
 Hillhouse - Reno Dunkley

Hill Regional Career - Sheldon Poole  
 Hopkins - Ryan D'Souza  
 Hyde - Noelio Espinal  
 J. Law - Jeff St. Pierre  
 Lyman Hall - Eric Thurston  
 Lyme-Old Lyme - Sawyer Gregory  
 Morgan - Mike Lee  
 North Branford - Matt Proto  
 North Haven - Stephen Cusano  
 Notre Dame - William Meade  
 O'Brien RVTS - Shane Sweeney  
 Old Saybrook - Ken Henry  
 Platt - Jake Wolf  
 Sheehan - Reid Nelson  
 Shelton - Eric Christnsen  
 Westbrook - Dane Pallotto  
 West Haven - John Ascenzia  
 Xavier - Brandon Sullivan

**2011**

Amity Regional – Anthony Faggiana  
 Ansonia - Alex Chosczyk  
 Branford – Joe Massey  
 Cheshire – Greg Leonetti  
 Derby – Adam Greenhill  
 East Haven – Adam Poulin  
 Fairfield Prep – Alex Heiman  
 Foran – Steven Polito  
 Greens Farms Academy - Spencer Traver  
 Guilford – Austin Bramann  
 Hamden Hall – Marco Gasparro  
 Hamden High – Don Pfeiffer  
 Hand – Brian Heflin  
 Hill Career Regional – Juliano Nieves  
 Hillhouse – Lazaro Barrios  
 Hopkins – Matt Luciani  
 Hyde – Will Nieves  
 J. Law – Max Nowicki  
 Lyman Hall – Billy Graeb  
 Lyme-Old Lyme – Wyatt Stanland  
 Morgan – Nate Calini  
 North Branford – Taylor Gamache  
 North Haven – Brian Sica  
 Notre Dame – Matthew Biondi  
 O'Brien RVTS – Nick Ascencao  
 Old Saybrook – Joe Ferrantelli  
 Platt – Daniel Mrocza  
 Platt RVTS – Peter Brauer  
 Sheehan – Mark Brennan  
 Shelton – Dan McCue  
 Westbrook – Cody Forrest  
 West Haven – Jeff Hill  
 Wilbur Cross – Neftali Arroyo  
 Xavier – Steven Lockman

**2012**

Amity Regional – Rob Rosner  
 Ansonia - Vincent Bonaparte  
 Branford – Travis Krause  
 Cheshire – Jordan Kubilis  
 Derby – Brian Dobek

**PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS  
"NO I IN TEAM" AWARD**

East Haven – Joe Gioia  
 Fairfield Prep – Matt Beck  
 Foran – Ryan Manning  
 Greens Farms Academy - Brandon Velez  
 Hamden Hall – Nick Strada  
 Hamden High – Erin Moskal  
 Hand – Matt Girardi  
 Hill Career Regional – Adam Olszyk  
 Hopkins – Darren O'Brien  
 Hyde/Hillhouse - Kahlil Morant  
 J. Law – Michael Spadaro  
 Lyman Hall – Matt Moran  
 Morgan – Robbie Lee  
 North Branford – Matt Scavo  
 North Haven – Jake Scafariello  
 Notre Dame – Jacob DeRosa  
 O'Brien RVTS – Chad Sweeney  
 Old Saybrook – Justin Beal  
 Platt – Pasquale Silvia  
 Sheehan – Andy Mazzone  
 Shelton – Bryan Kondor  
 Westbrook – Tyler Shamas  
 West Haven – Dan Chambrelli  
 Wilbur Cross – Jonathan Tirado  
 Xavier – Ryan Verdi

**2013**

Amity Regional – Nick Ceneri  
 Ansonia - Ryan O'Connor  
 Branford – Dylan Carlton  
 Cheshire –Kevin Mirando  
 Derby – Dillon McMahon  
 East Haven – Thomas Moore  
 Eli Whitney – Jaury Santiago  
 Fairfield Prep – Michael Carter  
 Foran – Christopher Yee  
 Greens Farms Academy - Brian Dexheimer  
 Guilford – Dante Parisi  
 Hamden Hall – Christopher Salaway  
 Hamden High – Andrew Calabrese  
 Hand – Corey Smith  
 Hill Career Regional – Jose Matos  
 Hyde/Hillhouse – Jerell Baines  
 Hopkins – Simon Mathews  
 J. Law – David Pingarron  
 Lyman Hall – Kevin Naimoli  
 North Branford – Chris Caron  
 North Haven – Andrew Iovanna  
 Notre Dame – Zachary Korwek  
 O'Brien RVTS – Justin Rochon  
 Platt – Gage Forney  
 Platt Tech – Angelo Genovasi  
 Seymour – Mike Conlon  
 Sheehan – Rob Sprafek  
 Shelton – Tyler Tice  
 Westbrook – Chris Dahl  
 West Haven – Tyler Gambardella  
 Wilbur Cross – Thomas Miele  
 Xavier – Jason Schaff

**2014**

Amity Regional – Mike Tavalacci  
 Ansonia - Darwin Elias  
 Branford – BJ Massey  
 Cheshire – Kyle Waldron  
 Derby – Jordan Larue  
 East Haven – Tyler Gaudino  
 Fairfield Prep: Austin Crane  
 Foran – Christopher June  
 Guilford – Ricky Williams  
 Hamden Hall – Joe Lord  
 Hamden High – Tyler Mitchell  
 Hand – Andrew Card  
 Hill Career Regional – Kamil Wielechowski  
 Hopkins – Jim Martino  
 Hyde/Hillhouse – Calvin Riley Jr.  
 J. Law – Rich Dow  
 Lyman Hall – Ben Miller  
 North Branford – Evan Pollick  
 North Haven -Patrick Mikos  
 Notre Dame – Arden Burton  
 O'Brien RVTS – Kyle Bertanza  
 Old Saybrook – Adam Seegart  
 Platt – Scott Dargan  
 Platt Tech – James Cowry  
 Sheehan – Brian DeMaio  
 Shelton – Pat Murphy  
 Westbrook – David Hermansen  
 West Haven – Ricky Balzano  
 Wilbur Cross – Carlos Diaz  
 Xavier – Daniel Lawler

**2015**

Amity Regional – Jake Smith  
 Ansonia - Larry Cafaro  
 Branford – Dom Acquarulo  
 Canterbury School – Richie Barrella  
 Cheshire – Connor Gunnesom  
 Derby – Michael Koval  
 East Haven – Anthony Pepe  
 Eli Whitney - Devaunie Dacres  
 Fairfield Prep – John Carroll  
 Foran – Joe Radecki  
 Guilford – Tyler Donlon  
 Hamden Hall – William Rhone  
 Hamden High – Marc Masciantonio  
 Hand – Matt LoStocco  
 Hill Career Regional – Alex Bunnell  
 Hopkins – Johanan Knight  
 Hyde/Hillhouse – Terence Cooper  
 J. Law – Mac Taylor  
 Lyman Hall – Tucker McClure  
 North Branford – Jason Quido  
 North Haven – Hunter Iacobelli  
 Notre Dame – Jon David Cascio  
 Old Saybrook – Ethan Casberg  
 Platt – Jaelin Highsmith  
 Sheehan – Pete Abate  
 Shelton – Paul Salley  
 Westbrook – Dylan Engels  
 West Haven – Jake Kelly  
 Wilbur Cross – Sean Ranz  
 Xavier – Jacob Corrone



**2016**

Amity Regional – Matt Tomei  
 Ansonia - Michael Rhodes  
 Branford – Bryce Baker  
 Canterbury School – Jrstin Proteau  
 Cheshire – Troy Rtchmond  
 Derby – Jake Finnucan  
 East Haven – Matt Coyle  
 Eli Whitney – Michael DeMatteo  
 Fairfield Prep – Jack Oricoli  
 Foran – Michael Howell  
 Guilford – Connor Peters  
 Hamden Hall – Luke Wilcox  
 Hamden High – Brendan Berube  
 Hand – Pat Nelson  
 Hill Career Regional – Tyler Osborne  
 Hopkins – Billy McGrath  
 Hyde/Hillhouse – Jon Williamson  
 J. Law – Frank Mucciacciaro  
 Lyman Hall – Kyle Shea  
 North Branford – Matt Chamberlain  
 North Haven – Joseph Balzano  
 Notre Dame – Joe Morris  
 Platt – Andrew Abrahamte  
 Platt Tech – Justin Candido  
 Sheehan – Jake Gawlak  
 Shelton – Craig McNamara  
 Westbrook – Chris Benzi  
 West Haven – Kalan Morgillo  
 Wilbur Cross – Reynaldo Duprey  
 Xavier – Dennis Beaudry

**2017**

Amity Regional – Josh Crow  
 Ansonia - Jordan Jones  
 Branford – Trevor Brow n  
 Canterbury School – Dan Brady  
 Cheshire – Ryan Mostoller  
 Derby – John Dytko  
 East Haven – Dominic DelBasso  
 Fairfield Prep – Matt Zeffino  
 Foran – John L[ckteig  
 Guilford – Logan Hitchcock  
 Hamden Hall – Tim Bradley  
 Hamden High – Mark Durwin  
 Hand – Matt Sampson  
 Hill Career Regional – Angel Mendez  
 Hopkins – Ryan Meury  
 Creed/Hillhouse – Jonathan Browne  
 J. Law – Mitchell Smith  
 Lyman Hall – Zach Blier  
 North Branford – Gio Tirollo  
 North Haven – Dom Onofrio  
 Notre Dame – Brad Zsampar  
 Platt – Devyn Mc Carty  
 Platt Tech – Michael Hernandez  
 Sheehan –Sam DeMaio  
 Shelton – Jason DeSeo  
 Westbrook – Matt Gallagher  
 West Haven – Mario Kiaunis  
 Wilbur Cross – Omar Diaz  
 Xavier – Kevin Canne

**2018**

Amity Regional – TED CRISCUOLO  
 Ansonia - JAMES BROWN  
 Branford – ROBERT BARBASH  
 Canterbury School – JORDAN PEREZ  
 Cheshire – MICHAEL PEPE  
 Derby – MATTHEW OLIWA  
 East Haven – SALVATORE BUFFONE  
 Fairfield Prep – DAN FALLACARO  
 Foran – MATTHEW KENNEDY  
 Guilford – MATT DONLAN  
 Hamden Hall – JOSEPH LIUCCI  
 Hamden High – ROBERT LYON  
 Hand – CHRIS HARTMANN  
 Hill Career Regional – ISAIAH BAEZ  
 Hopkins – LIAM DAY  
 Creed/Hillhouse – DAN CASTILLO  
 J. Law – NATHAN MERCHANT  
 Lyman Hall – RUSSELL EDEEN  
 North Branford – JEFF JABLONSKI  
 North Haven – NATHANIEL ZALEGOWSKI  
 Notre Dame – CHARLES RHODES  
 Platt – CAMERON GERME  
 Platt Tech – EVAN MAZAKO  
 Sheehan – AUSTIN LEE  
 Shelton – WILL CICCONE  
 Southington – DAN TOPPER  
 Westbrook – JACK HAYES  
 West Haven – MARK BASTA  
 Wilbur Cross – BRIAN PETTWAY  
 Xavier – MATTHEW BJORKLUND

**2019**

AMITY – LOGAN CORRIS  
 ANSONIA – JOHN PICHECO  
 BRANFORD – ANTHONY BURZYNSKI  
 CANTERBURY – GREG MCKENNA  
 CAREER – XAVIER BURGOS  
 CHESHIRE – PATRICK MURPHY  
 DERBY – ALEX HICKEY  
 EAST HAVEN – GIRO ESPOSITO  
 FAIRFIELD PREP – ANDREW CHAGLASIAN  
 FORAN- JACK GREENSPAN  
 GUILFORD – JACK STRAND  
 HAMDEN HALL – JAIME WALKER  
 HAMDEN - JULIAN VIVENZIO  
 HAND- JAKE SALUTARI  
 HILLHOUSE –HOWARD JONES  
 HOPKINS – JORDAN SHAND  
 LAW – VINNY SCHULTE  
 MORGAN – AJ FRITZ  
 NO. BRANFORD – NICK MANCINI  
 NO. HAVEN – BEN SBABO  
 NOTRE DAME – AUSTIN ORMROD  
 PLATT – PEYTON THIEL  
 PLATT RVTS – JAGGER ART  
 SHEEHAN – EVAN WILKINSON  
 SHELTON – HUDSON MEYER  
 SOUTHLINGTON – BRENDAN KAVANAGH  
 WESTBROOK – TAVISH ERNST  
 WEST HAVEN – DEREK BAKER  
 WILBUR CROSS – ANDREW MARRERO  
 XAVIER – JOHN LASKO

2021

AMITY – JUSTIN ROCHE  
ANSONIA – M ATTHEW BLACKWELL  
BRANFORD – DOMINIC BONANNO  
CANTERBURY – JAKE ELSTON  
CHESHIRE – NICK VALENTE  
DERBY – BRYCE COTTER  
EAST HAVEN – SAM CRONK  
FAIRFIELD PREP – MATTHEW FLYNN  
FORAN- NATHAN CHEN  
GUILFORD – NIKO TARTAGNI  
HAMDEN HALL – MIKE COGGINS  
HAMDEN - MICHAEL NISTA  
HAND- DANNY CARBONE  
HILLHOUSE/CAREER – ANGEL LUGO  
HOPKINS – CHRIS WANAT  
LAW – LUKE PLEIMANN  
MORGAN – RYAN INGLES  
NO. BRANFORD – ANTHONY RAFFONE  
NO. HAVEN – JASON MAZZARO  
NOTRE DAME – RYAN CANNON  
PLATT – ANDREW ROMANO  
SHEEHAN – ANTHONY ROMANO  
SHELTON – SHAWN SMITH  
SOUTHINGTON – JAKE DELLAVECCHIA  
WESTBROOK – NICHOLAS PALUMBO  
WEST HAVEN – MICHAEL BONI  
WILBUR CROSS – CAL MELENDEZ  
XAVIER – EVAN EICHHORN



**SAMUEL A. BURRELL, JR.**  
**COACH OF THE YEAR**

2007 - Pete Civitello, Guilford H.S.  
2008 -Ed Marocco, Shelton H.S.  
2009 - Mike Anquillare, West Haven H.S.  
2010 - Steve DiCrosta, Hyde Leadership  
2011 - Billy Mitchell, North Branford  
2012 - Scott Gura, Shelton  
2013- Rich Magner, Xavier  
2014- Greg Simler, Jonathan Law  
2015 - Chris Borelli, Hamden High  
2016 - Jeff Farrell, Wilbur Cross High School  
2017 - Brian Hayden, Guilford H.S  
2018 - Travis LaPointe, Hand H.S  
2019 - Mike Lussier, Cheshire H.S.  
2021 - Chris Borelli, Hamden HS and  
Ron Luneau, West Haven HS

**THE GEORGE KLIVAK**  
**TEAM OF THE YEAR**

2007  
Amity - SCC  
Lyme-Old Lyme - Shoreline  
Hopkins - Independent  
2008 - Guilford HS.  
2009 - Jonathan Law HS  
2010 - Amity Regional HS  
2011 - Branford HS  
2012 - Derby HS  
2013 - Xavier HS  
2014- Jonathan Law HS  
2015 - Fairfield Prep  
2016 - Hamden HS  
2017 - Amity Regional HS  
2018 - Fairfield Prep  
2019 - Cheshire H.S  
2021 - Hamden HS & West Haven HS

**Congratulations  
to all  
award recipients!  
from**



**CONGRATULATIONS  
AND BEST OF LUCK**

**LAW OFFICES OF  
Edward C. "Ned" Burt, Jr.  
M. Christine Burt**

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Brayden,

Your Mom and I are so proud of the young man you have become. This award embodies your truly unselfish nature. We are excited to see you move onto your next chapter at UConn. Congratulations!

-- Love, Mom and Dad

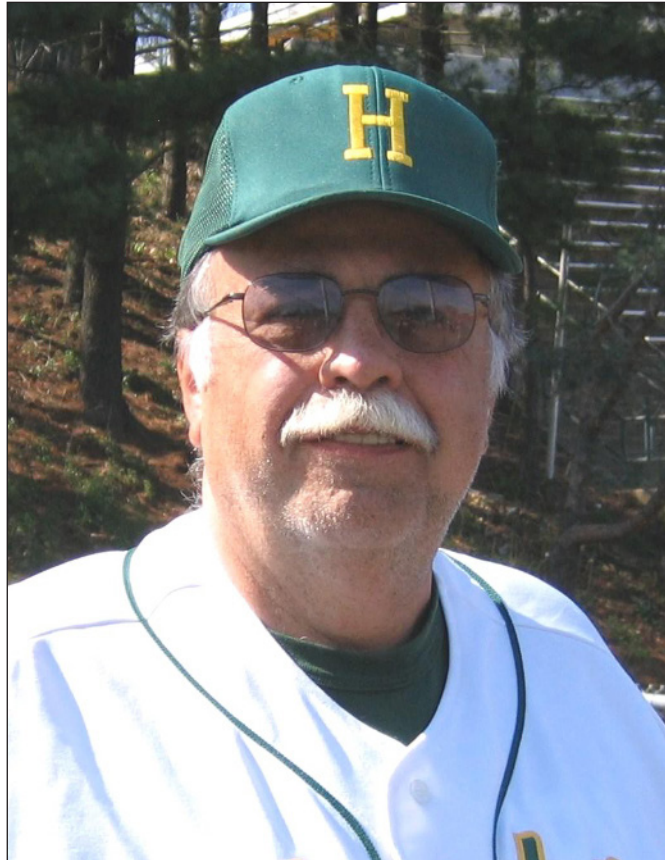


## GET INVOLVED WITH THE SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT DIAMOND CLUB

[www.southernctdiamondclub.org](http://www.southernctdiamondclub.org)

For photos of tonight's dinner, go to  
[www.diamondclubbaseballdinners.shutterfly.com](http://www.diamondclubbaseballdinners.shutterfly.com)

***IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
ANTHONY F. MENTONE***



NOVEMBER 9, 1945 - OCTOBER 20, 2009



- Volunteer baseball coach for Hamden High School
- Assistant district administrator for CT District 4 Little League
- Former treasurer and rules interpreter for CT District 4 Little League
- Member, Greater New Haven Umpires Association since 1963
- Former president, GNHBUA
- Sub-varsity assignor, GNHBUA
- Former umpire-in-chief for Hamden Fathers' Baseball Assoc.
- Member, National Babe Ruth Umpires Association
- Former vice president of Greater New Haven Diamond Club
- Recipient, Andrew Gassira Umpire of the Year Award
- Umpired at the Eastern Regional Little League Tournament in Bristol, CT

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Where Friends & Family Come Together

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BEST WISHES TO  
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WESTVILLE  
BASEBALL  
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***Congratulations***

**North Branford High School's  
Ryan Nuzzo**

**on Receiving the 2022  
Southern Connecticut  
Diamond Club's  
Whitey Piurek  
No "T" in Team Award**

***With all our support*  
The North Branford High School  
Diamond Club!**



***In Memory of***  
***SAMUEL A. BURRELL, JR***  
***December 1, 1932 - April 11, 2022***



*from his obituary....*

In addition to loving his family endlessly, Sam was a lover of any and all sports, and baseball was just one sport at the top of his list. He coached American Legion Post 47 baseball from 1956 to 1967 and won several zone championships. To further highlight his love of the game of baseball, Sam helped establish The Greater New Haven Diamond Club in 1980. Re-established as the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club in 2005, The Burrell Coach of the Year award, "named in honor of legendary coach Samuel A. Burrell, Jr." is awarded during the annual "There's No I In Team" banquet each June. The award honors an area high school coach whose team shows sportsmanship and a positive attitude, two essential ingredients to and about Sam.

Sam's association with Yale University began with Jonathan Edwards College in 1966, when he became Head Tackle Football Coach for Yale's intercollegiate football league. In 1968, he was appointed as an Associate Fellow in Jonathan Edwards College, one of Yale's residential colleges. Also in 1968, Sam was appointed as Yale Head Freshman Baseball Coach, thus becoming the first recorded black coach in the Ivy League. From 1969 to 1992, he coached freshman baseball and freshman football at Yale.

In 1993, he was appointed a Yale Varsity Assistant Coach by Head Coach Carmen Cozza. After impacting the lives of thousands of Yale students, Sam retired from coaching in 1997. In 1996, Director of Athletics Thomas Beckett appointed Sam to serve as Community Outreach Coordinator of the Thomas W. Ford '42 Outreach Program for the Yale Athletics Department.

Along with his association at Yale, Sam was a community builder in New Haven, serving many roles from the Director of the New Haven Parks and Recreation Department to teacher and PTO Liaison for the New Haven Board of Education. During the school year, he took his athletic talents to the field again, serving as Assistant Baseball Coach at Wilbur Cross High School and Head Varsity Baseball Coach for Hillhouse High School. Summers were spent building New Haven's involvement in the U.S. Youth Games, a national program devoted to instilling teamwork, leadership, and academic commitment.

He was a past president of the Walter Camp Football Foundation, an organization founded to perpetuate the name of Walter Camp, who is regarded as the father of American college football. As a lifelong champion for students everywhere and a former school educator in New Haven Public Schools, Sam was the mastermind behind the Walter Camp Stay in School Rally, which promotes strong school attendance and academic achievement to middle school students from around the state. At the 2020 rally, they referred to Sam as the longest living member of Walter Camp, and during the 2022 Walter Camp Football Dinner, in absentia, Sam was honored for his 50 years of dedication to the Foundation.

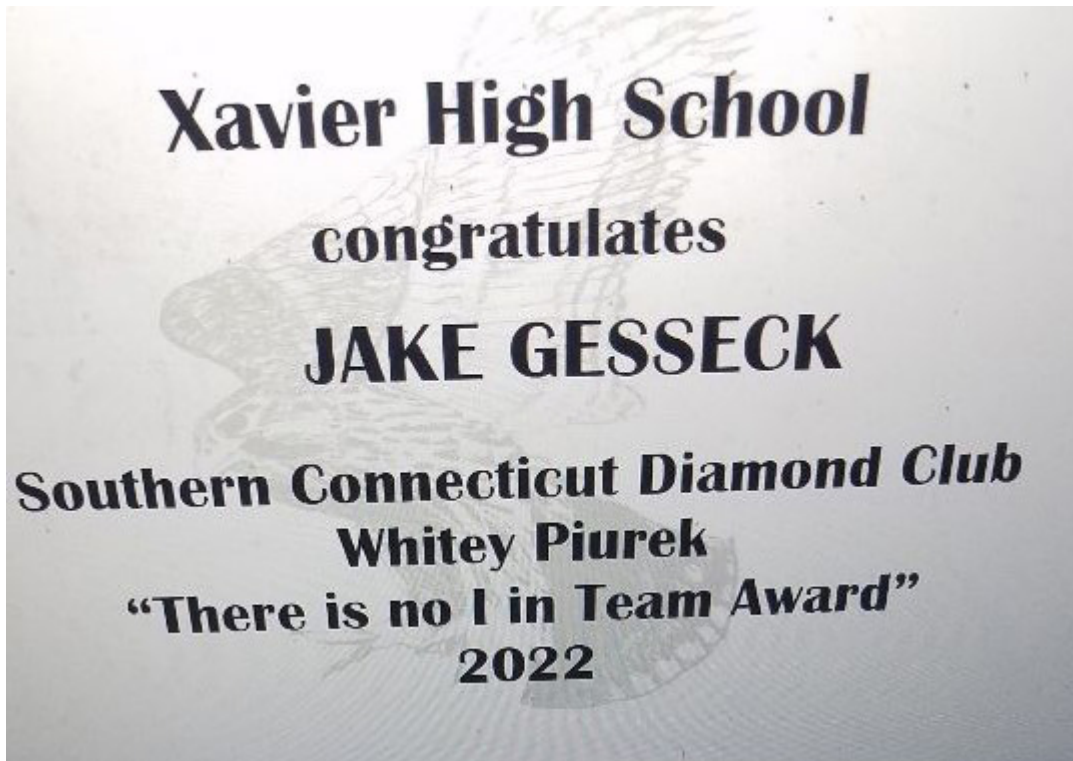
**The Notre Dame  
Athletics Department  
congratulates**

**MATT PRETE**

The North Haven  
High School Booster Club  
would like to congratulate

**MICHAEL BRANDT**

for receiving the  
"No 'I' in Team" Award



*The West Haven High School Baseball team  
would like to congratulate all honorees, especial-  
ly our senior captain and first baseman  
Damian Gazzaneo  
on his No I in Team Award*

*– The West Haven High School  
Dugout Club*

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO ALL AWARD WINNERS  
FROM  
TONY NOTARINO  
SCDC EXECUTIVE BOARD  
MEMBER  
HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2013**



**NO I IN TEAM BANQUET - JUNE, 2019**

HELP THE DIAMOND CLUB  
PLAN ITS NEXT EVENT –  
**HALL OF FAME INDUCTION**

All are invited – coaches, umpires,  
fans, players, parents

OCTOBER 13, 2022

5:30 P.M.

MONTICELLO'S  
BANQUET FACILITY

To be on the committee, or to make a  
nomination, please e-mail  
*[rmentone@comcast.net](mailto:rmentone@comcast.net)* or visit  
**[southernctdiamondclub.org](http://southernctdiamondclub.org)**

**Congratulations to all of  
tonight's recipients and  
best wishes for your futures.**

*Thanks for making the game  
fun for us, too!*



***The Greater New Haven  
Baseball Umpires Association***



## *Congratulations*

North Branford High School's  
Ryan Nuzzo

on Receiving the 2022  
Southern Connecticut  
Diamond Club's  
Whitey Piurek  
No "I" in Team Award

Good Luck at St. Joseph's  
*"Keep doing what you do best!"*

*Coach Mentone*

