The Murray-Reynolds Post No.76 team from North Haven became the New England Region 1 Champions in 1972 with a record of 26-2 under the head coaching of Joe Mattei. They won the crown in four straight games at Keene, N.H.

In 1972, Mattei had four pitchers he could go to: Dave Ciecierski, Kevin Gormley, Wayne Eddy and Steve Kesses. In the infield were Steve Matthew, Dom Prodoti, Dave Salovitz and Phil Sibiga while Brad Vanacore was catching. In the outfield were Ed Ardito, Kesses, and John Cipollini. Dave Fonda and Tom Jermine were reserve infielders and Tom Chiari was a reserve outfielder.

The regional tournament began as North Haven rallied to beat the host team 8-6, and ended with an 8-2 victory over Portland, Maine. In between, Post 76 had to hustle to beat Milford, MA in a come-from-behind game 12-9, when the left-handed Eddy saw his only pitching action of the year in winning relief of starter Kevin Gormley. Next, North Haven edged past Portland in their first meeting, 2-1, with Kesses the winning pitcher. Ciercierski, the team’s number one pitcher and the winner of the first game, finished off with the final victory and had an 11-0 won-lost record.

In the national Tournament in Memphis, Tenn., North Haven, without the help of Ciercierski who hurt his arm in the final game in Keene, beat Puerto Rico in its opener, 8-2, then lost to El Cerrito, CA and Ballwin, Missouri both by 7-2 scores. Ballwin went on to become the national champion.

In the eight state and regional games North haven played in 1972, Post 76 scored 77 runs; they scored 89 runs in 11 games, if you count the three games played in Memphis.