

19th Annual

“No ‘I’ In Team” Awards Dinner

sponsored by

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



“To foster and promote the game of baseball.”

June 9, 2024

11 a.m.

**The Woodwinds
Branford, Conn.**

**EAST SHORE TRAVEL LEAGUE would like to
congratulate all the recipients of the
2024 'NO I 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 CeremoniesNed Burt, *SCDC Executive Board*
History of SCDC/Introductions..... Ned Burt

BRUNCH

Guest SpeakerDan Gooley, *Director of Baseball Operations, Quinnipiac University*
Guest SpeakerDr. Kristen DeCarli, *Assoc. Professor of Sport Management, Albertus Magnus College*
Presentation of the Whitey Piurek “No ‘I’ In Team” Awards..... Ned Burt
George Klivak Team of the Year Awards
 Presentation of Daniel Hand High School..... Ned Burt
 AcceptanceTravis LaPointe and Ben Kuja, *Daniel Hand High School*
 Presentation of North Branford High School..... Frank Mentone Jr., *SCDC Executive Board*
 Acceptance Billy Mitchell, *North Branford High School*
Samuel A. Burrell Jr. Coach of the Year Awards
 About Sam Burrell Dan Gooley, *SCDC Executive Board*
 Presentation of Raymond “Butch” Johnson Ron Luneau, *SCDC Executive Board*
 AcceptanceRaymond “Butch” Johnson, *East Haven High School*
 Presentation of Stan Switala Matt Mentone, *Treasurer, SCDC*
 AcceptanceStan Switala, *Southington High School*
Closing RemarksRose V. Mentone, *Executive Director, SCDC*

SCDC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rich Altieri

Ed Klinkhammer

Matthew Mentone

Rich Biondi

Mike Lamberti

Rose V. Mentone

Chris Borelli

Burt Leventhal (*emeritus*)

Tony Notarino

Ned Burt

Ron Luneau

Fred Norman

Dan Gooley

Frank Mentone Jr.

GUEST SPEAKERS



DAN GOOLEY

Director of Baseball Operations, Quinnipiac University

Dan Gooley, a Hall-of-Fame athlete and record-setting coach at Quinnipiac University, returned to his alma mater in 2022 as the Director of Baseball Operations.

Gooley is QU's all-time leader in baseball coaching victories with 430, leading the Braves/Bobcats from 1977-87 and 2002-14. During his first tenure, he guided Quinnipiac to three NCAA Division II Regional appearances, including the 1983 D-II World Series.

From 1988-92, Gooley was the head coach of the Division-I University of Hartford, taking the Hawks to a pair of ECAC D-I tournaments. After a six-year stint overseeing baseball operations for the Starter Corporation, he came back to Quinnipiac as

Director of Athletic Development, spearheading corporate and alumni support following the Bobcats' move to Division I.

Upon returning to the dugout, Gooley led QU to the 2005 Northeast Conference championship and its first NCAA D-I Regional berth. In 2007, the Bobcats won 29 games, then the school record. Overall, he owns 542 career victories. He coached MLB Hall-of-Famer Jeff Bagwell at Hartford and another former major-leaguer, Turk Wendell, at Quinnipiac.

A standout pitcher for QU, Gooley holds the school career record with 316 strikeouts. He sits second with a 2.47 earned-run average and his 20 career victories are tied for third. He holds a bachelor's degree in marketing from Quinnipiac and a master's in sociology from Southern Connecticut State University.

Gooley currently serves as the commissioner of the West Haven Twilight League. He received the WHTL Gold Bat Award in 1984, and is a member of the Quinnipiac (1983) and Southern Connecticut Diamond Club (2008) Halls of Fame. *(Photo by Bob Rasmussen.)*



DR. KRISTEN DeCARLI

Assoc. Professor of Sport Management, Albertus Magnus College

Dr. Kristen DeCarli is an associate professor in the Tagliatela School of Business and Leadership at Albertus Magnus College. She also serves as the director of the sport management program and a co-director of the Albertus Magnus College Honors Program.

Dr. DeCarli joined the Albertus Magnus faculty in 2015 after working in its athletics department. Over a four-year period, she served as assistant director of athletics, sports information director, senior woman administrator, acting director of athletics, and associate director of athletics. She was named the 2012 Great Northeast Athletic Conference Sports Information Director of the Year.

Dr. DeCarli came to Albertus Magnus following four years in the athletics communications office at the University of Connecticut. During that time, she was the primary media contact for eight different UConn programs and an assistant media contact for the Huskies' famed women's basketball team.

A three-sport student-athlete at Hamden High School, Dr. DeCarli was inducted into the HHS Athletics Hall of Fame in 2019. She played volleyball at Endicott College, where she was a three-year captain before earning a bachelor of arts degree in sports management. She possesses an MBA from Albertus Magnus and a DBA from California Southern University.

Dr. DeCarli resides in Rocky Hill with her husband, Tim, and their sons, Ryan and Evan. Her father, Rich Altieri, is a member of the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club Executive Board. Altieri was the 2010 winner of the SCDC's Andrew Gassira Memorial Umpire Award.

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.

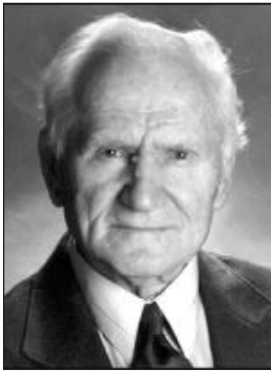
In 2005, the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club (SCDC) assumed responsibility for and expanded the awards program. The Diamond Club’s stated mission is “to foster and promote the game of baseball” in the New Haven area.

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.

Today , 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 select any player they felt gave most unselfishly to their team.

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

WHITEY PIUREK

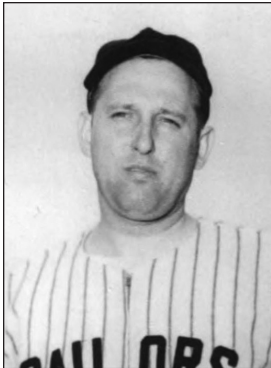


John “Whitey” Piurek holds the distinction of being the only Connecticut coach to earn state championships in football, basketball and baseball.

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

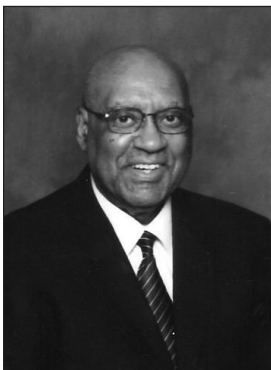


George “Ginger” Klivak signed with the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International League, a farm team of the Philadelphia Athletics, upon graduating from Hillhouse High School in 1934. He played for many minor-league organizations throughout the northeast United States and Canada before finishing his career for the semipro West Haven Sailors.

Klivak was stationed at Manhattan Beach for the U.S. Coast Guard during World War II. After the war ended, Klivak opted to stay in West Haven, where he had a comfortable job 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 Barons of the Negro League. He later worked as a scout for the Boston Red Sox and Baltimore Orioles.

Klivak served as secretary/treasurer for the GNHBUA 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.

2024 HONOREES

AMITY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Ernie Goodwin
Head Baseball Coach: Sal Coppola
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Johnny Aldi, 1B**



“Johnny worked as hard as anyone on our team, starting in October with winter workouts. He has led by example all year long, teaching our younger players what it means to put the team before themselves. He is the most unselfish player on our team.” -- *Coach Coppola*

ANSONIA HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Tom Brockett
Head Baseball Coach: Patrick Palmer
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Brendan Lynch, IF/P**



Four-year member of varsity... “For a program that has had three coaches during the last four years, Brendan has been a steady leader -- not only on the field, but also in Ansonia High School. He has played multiple positions on the baseball field and is always willing to do whatever the team needs. As a captain, he has led a young varsity squad and helped them mature throughout the year. I believe that his best attribute is being a leader on and off the field. The players know that Brendan is someone they can look up to and someone who will help them. He is willing to hold the players accountable and show them what it takes to be a winner!” -- *Coach Palmer*

BRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Tom Ermini
Head Baseball Coach: Steve Malafronte
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Giuseppe Piscitelli, SS/OF/P**



“Giuseppe is a player who has consistently demonstrated that team comes before everything else. Throughout his career at Branford High School he has always been willing to do whatever it takes to help the team win. As a captain during his senior year he grew into a great leader, one who was always trying to pick up his teammates and keep their heads held high through the good and bad times. As a player, Giuseppe would take on any role, play any position, and always gave his maximum effort. It has been an honor to be around such a well-rounded person, who I believe is going to go on to be a great success and role model.” -- *Coach Malafronte*

CANTERBURY SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Jim Stone
Head Baseball Coach: Todd Mathewson
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Seth Schullery, OF**



“Seth is a perfect representative of the No I in Team Award. He is extremely unselfish and does whatever the program needs. Whether Seth is starting or not, he always comes with a positive and team-first attitude. He is someone that’s going to be successful in life and that you can’t help but root for. Seth is only a junior and I really look forward to working with him again next year.” -- *Coach Mathewson*

2024 HONOREES

CHESHIRE HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: John Perosino
Head Baseball Coach: Alex LeFevre
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Christopher Kobylanski, C**



"Chris has been a selfless player for the CHS baseball team for the past two years. He is the player who does all of the dirty work on the field and brings a grittiness that trickles to his teammates. He has continued to improve in all facets of the game and has really come on strong during his last season swinging the bat. It has been a pleasure to coach Chris and he will be missed by coaches and teammates alike." -- *Coach LeFevre*

DERBY HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Matthew Bradshaw
Head Baseball Coach: Robert Swierbitowicz
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Kobe Marroquin, OF**



"Kobe has been chosen for this award for his continuous positive sportsmanship and teamwork. He plays many sports at Derby, but on the baseball diamond he has thrived on being a selfless teammate. He works hard every pitch, and shares his accomplishments with the whole dugout. Kobe is the first to the fence to support a teammate who has a 'not so successful' play/at-bat. He truly wears his love for the game on his sleeve. His unselfish attitude is a huge reason for the success of the baseball program at Derby. Kobe truly loves to compete, and shows joy from the lessons he has learned throughout his sporting career." -- *Coach Swierbitowicz*

EAST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Anthony Verderame
Head Baseball Coach: Butch Johnson
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Dominick Perillo, OF**



"Dom always puts the team's needs ahead of his own. He works extremely hard and constantly looks to improve his game. Dom is respected by his teammates, coaches, administrators, and school community. He is always the first to arrive and the last to leave. Dom always has an encouraging word for his teammates. He will do whatever is asked of him and leads by example. His personality and work ethic exemplify what No I in Team stands for." -- *Coach Johnson*

FAIRFIELD COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Tom Curran
Head Baseball Coach: Rudy Mauritz
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Griffin Fisher, IF/P**



"Griffin is the ultimate team player and character guy. He has always been willing to give and do what the team needs and leads by giving 100 percent every moment of every practice and game." -- *Coach Mauritz*

2024 HONOREES

JOSEPH A. FORAN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Anthony Vitelli
Head Baseball Coach: Garrett Walker
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Kasen Lanese, P/1B**



Four-year member of program... senior captain... will attend the University of Connecticut... “Kasen has been a consistent leader throughout his time in Foran baseball. He is always prepared for the challenges of the day. Day in and day out, Kasen leads by example. He is the first to arrive and the last to leave. Kasen is a tough, resilient, and dependable young man with the brightest future in front of him.” -- *Coach Walker*

GUILFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Jake Jarvis
Head Baseball Coach: Nick Merullo
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Joe Tafro, LF**



“Joe is a selfless, team player who always puts the best interest of the team above his individual statistics. He was primarily a defensive role player as a junior before earning regular at-bats as an everyday starter for his season season.” -- *Coach Merullo*

HAMDEN HALL COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: David Doyle
Head Baseball Coach: Brad Chernovetz
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Ryan Lynch, P/1B**



“Ryan is the most unselfish player I have ever coached. He pitched in 11 games this year in relief and shut the door every time. Ryan helped lead Hamden Hall to a 22-2 regular-season record.” -- *Coach Chernovetz*

HAMDEN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Tom Dyer
Head Baseball Coach: Mike Dwyer
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Tristan Manganiello, 1B**



“Tristan is a coach’s player who gives 100 percent in everything he does. The effort he puts into academics and baseball is unmatched. His effort and attitude are exactly what a coach wants to see out of one of his players.” -- *Coach Dwyer*

DANIEL HAND HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Chris Farrell
Head Baseball Coach: Travis LaPointe
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Johnny Reh, P**



“Johnny is the epitome of a team player. He is selfless, upbeat, and respectful to coaches, umpires and teammates. Johnny’s role on our team is primarily as a relief pitcher. This year, we had three starting pitchers that needed very little relief and Johnny would often find himself getting ready in the bullpen without ever needing to enter a game. His demeanor is always the same. He is willing to accept any role asked of him and is an invaluable asset to our team.” -- *Coach LaPointe*

2024 HONOREES

HILLHOUSE/CAREER co-op

Athletics Facilitators: R.J. Voelker (H); Michael Giardini (C)
Head Baseball Coach: R.J. Voelker
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Henry Rugemer, IF/P**



Attends Hillhouse HS... four-year player in Hillhouse/Career co-op program... admitted to Yale University... "Henry is an absolute representative of a student-athlete and teammate. He was always one of the first to arrive and last to leave throughout his four years. He always had a team-first mindset and grew to be a tremendous role model for our younger players in the program. Academically, Henry has excelled. He balanced never missing a day of baseball and maintaining high academic standards. As a result, he will be attending Yale in the fall." -- *Coach Voelker*

HOPKINS SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Rocco DeMaio
Head Baseball Coach: Rocco DeMaio
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Jaan Desai, P**



Will attend Case Western Reserve University... "Jaan is a great teammate and leader. We could count on him on the mound each week and he always wanted the ball in big games. He was second on the team in innings pitched and ERA. Jaan earned a 3.75 GPA, scored 1370 on the SATs, and was named an Academic All-American by the NHSBCA." -- *Coach DeMaio*

JONATHAN LAW HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Tom Drew
Head Baseball Coach: Greg Simler
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Alex Bludevich, OF**



"Alex is a true teammate. He shows up every day putting his team first. Alex leads by example and is always there to pick his teammates up. When he is on the field, Alex is a player who will look to bunt runners over or hit a ground ball to advance a runner so that the team has a chance to score a run. 'Blu' exemplifies what it means to put the team first." -- *Coach Simler*

THE MORGAN SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Meagan Sears
Head Baseball Coach: Trevor Brown
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Ryan Donadio, P/OF**



"Ryan is the ultimate team player; he puts the team ahead of himself. He was our top pitcher, with a record of 5-0 on the season." -- *Coach Brown*

NORTH BRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Lori Connelly
Head Baseball Coach: Billy Mitchell
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Victor Castillo, SS**



Team's leadoff hitter... will attend Central Connecticut State University... "It has been an honor and a privilege to coach Vic for the last four years. He has grown as a player and, more importantly, as a person on and off the field. He has become a person of integrity and someone his teammates can rely on at all times. Vic will attend CCSU to study cybersecurity next year. He will be greatly missed by the North Branford baseball program." -- *Coach Mitchell*

2024 HONOREES

NORTH HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Steven Blumenthal
Head Baseball Coach: Joe Romanelli
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Jordan Higgins, P**



“Jordan embodies everything you would want from a student-athlete. He is selfless, hard-working, a great leader and an even better teammate. He has had a lot of success on the mound during his time at North Haven, but his greatest asset to the team is what he does off the field. Jordan is always one of the first guys at the field setting up for practices or games and never gripes about playing time. He keeps a calm demeanor no matter the situation and always has his teammates’ backs. Jordan is the type of player and person you would like every player on your team to be like and he will be truly missed next year.” -- *Coach Romanelli*

NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Jason Shea
Head Baseball Coach: Donald Martone
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Matthew Cinque, IF**



“Matt started his senior season on the bench, having lost his starting position last year. Instead of pouting, Matt started to work and give extra effort in practice to help make his teammates better, which inevitably made him better as well; work wins. Halfway through this season, Matt was given another chance to prove himself at a different position, and this time his performance made it impossible to take him out of the lineup. By staying positive, having a team-first mentality, and helping everyone get better, Matt accelerated his own game and performed tremendously the rest of the year. Matt’s selflessness and hard work make him our No I in Team recipient.” -- *Coach Martone*

OLD SAYBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Brendan Saunders
Head Baseball Coach: Ryan Fraser
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Nick Denovellis, 3B/OF**



“Nick is the ultimate team-first guy who will play any position to help his team. He is always cheering on his teammates during the ups and downs of a season. Everything Nick does, he does with tireless dedication and work ethic.” -- *Coach Fraser*

ORVILLE H. PLATT HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Richard Katz
Head Baseball Coach: Bryan McCarty
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Aiden McCarty, 1B**



“Aiden is a player that does what needs to be done for the team to be competitive. He displays solid team sportsmanship, and never missed a game or a practice.” -- *Coach McCarty*

2024 HONOREES

MARK T. SHEEHAN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Gary Gravina
Head Baseball Coach: Dom Lombardozzi
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Paul Gorry, C/P**



“Paul is a true team player. He is a leader and always willing to do whatever it takes to help the team win. He is a fierce competitor who always puts the team ahead of himself.” -- *Coach Lombardozzi*

SHELTON HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Scott Snell
Head Baseball Coach: Scott Gura
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Jake Duda, 2B**



“Jake is an unselfish player that always 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 to leave. He took extra batting and fielding practice at the end of the day. He excelled in the little things that are not always seen in the box score. He is a great role model for the younger players on the team. He led by example.” -- *Coach Gura*

SOUTHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Steve Risser
Head Baseball Coach: Stan Switala
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Carson Lentini, 3B**



Two-year varsity starter... will attend Central Connecticut State University... “Carson is selfless, with tremendous motivation to become a better player. He is always there to help younger players, teaching them the right way to play and act on and off the field. Carson’s work on and off the field has earned him the right to play Division-I baseball at CCSU.” -- *Coach Switala*

WESTBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Caitlin Eichler
Head Baseball Coach: Derek Hanssen
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Kyle Litevich, 3B**



Sophomore... began season on junior varsity... “Though hard work and determination, Kyle earned his way onto the varsity team this season. Kyle embodies the ideals behind the “No I in Team” Award. He is a team-first player that is always ready to work hard and improve his game.” -- *Coach Hanssen*

WEST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Joe Morrell
Head Baseball Coach: Steve Carden
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Haygen Axelrod, P/OF**



“Haygen has been a four-year member of our team and has always done whatever is asked of him. He has achieved high marks in all his academic classes while also playing hockey and participating in our EMT program.” -- *Coach Carden*

2024 HONOREES

WILBUR CROSS HIGH SCHOOL

Athletics Facilitator: Harold Haughton
Head Baseball Coach: Angel Ramos
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Andrez Garcia, C**



Will attend Albertus Magnus College... "Andrez hit better than .300 and is an excellent defensive catcher. He is a complete team player." -- *Coach Ramos*

H.C. WILCOX TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Steve Wodarski
Head Baseball Coach: Dave Cronin
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Noah Zamorano, P**



"Noah is a four-year player with our program. He has taken on the role of starting one day a week on the mound and possibly a relief role occasionally. He is a team player who shows up to practice and works hard without complaints." -- *Coach Cronin*

WOODLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Chris Dailey
Head Baseball Coach: Steve Bainer
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Ethan Stepputtis, P/OF**



Two-year captain... all-NVL and all-state... also a captain in basketball... will attend Salem State University... "Ethan can best be defined as the ultimate team player. He has played nearly every position on the field during his career, and transitioned into a full-time outfielder during his junior season because it improved our team. Ethan is a leader and mentor to our younger players, providing them advice, feedback, or a ride to practice. He plays the game with a high level of energy and determination, while being coachable and displaying exceptional character and sportsmanship. Any success our team had this year was not only due to his ability on the field but also his leadership and team-first approach. Ethan will continue his baseball career at Salem State University, where he will study business." -- *Coach Bainer*

XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Dan DeConti
Head Baseball Coach: Nick Cerreta
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Luciano Frezza, C**



Three-year varsity catcher... "Luciano was selected as a captain this season by his teammates because of the tremendous leadership qualities he possesses and the compassion he has for others. Luc is one of the most coachable players I have ever been around. He is an 'old-school' baseball player; a true 'gamer.' He supports all his teammates every single day and always puts the team first. When it comes to accountability and work ethic, you simply don't find young men like Luc anymore.

"Luc is the first one at practice and the last one to leave every day. Putting in extra work to make the team better is an everyday occurrence for him. He cares for his teammates and coaches dearly and is the first one there to help them in every way. Luc loves and respects the great game of baseball and that is clearly evident in the way he plays -- never taking a pitch off. His presence is like having an extra coach on the field because he knows what everyone should be doing. Honest, respectful, humorous, level-headed, loyal, caring and compassionate are some of the first words that come to mind when thinking of Luc. It has been an honor watching him grow into a fine, poised young man over the last four years. He is a baseball gem and has forever left his mark on our program." -- *Coach Cerreta*

2024 HONOREES

GEORGE KLIVAK CO-TEAM OF THE YEAR Daniel Hand High School

The Daniel Hand High School baseball team finished the regular season with an 18-2 won-lost record. The Tigers were 14-2 in Southern Connecticut Conference play, earning the No. 1 seed for the SCC Tournament.

In the SCC quarterfinals, Hand defeated Lyman Hall, 1-0, in a thrilling 10-inning game. The Tigers followed that up with a 5-1 semifinal win over North Haven and an 8-5 victory against Notre Dame-West Haven in the championship game. Hand, which secured its first SCC title, entered the state tournament with a 21-2 record, tying the most wins in school history.



In 2023, Hand finished with a 9-12 record while going through some growing pains and injuries. The 12 returning seniors committed to turning the table during the 2024 season and have responded in a major way. In 23 games entering the state tournament, Hand had only allowed 52 runs and had committed just 22 errors. The staple of this team is its defense.

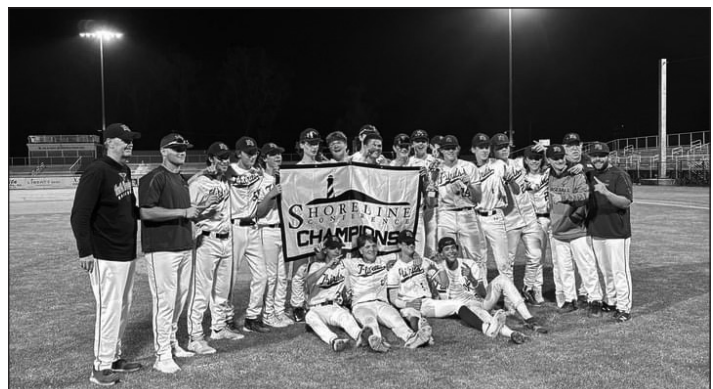
Offensively, Hand had scored 133 runs without hitting a single home run all season. The Tigers had stolen 78 bases, with a success rate of more than 90 percent, which is a credit to the team's athleticism and intelligence on the basepaths. Hand was 8-0 in one-run games in 2024, which is a testament to the Tigers' character and toughness.

GEORGE KLIVAK CO-TEAM OF THE YEAR North Branford High School

North Branford High School finished the regular season with a 15-5 record. The Thunderbirds compiled a 13-2 mark in Shoreline Conference action and entered the postseason tournament as the top seed.

After defeated Old Saybrook and East Hampton in the first and second rounds, North Branford went on to defeat Haddam-Killingworth, 4-2, at Palmer Field to win the Shoreline Conference championship.

North Branford claimed five all-conference players, including two CHSCA all-state performers.



2024 HONOREES

SAMUEL A. BURRELL JR. CO-COACH OF THE YEAR Butch Johnson, East Haven High School



Butch Johnson is completing his 25th season as head baseball coach of East Haven High School. During that time, he has amassed more than 250 victories and his teams have qualified for the CIAC state tournament on 22 occasions.

Johnson guided the Yellow Jackets to the state finals in 2002, one of four career quarterfinal appearances. He was named the *New Haven Register* Coach of the Year in 2002 and the East Haven Coach of the Year in 2023.

Johnson was a member of the Greater New Haven Baseball Umpires Association for 18 years. He also officiated basketball for three years with IAABO Board Ten.

Coach Johnson is an East Haven native and a 1973 graduate of EHHS. He earned Second Team All-Housatonic and Honorable Mention all-state honors as a football student-athlete.

Johnson is retired after teaching history at EHHS for 25 years. He still resides in East Haven with his wife, Marianne. They have two sons, Chris and Greg, and four grandchildren.

SAMUEL A. BURRELL JR. CO-COACH OF THE YEAR Stan Switala, Southington High School



Stan Switala and his family moved to Connecticut in 2021. That year, he took over the helm of the Southington High School baseball team after longtime coach Charlie Lembo passed away. He led the Blue Knights to the 2021 Class LL finals.

This season, Southington completed the regular season with a 20-0 won-lost record, then went on to win the first Central Connecticut Conference Tournament. This is the first undefeated regular season at Southington since 1990. The Blue Knights entered the state tournament as the No. 1 team in the GameTimeCT Top 10 state poll.

Switala is a former police officer in multiple departments in Michigan and California. He retired from the police department in Suisun City, Calif., and was hired as vice principal, athletics director and head baseball coach at St. Vincent de Paul High School in Petaluma, Calif. During his first season, the Mustangs went 23-0, the first undefeated season in school history, and earned a final California state ranking of No. 4.

Switala is a former scout for the New York Mets organization. Throughout his coaching and scouting career, he has coached 77 players that have signed professional contracts -- with several now playing in Major League Baseball -- and hundreds of NCAA Division I baseball student-athletes.

Switala is a graduate of St. John the Baptist High School on New York's Long Island. He is a graduate of Division-I Eastern Michigan University. Following his college baseball career, he played professionally in the independent United and Northern Leagues.

PREVIOUS WINNERS

“NO ‘I’ IN TEAM AWARD

2005

Amity.....	Pat McKenna
Branford.....	Edward Bethke
Career.....	Luis Gaston
Cheshire.....	Bobak Emamian
Choate.....	Brian Marcus
Derby.....	Michael Smith
East Haven.....	Ryan DaCorte
Foran.....	Mike Dooling
Guilford.....	Stuart Campbell
Hamden Hall.....	Jon Swirsky
Hamden.....	Kevin Stanford
Hand.....	Nick Brettingen
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 Tech.....	Chris Smith
Platt.....	Nick Culver
Platt Tech.....	Pat Dixon
Sheehan.....	B.J. Senna
Shelton.....	Brian Marsegua
Westbrook.....	Chris Lombardozzi
West Haven.....	Steve Alves
Wilbur Cross.....	Rich Rivera

2006

Amity.....	Brian Paturas
Branford.....	Doug Papuga
Career.....	Tom Hauberger
Cheshire.....	Matt Cesca
Choate.....	Michael Cesca and Timothy Brettinger
Derby.....	Jason Devonshuk
East Haven.....	Casey Tyler
Foran.....	Corey Lydixsen
Guilford.....	Anthony Callegari
Hamden Hall.....	Sam Eldrich
Hamden.....	Justin Chabot
Hand.....	Travis Gulick
Hillhouse.....	Danny Burke
Hopkins.....	Chris Santopolo
Hyde.....	Jesse Camacho and T.Q. Gray
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 Tech.....	Mike Bereza
Sheehan.....	John Gumkowski
Shelton.....	Mark Garamella
Westbrook.....	Justin Lawrie
West Haven.....	Steve Carden
Wilbur Cross.....	Rob Tammaro

2007

Amity.....	Kyle Birdsall
Branford.....	Brian Maturo
Career.....	Austin Edwards
Cheshire.....	Thomas Sirois
Choate.....	Mark Beaudoin Jr.
Derby.....	Michael Matosian
East Haven.....	Joe Lucibello
Eli Whitney Tech.....	Luis Garayua
Fairfield Prep.....	Kevin Collins
Foran.....	Cody Quinn
Guilford.....	Nick Hahn
Hamden Hall.....	Jackson Arpine
Hamden.....	Richard DeMatties
Hand.....	Kevin Kworek
Hillhouse.....	Brandyn Wright
Hopkins.....	Sam Schriber
Hyde.....	T.Q. Gray
Law.....	Chris Kochiss
Lyman Hall.....	Paul Thurston
Lyme-Old Lyme.....	Eddie Freeman
Morgan.....	Adam Taylor
North Branford.....	Greg Remmey
North Haven.....	Jeff Gaudioso
Notre Dame.....	Michael Biondi
O'Brien Tech.....	Peter Jankauskas
Platt.....	Jim Wielgosz
Platt Tech.....	Tom Green
Sheehan.....	Mike Dean
Shelton.....	Tom Lindberg
Westbrook.....	Matt Trasacco
West Haven.....	John Wezenski
Wilbur Cross.....	James Shapiro
Xavier.....	Will Hendel

2008

Amity.....	Steve Siena
Branford.....	John Ahern II
Career.....	Otis Brown
Cheshire.....	Dan Feldshon
Choate.....	Ben Pascale
Derby.....	Tim Geer
East Haven.....	Stephen Pelliccia
Eli Whitney Tech.....	Tylor Wetmore
Fairfield Prep.....	Peter Eason
Foran.....	Ben Baskett
Guilford.....	Mike Pavelko
Hamden Hall.....	Alessandro Gasparro
Hamden.....	M.J. Lombardozzi
Hand.....	Chris DiMarco
Hillhouse.....	Danny Burke
Hopkins.....	Keith Bolles
Hyde.....	Bobby Coleman
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 Tech.....	John Gromotskie
Old Saybrook.....	Frank Eucalitto
Platt.....	Raymond Thayer
Platt Tech.....	Nick Dudek
Sheehan.....	Ben DiTota
Shelton.....	Marek McCormack
Westbrook.....	Ryan Riggio
West Haven.....	Mike Carden
Wilbur Cross.....	Elvin Rodriguez
Xavier.....	Will Hendel

PREVIOUS WINNERS

2009

Amity.....	Ryan Adams
Branford.....	Justin Giddings
Career.....	Aaron Perry
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
Hillhouse.....	Leon Davis Jr.
Hopkins.....	Thomas Driscoll
Hyde.....	Jordan Green
Law.....	Mike Nelson
Lyman Hall.....	Lloyd Jacques
Lyme-Old Lyme.....	Mike Smith
Morgan.....	Mitch DeMazza
North Branford.....	Jeff Rivellini
North Haven.....	Frank Barbiero
Notre Dame.....	Eric Romano
O'Brien Tech.....	Gary Britto
Old Saybrook.....	Jon Palmer
Platt.....	Patrick Bruenn
Platt Tech.....	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
Career.....	Sheldon Poole
Cheshire.....	Mike Severino
Choate.....	Kyle McDonough
Derby.....	Ryan Skelly
East Haven.....	Paul Spadacenta
Eli Whitney Tech.....	Brian Aquino
Fairfield Prep.....	Andrew Fitzsimmons
Foran.....	Dan Geier
Greens Farms.....	Gerard Connelly
Guilford.....	Craig Schlitter
Hamden Hall.....	Jordan Kubilus
Hamden.....	Will Hindinger
Hand.....	Jeff Buck
Hillhouse.....	Reno Dunkley
Hopkins.....	Ryan D'Souza
Hyde.....	Noello Espinal
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 Tech.....	Shane Sweeney
Old Saybrook.....	Ken Henry
Platt.....	Jake Wolf
Sheehan.....	Reid Nelson
Shelton.....	Eric Christensen
Westbrook.....	Dane Pallotto
West Haven.....	John Ascenzia
Wilbur Cross.....	Edinson Rodriguez
Xavier.....	Brandon Sullivan

2011

Amity.....	Anthony Faggiana
Ansonia.....	Alex Chosczyk
Branford.....	Joe Massey
Career.....	Juliano Nieves
Cheshire.....	Greg Leonetti
Derby.....	Adam Greenhill
East Haven.....	Adam Poulin
Fairfield Prep.....	Alex Heiman
Foran.....	Steven Polito
Greens Farms.....	Spencer Traver
Guilford.....	Austin Bramann
Hamden Hall.....	Marco Gasparro
Hamden.....	Don Pfeiffer
Hand.....	Brian Heflin
Hillhouse.....	Lazaro Barrios
Hopkins.....	Matt Luciani
Hyde.....	Will Nieves
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 Tech.....	Nick Ascencio
Old Saybrook.....	Joe Ferrantelli
Platt.....	Daniel Mroca
Platt Tech.....	Peter Brauer
Sheehan.....	Mark Brennan
Shelton.....	Dan McCue
Westbrook.....	Cody Forrest
West Haven.....	Jeff Hill
Wilbur Cross.....	Neftali Arroyo
Xavier.....	Steven Lockman

2012

Amity.....	Rob Rosner
Ansonia.....	Vincent Bonaparte
Branford.....	Travis Krause
Career.....	Adam Olszyk
Cheshire.....	Jordan Kubilis
Derby.....	Brian Dobek
East Haven.....	Joe Gioia
Fairfield Prep.....	Matt Beck
Foran.....	Ryan Manning
Greens Farms.....	Brandon Velez
Guilford.....	Austin Bramann
Hamden Hall.....	Nick Strada
Hamden.....	Erin Moskal
Hand.....	Matt Girardi
Hopkins.....	Darren O'Brien
Hyde/Hillhouse.....	Kahlil Morant
Law.....	Michael Spadaro
Lyman Hall.....	Matt Moran
Morgan.....	Robbie Lee
North Branford.....	Matt Scavo
North Haven.....	Jake Scafariello
Notre Dame.....	Jacob DeRosa
O'Brien Tech.....	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

PREVIOUS WINNERS

2013

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

2014

Amity.....	Mike Tavalacci
Ansonia.....	Darwin Elias
Branford.....	B.J. Massey
Career.....	Kamil Wielechowski
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.....	Tyler Mitchell
Hand.....	Andrew Card
Hopkins.....	Jim Martino
Hyde/Hillhouse.....	Calvin Riley Jr.
Law.....	Rich Dow
Lyman Hall.....	Ben Miller
North Branford.....	Evan Pollick
North Haven.....	Patrick Mikos
Notre Dame.....	Arden Burton
O'Brien Tech.....	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.....	Jake Smith
Ansonia.....	Larry Cafaro
Branford.....	Dom Acquarulo
Canterbury.....	Richie Barrella
Career.....	Alex Bunnell
Cheshire.....	Connor Gunnesom
Derby.....	Michael Koval
East Haven.....	Anthony Pepe
Eli Whitney Tech.....	Devaunie Dacres
Fairfield Prep.....	John Carroll
Foran.....	Joe Radecki
Guilford.....	Tyler Donlon
Hamden Hall.....	William Rhone
Hamden.....	Marc Masciantonio
Hand.....	Matt LoStocco
Hopkins.....	Johan Knight
Hyde/Hillhouse.....	Terence Cooper
Law.....	Mac Taylor
Lyman Hall.....	Tucker McClure
North Branford.....	Jason Guido
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.....	Matt Tomei
Ansonia.....	Michael Rhodes
Branford.....	Bryce Baker
Canterbury.....	Justin Proteau
Career.....	Tyler Osborne
Cheshire.....	Troy Richmond
Derby.....	Jake Finnucan
East Haven.....	Matt Coyle
Eli Whitney Tech.....	Michael DeMatteo
Fairfield Prep.....	Jack Oricoli
Foran.....	Michael Howell
Guilford.....	Connor Peters
Hamden Hall.....	Luke Wilcox
Hamden.....	Brendan Berube
Hand.....	Pat Nelson
Hopkins.....	Billy McGrath
Hyde/Hillhouse.....	Jon Williamson
Law.....	Frank Mucciacciaro
Lyman Hall.....	Kyle Shea
North Branford.....	Matt Chamberlain
North Haven.....	Joseph Balzano
Notre Dame.....	Joe Morris
Platt.....	Andrew Abrahante
Platt Tech.....	Justin Candido
Sheehan.....	Jake Gawlek
Shelton.....	Craig McNamara
Westbrook.....	Chris Benzi
West Haven.....	Kalan Morgillo
Wilbur Cross.....	Reynaldo Duprey
Xavier.....	Dennis Beaudry

PREVIOUS WINNERS

2017

Amity.....	Josh Crow
Ansonia.....	Jordan Jones
Branford.....	Trevor Brown
Canterbury.....	Dan Brady
Career.....	Angel Mendez
Cheshire.....	Ryan Mostoller
Creed/Hillhouse.....	Jonathan Browne
Derby.....	Jon Dytko
East Haven.....	Dominic DelBasso
Fairfield Prep.....	Matt Zeffino
Foran.....	John Leckteig
Guilford.....	Logan Hitchcock
Hamden Hall.....	Tim Bradley
Hamden.....	Mark Durwin
Hand.....	Matt Sampson
Hopkins.....	Ryan Meury
Law.....	Mitchell Smith
Lyman Hall.....	Zach Blier
North Branford.....	Gio Tirolo
North Haven.....	Dom Onofrio
Notre Dame.....	Brad Zsampar
Platt.....	Devyn McCarty
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.....	Ted Criscuolo
Ansonia.....	James Brown
Branford.....	Robert Barbash
Canterbury.....	Jordan Perez
Career.....	Isaiah Baez
Cheshire.....	Michael Pepe
Creed/Hillhouse.....	Dan Castillo
Derby.....	Matthew Oliwa
East Haven.....	Salvatore Buffone
Fairfield Prep.....	Dan Fallacaro
Foran.....	Matthew Kennedy
Guilford.....	Matt Donlan
Hamden Hall.....	Joseph Liucci
Hamden.....	Robert Lyon
Hand.....	Chris Hartmann
Hopkins.....	Liam Day
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 Vivencio
Hand.....	Jake Salutari
Hillhouse.....	Howard Jones
Hopkins.....	Jordan Shand
Law.....	Vinny Schulte
Morgan.....	A.J. Fritz
North Branford.....	Nick Mancini
North Haven.....	Ben Sbabo
Notre Dame.....	Austin Ormrod
Platt.....	Peyton Thiel
Platt Tech.....	Jagger Art
Sheehan.....	Evan Wilkinson
Shelton.....	Hudson Meyer
Southington.....	Brendan Kavanagh
Westbrook.....	Tavish Ernst
West Haven.....	Derek Baker
Wilbur Cross.....	Andrew Marrero
Xavier.....	John Lasko

2020 No Banquet

2021

Amity.....	Justin Roche
Ansonia.....	Matthew 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 Targagni
Hamden Hall.....	Mike Coggins
Hamden.....	Michael Nista
Hand.....	Danny Carbone
Hillhouse/Career.....	Angel Lugo
Hopkins.....	Chris Wanat
Law.....	Luke Pleimann
Morgan.....	Ryan Ingles
North Branford.....	Anthony Raffone
North 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

PREVIOUS WINNERS

2022		2023	
Amity.....	Christian Dastous	Amity.....	Alex Blomberg
Ansonia.....	Brendan Palmer	Ansonia.....	Dylan Ellison
Branford.....	Tyler Jarvis	Branford.....	Michael Rebmann
Canterbury.....	Will Granata	Canterbury.....	Jason Fisher
Cheshire.....	Phoenix Kasinkas	Cheshire.....	Anthony Votto
Derby.....	Aaron Grammatico	Derby.....	Ryan Slack
East Haven.....	Marcello Proto	East Haven.....	Rocco Lombardi
Fairfield Prep.....	A.J. Preisano	Fairfield Prep.....	Trey Hartnett
Foran.....	Brayden Walker	Foran.....	Brendan Fallon
Guilford.....	Aiden McBrierty	Guilford.....	Alex Vincent
Hamden Hall.....	Anthony Aceto	Hamden Hall.....	Kaleb Cohen
Hamden.....	Daniel Moore	Hamden.....	Larry Rarick
Hand.....	Will Bazenas	Hand.....	Cole Daignault
Hillhouse/Career.....	Donte Carter and Johnny Guaraya	Hillhouse/Career.....	Tyler Saxton and Adrian Padilla
Hopkins.....	Matthew Spenner	Hopkins.....	Luke O'Connell
Law.....	Kian McEnerney	Law.....	Nolan McKenna-Hansen
Morgan.....	Garrett Garbinski	Morgan.....	Nicholas Spaziano
North Branford.....	Ryan Nuzzo	North Branford.....	Nico Falcioni
North Haven.....	Michael Brandt	North Haven.....	Steven Vincent
Notre Dame.....	Matt Prete	Notre Dame.....	Will Panza
Platt.....	Tucker Sperry	O'Brien Tech.....	Mike Smith
Sheehan.....	Andry Guy	Old Saybrook.....	John Witczak
Shelton.....	Ryan Blakeslee	Platt.....	Bruce Candelora
Westbrook.....	Charles Schneider	Sheehan.....	Ben Busillo
West Haven.....	Damian Gazzaneo	Shelton.....	Ken Supersano Jr.
Wilbur Cross.....	Alberto Rivas	Southington.....	Tyler Blumetti
Xavier.....	Jake Gesse	Westbrook.....	Tyler Prisley
		West Haven.....	K.J. Harp
		Wilbur Cross.....	Joshua Santiago
		Xavier.....	Ryan Santello

Working smoke detectors save lives.



Don't let your dreams go up in smoke.

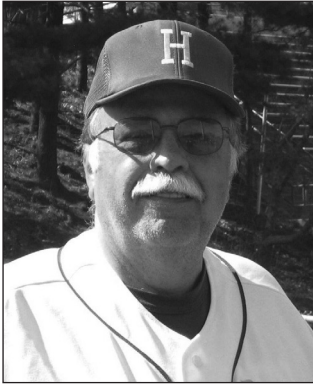
PREVIOUS WINNERS

**Past winners of the
SAMUEL A. BURRELL JR. COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD
and the
GEORGE KLIVAK TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Year	Coach	Team
2007	Pete Civitello, Guilford HS	SCC: Amity Regional HS Shoreline: Lyme-Old Lyme HS Independent: Hopkins School
2008	Ed Marocco, Shelton HS	Guilford HS
2009	Mike Anquillare, West Haven HS	Jonathan Law HS
2010	Steve DiCrosta, Hyde Leadership School	Amity Regional HS
2011	Billy Mitchell, North Branford HS	Branford HS
2012	Scott Gura, Shelton HS	Derby HS
2013	Rich Magner, Xavier HS	Xavier HS
2014	Greg Simler, Jonathan Law HS	Jonathan Law HS
2015	Chris Borelli, Hamden HS	Fairfield Prep
2016	Jeff Farrell, Wilbur Cross HS	Hamden HS
2017	Brian Hayden, Guilford HS	Amity Regional HS
2018	Travis LaPointe, Daniel Hand HS	Fairfield Prep
2019	Mike Lussier, Cheshire HS	Cheshire HS
2021	Chris Borelli, Hamden HS and Ron Luneau, West Haven HS	Hamden HS and West Haven HS
2022	Nick Cerreta, Xavier HS	Amity Regional HS
2023	Nick Merullo, Guilford HS	Guilford HS

IN MEMORIAM

In remembrance of members of the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club Executive Board who have passed away since the SCDC's inception in 2005.



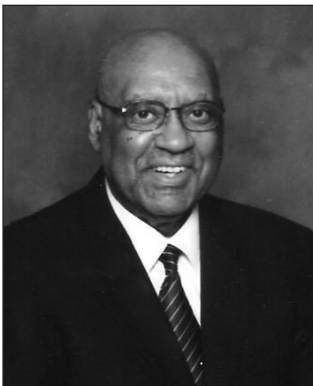
Tony Mentone
1945-2009



Mel Zeidenberg
1925-2018



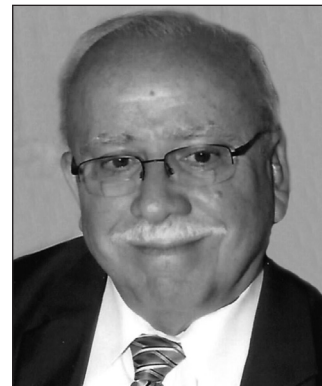
Ed Rapuano Sr.
1937-2021



Sam Burrell
1932-2022



Vin Virgulto
1941-2023

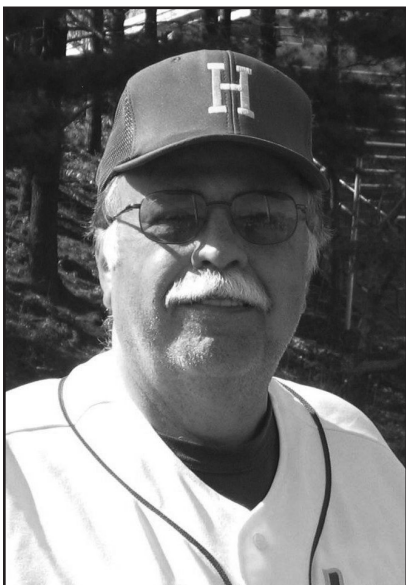


Joe Mattei
1937-2024

In Loving Memory of **ANTHONY F. MENTONE**

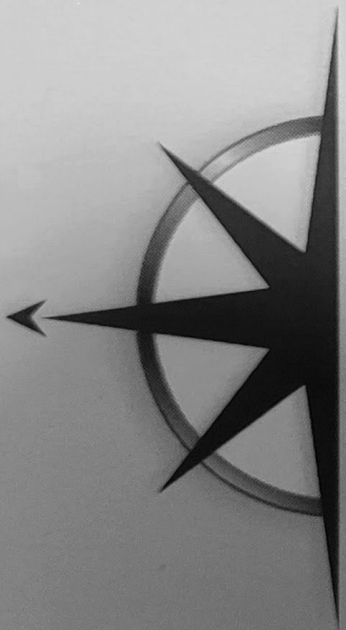


November 9, 1945 -- October 20, 2009



- * Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach, Hamden High School
- * Assistant District Administrator, Treasurer, and Rules Interpreter, Connecticut District 4 Little League
- * Member, Greater New Haven Baseball Umpires Association 1963-2009. Served as President and Sub-Varsity Commissioner
- * Umpire-in-Chief, President, League Director and Coach, Hamden Fathers Baseball/Softball Association
- * Member, National Babe Ruth Umpires Association
- * Vice President, Greater New Haven Diamond Club
- * Recipient, 1991 GNHDC Andrew Gassira Umpire Award
- * Selected to umpire at 1998 East Regional Little League Tournament in Bristol, Conn.
- * Inducted into SCDC Hall of Fame, 2010

**Congratulations
to all
award recipients
from
Hill & Hill, LLC!**



Hill & Hill, LLC

Thomas A. Virgulto

Attorney At Law

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www.hill-hill.com



WEST HAVEN TWILIGHT LEAGUE

Amateur Baseball Since 1933

Serving Southern Connecticut

The West Haven Twilight League congratulates all the winners of the 2024 No I in Team Award

MIKE TORELLO, President & Treasurer

DAN GOOLEY, Commissioner

The West Haven Twilight League is an unlimited-age, wood-bat baseball league consisting of current college players and post-college players. We are a member of the National Amateur Baseball Federation. All games are played at Quigley Stadium in West Haven.

www.WHTL.org

Congratulations to all the award recipients at this year's "No I In Team Dinner" and best wishes on continued success in the future!



Greater New Haven Baseball Umpires Association

Interested in becoming an umpire?
Sign up by visiting our website and we will provide the
training and knowledge to get you game ready!

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www.facebook.com/gnhbuaumps



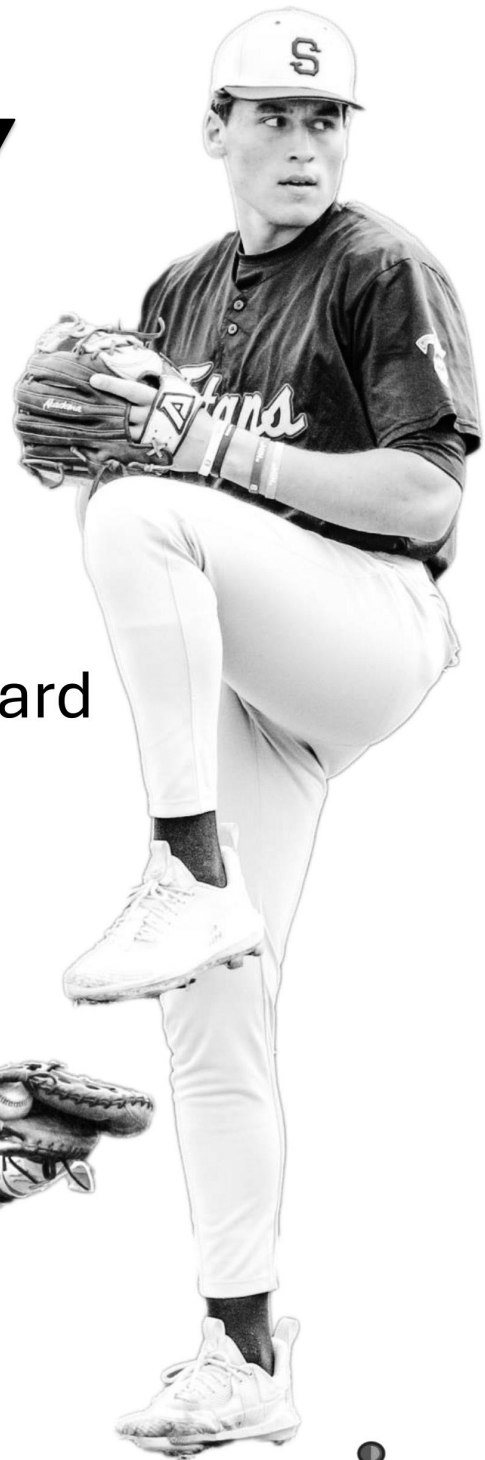
Congratulations **PAUL GORRY**

On receiving the
2024

Southern Connecticut
Diamond Club
Whitey Piurek

“There is no I in Team” Award

We are so proud of you!
Love Dad, Mom & Billy





Southern Connecticut Conference

Celebrating its 30th year in 2023-24

Congratulations

John "Whitey" Piurek "There's No 'I' in Team" recipients.

Daniel Hand Tigers - SCDC George Klivak Team of the Year

Butch Johnson, East Haven HS -

Sam Burrell Coach of the Year

Member Schools: Amity Regional, Branford, Career Magnet, Cheshire, Daniel Hand, East Haven, Fairfield Prep, Foran, Guilford, Hamden, Hillhouse, Jonathan Law, Luralton Hall, Lyman Hall, Mercy, North Haven, Notre Dame, Sacred Heart Academy, Sheehan, Shelton, West Haven, Wilbur Cross, Xavier

www.SouthernConnecticutConference.org

Congratulations, Butch
on being named
2024 Coach of
the Year

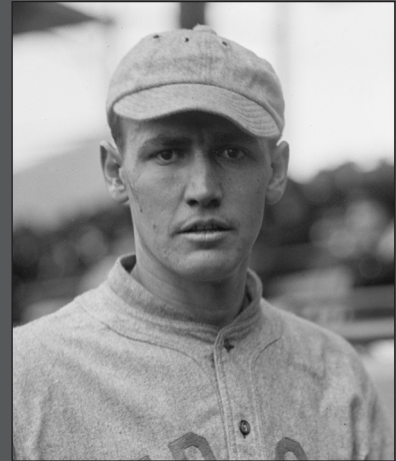
We are so proud of you!

Love,
Your Family and Friends

“Wherever I was I played baseball. That’s all I lived for. When I sat up on the front seat of that covered wagon next to my father, I was wearing a baseball glove. That showed anybody who was interested where I wanted to go.”

-- “SMOKY” JOE WOOD,
Greater New Haven Diamond Club
Hall of Fame, Class of 1980.

*(Source: Baseball: The Biographical Encyclopedia via
BaseballAlmanac.com)*



“When I first started, kids brought a glove on the bus. Now it’s a body bag... I don’t know what they heck they put in there... That part’s all different. But I think kids are pretty much the same. You treat them right, lay out the expectations, you’re fair, and they respond.”

-- BOB DeMAYO,
GNHDC Hall of Fame
Class of 1985

*Source: New Haven Register
May 2, 2011; written by
DAVE SOLOMON,
SCDC Hall of Fame
Class of 2012*



**Congratulations to
Westbrook High School's
Kyle Litevich!**



**May the lessons you learn playing the game
carry into all aspects of your life,
and may your passion for baseball never diminish.
-Your WHS Athletic Department Family**

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHRISTOPHER KOBYLANSKI



Cheshire High School - 2024 "There's No I In Team" Award recipient



*Thanks for a fun ride over the years. We are tremendously proud of you.
Love - Mom, Dad, Tyler and Kyle*




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**The North Haven
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would like to congratulate**

JORDAN HIGGINS

**for receiving the
“No ‘I’ in Team” Award**



XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL

congratulates

LUCIANO FREZZA

Southern Connecticut Diamond Club

Whitey Piurek

"There is no I in Team Award"

2024

**The Notre Dame
Athletics Department
congratulates**

MATTHEW CINQUE

The West Haven High School baseball team
would like to congratulate all honorees, especially
our senior pitcher and outfielder
Haygen Axelrod
on his No I in Team Award

– The West Haven High School
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2023 NO I IN TEAM BANQUET

2023 No I In Team Award Winners



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL AWARD WINNERS**

FROM

TONY NOTARINO

**SCDC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER
HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2013**

**BEST WISHES TO
ALL
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umpires, players, parents, fans, media.

OCTOBER 23, 2024
5:30 P.M.
THE WOODWINDS
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southernctdiamondclub.org

For a list of past inductees, see
southernctdiamondclub.org/hall-of-fame

To download photographs of today's banquet, visit

<https://tinyurl.com/SCDC-Flickr>

Compliments of the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club!