

20th Annual
“No ‘I’ In Team” Awards Banquet

sponsored by

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



“To foster and promote the game of baseball.”

**June 8, 2025
11 a.m.**

**The Woodwinds
Branford, Conn.**

**EAST SHORE TRAVEL LEAGUE would like to
congratulate all the recipients of the
2025 '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

Masters of Ceremonies Chris Borelli and Ned 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.....Chris Borelli/Ned Burt
Burt Leventhal Team of the Year Award
 Presentation of Lyman Hall High School Dan Gooley, *SCDC Executive Board*
 Acceptance Billy Rich, *Lyman Hall High School*
Vin Virgulto Team of the Year Award
 Presentation of Wilcox Technical High School..... Ned Burt
 Acceptance Dave Cronin, *Wilcox Technical High School*
Samuel A. Burrell Jr. Coach of the Year Award
 Presentation of Billy Rich Ned Burt
 Acceptance Billy Rich
Tom Fahy Coach of the Year Award
 Presentation of Billy Mitchell Ron Luneau, *SCDC Executive Board*
 Acceptance Billy Mitchell, *North Branford High School*
Closing RemarksRose V. Mentone, *Executive Director, SCDC*

SCDC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rich Altieri

Ed Klinkhammer

Matthew Mentone

Rich Biondi

Michael Lamberti

Rose V. Mentone

Chris Borelli

Ron Luneau

Fred Norman

Ned Burt

Tom Madera

Tony Notarino

Dan Gooley

Frank Mentone Jr.

Ken Sweeten

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 439, 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 540 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 the 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 Science 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

“THERE’S NO ‘I’ IN TEAM” AWARD

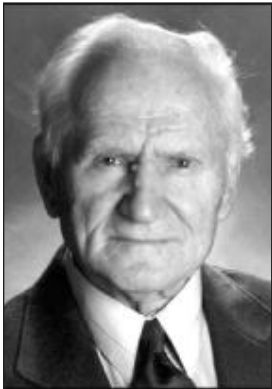
The “There’s No ‘I’ In Team” Award was initiated in the late 1990s by the Greater New Haven Baseball Umpires Association (GNHBUA). It originally honored a single athlete in the GNHBUA’s coverage area.

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.

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.

After coaching Plainville High in 1945 and 1946, Piurek spent the next 34 seasons leading the Blue Devils. He was the first Connecticut baseball coach to reach 500 career wins, compiling a record of 526-115-2 (.820).

Piurek’s West Haven teams won two state championships (1967, 1973) and reached four state finals. They captured the District League title 21 times. In 1967-68, the Westies put together a 34-game winning streak, leading Piurek to be named the 1967 CHSCA state Coach of the Year. West Haven’s varsity baseball field is named in his honor.

From 1948 to 1989, Piurek was a professional scout for the Seattle Mariners. Following his coaching days, he served as the varsity commissioner for the Greater New Haven Baseball Umpires Association. He was inducted into the Greater New Haven Diamond Club Hall of Fame 1981, and is also a member of the Halls of Fame of the National Federation of High Schools, the Connecticut High School Coaches Association, and West Haven High School Athletics. He was awarded a Connecticut Sports Writers’ Alliance Gold Key (1979) and a West Haven Twilight League Gold Bat (1988).

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. He passed away at age 94 on December 3, 2009.

THE AWARDS

TEAMS OF THE YEAR



The Southern Connecticut Diamond Club Team of the Year Award was initiated by the Greater New Haven Baseball Umpires Association. It was originally named after George "Ginger" Klivak, the GNHBUA's secretary/treasurer for more than 20 years. Klivak, a Hillhouse High School graduate, enjoyed a long professional and semipro career as a pitcher in the 1930s and 1940s and was inducted into the Greater New Haven Diamond Club Hall of Fame in 1988.

In 2025, The SCDC expanded the honor to permanently recognize two Teams of the Year, and memorialized them with the names of two late area Hall of Fame coaches and SCDC Board members, Burt Leventhal and Vin Virgulto.



BURT LEVENTHAL (l.) was the head coach of Cheshire High School from 1971 to 1997. He compiled a record of 380-228 (.625),

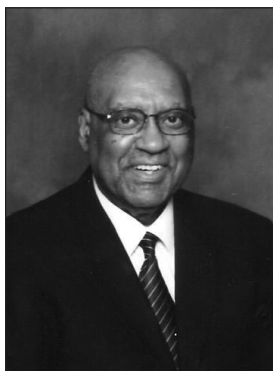
including a 41-game winning streak from 1992-94, and three state championships (1984, 1992, 1993). Leventhal earned state Coach of the Year awards from the Connecticut High School Coaches Association in 1989 and the Connecticut Sports Writers' Alliance in 1995. He is a member of the CHSCA and Cheshire High Halls of Fame, and was inducted into the SCDC Hall of Fame in 2008. The Cheshire High baseball field is named in his honor.

Leventhal was a graduate of Hillhouse High School and Southern Connecticut State University (1964) and served in the U.S. Army. He taught elementary physical education in the Cheshire public school system for 31 years, and founded the Cheshire High boys' soccer program. He passed away on January 3, 2025, at age 89.

VIN VIRGULTO (r.) was the head coach of Hamden High School for 23 years after beginning his baseball coaching career at Milford Academy. He was inducted into the SCDC Hall of Fame in 2009. He is also a member of the Hamden High Athletic Hall of Fame (2017) and a Gold Bat recipient from the West Haven Twilight League (2000).

Virgulto spent his entire career as a teacher and coach. He taught mathematics at Milford Academy and then for 30 years at Hamden High. He later taught part-time at Eli Whitney RVTS, Branford High School, and Paier College. He also coached badminton and freshman football at Hamden, as well as football and basketball at Hamden Hall Country Day School, and was a longtime girls' basketball referee. Virgulto played baseball at East Haven High School and Southern Connecticut State University and owned a master's degree from the University of Bridgeport. He died on February 23, 2023, at age 81.

COACHES OF THE YEAR



In 2007, the SCDC instituted the Samuel A. Burrell Jr. Coach of the Year Award. The club expanded the honor in 2025 to named a second award after former SCDC Board member and Hall-of-Famer Tom Fahy.

SAM BURRELL (l.) taught in the New Haven public school system and worked in the physical education department of its central office. He coached at Wilbur Cross High School and was later the head baseball coach at Hillhouse High. He previously coached the American Legion Post 47 baseball team from 1956-67.

In 1968 Burrell was appointed head freshman baseball coach at Yale University. He is believed to be the first Black intercollegiate coach at Yale. From 1979-92 he served as an assistant freshman football at Yale before spending four years on the Bulldogs' varsity football staff. He also worked as the community outreach coordinator for Yale Athletics.



Burrell is a graduate of St. Mary's High School and Southern Connecticut State University, serving in the Korean War in between. He was a co-founder of the Greater New Haven Diamond Club and placed in its Hall of Fame in 1990. He passed away April 11, 2022, at age 89.

TOM FAHY (r.) highlighted a 17-year tenure as the head coach of Derby High School with a Class S state championship in 1977. He was a longtime volunteer assistant coach at Yale University and also served as a volunteer assistant at West Haven High School and Hopkins School. Fahy taught history for 34 years at Derby High, and was the first head coach of the Red Raiders' swim team. He was an adjunct professor at Gateway Community College.

Fahy is a member of the Quinnipiac University Athletics Hall of Fame after a standout playing career from 1958-60. A Gold Ring recipient of the New Haven Boys and Girls Club Alumni Association, he was inducted into the SCDC Hall of Fame in 2009. Fahy lives in Madison with his wife, Phyllis. They have three children -- Michelle, Cathy, and Tom Jr.

2025 HONOREES

AMITY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Ernie Goodwin
Head Baseball Coach: Sal Coppola
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Carlo Lombardi, C/DH**



"Carlo has started games behind the plate for the Amity baseball team and has also been used as a DH and a pinch hitter. Carlo's work ethic over the last two years has had a huge impact on and off the field. He led by example in the weight room and has played a major role in the development of our pitching staff. Throughout the year, he is one of the voices that stands out in the dugout cheering on his teammates. He is one of the most unselfish players I have ever coached. Carlo has had a huge impact on the success of our season." -- *Coach Coppola*

ANSONIA HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Tom Brockett
Head Baseball Coach: Patrick Palmer
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Rey Alvarez, 2B**



Four-year member of program... "Not only is Rey an athlete, but he is involved in many clubs at AHS. Rey is someone who shows up to the field ready to give 110 percent in whatever we ask of him. He has never once complained about anything and is always willing to do what is best for the team. It has been a pleasure to coach Rey and watch him grow not only as a player but as an individual these last four years." -- *Coach Palmer*

BRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Mike Woods
Head Baseball Coach: Steve Malafronte
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Carson Jarvis, 1B/P**



"From the first day that I met Carson, the impression that I got was that being a part of the team was the most important part of baseball, way more important than wins and losses. Each season Carson has become more of a team guy. His infectious positive energy has been able to keep smiles on the faces of his teammates and coaches alike, while also helping to keep stress levels down. A conversationalist, he never misses an opportunity to talk; he seems to have known from a young age that the relationships he was building with teammates and coaches would last longer than his playing career, so he made that a major part of his priorities. He is a remarkable teammate, selfless and humble, and always there to hear teammates' gripes and grievances. The respect and empathy he has exhibited to his teammates is a major reason why I hold him in such high regard." -- *Coach Malafronte*

CANTERBURY SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Paddy McCarthy
Head Baseball Coach: Todd Mathewson
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Jake Petrin, IF/P**



Post-graduate student... will play next season at UMass-Dartmouth... "Jake is extremely unselfish and always puts the team in front of himself. He is a versatile player who can play all over the field and also threw some very valuable innings for us. Offensively, he does whatever he can to get on base, whether by base hit, bunt or walk. Jake's unselfishness, team-first attitude and versatility were very valuable to the team." -- *Coach Mathewson*

CHESHIRE HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: John Perosino
Head Baseball Coach: Alex LeFevre
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Nick Giampietro, P/OF/IF**



"Nick was our team's Swiss army knife this year. No matter the role we asked of him, he always responded with, 'I got you, Coach,' and found a way to help the team. He consistently gave best effort. It has been a pleasure to coach Nick, and our staff couldn't think of anyone more deserving of this award." -- *Coach LeFevre*

2025 HONOREES

DERBY HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Matthew Bradshaw
Head Baseball Coach: Robert Swierbitowicz
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Michael Slack, SS**



"Michael has been more than just a teammate on the field. He has embraced his role as a leader. Whether taking more grounders, extra swings, cleaning up balls in the field, or simply taking players home after school, Michael is selfless in everything that he does. He always puts his team and teammates first!" -- *Coach Swierbitowicz*

EAST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Anthony Verderame
Head Baseball Coach: Butch Johnson
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Cameron LaCroix, C/1B**



"Cameron is a selfless player that always puts the team needs ahead of his own. He was chosen captain because of his work ethic and dedication. Cameron will play anywhere without question and always encourages others to give their best. He is always the first to arrive and the last to leave." -- *Coach Johnson*

FAIRFIELD COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Tom Curran
Head Baseball Coach: Rudy Mauritz
"No I In Team" Honoree: **J.J. Schachinger, OF**



Three-year varsity letterwinner... "JJ's time as a baseball player at Fairfield Prep has been challenging. He has had to battle through injuries during his three years at the varsity level and has never let the injuries dampen his spirit. JJ is one of our captains, and serves his teammates well by his excellent play in the field and tough at-bats at the plate. JJ is the first guy to root on a teammate, and the first to offer words of encouragement when a teammate is struggling. JJ has been a tremendous player for Fairfield Prep!" -- *Coach Mauritz*

JOSEPH A. FORAN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Jeff Raucci
Head Baseball Coach: Garrett Walker
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Mathew Krenicki, C/OF**



Four-year member of program... will attend and play at University of New Haven... "Matt is a tremendously unselfish young man. In his four years he has worked his way into being a respected leader in the program. He sets the example of what we want Foran baseball players to strive for. He cares about his team and his teammates, he works relentlessly toward improvement, and he has always been 100 percent committed to the direction of the program. Matt accepted any and every role he was presented, always ready to jump on any opportunity to help. Matt will be missed as he heads into the next step of an extremely bright future." -- *Coach Walker*

GUILFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Jake Jarvis
Head Baseball Coach: Nick Merullo
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Matt DiNardo, SS**



Two-year starting shortstop... "An integral part of our team, Matt is a great teammate who epitomizes playing team-first baseball. He always focuses on his defense, and has a knack for providing tough at-bats to execute exactly what the team needs depending on the situation." -- *Coach Merullo*

2025 HONOREES

HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Lynne Flint
Head Baseball Coach: Mark Brookes
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Colton Merola, C**



Senior captain... three-year letterwinner. "Colton filled our need for a catcher three years ago and worked to become the best he could be for the sake of the team. He converted from being an infielder. Colton never complains and always places the team's needs above his own. He is an excellent student and leader." -- *Coach Brookes*

HAMDEN HALL COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: David Doyle
Head Baseball Coach: Brad Chernovetz
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Atticus Bird, P/DH**



"As a senior, Atticus has always put the team above himself. He has become the designated hitter for the team and pitched some very important innings." -- *Coach Chernovetz*

HAMDEN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Tom Dyer
Head Baseball Coach: Mike Dwyer
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Armando Rodriguez, P**



"Armando is the ultimate team player that every coach wishes they had a roster full of. He is selfless, hard-working, loyal, dedicated, and always high-spirited. Whether at a team lift, pushing the par not just for himself but for his teammates, or on the field at a practice or game, he is always making sure everyone is checked in. Armando sets the tone and it never changes. His team could be up or down, but his positive mentality and spirit help mold the makeup of a team that any coach wants their program to be. He will do whatever he is told at the drop of a hat and he is ALWAYS team first. Armando did very well on the mound this year for Hamden, but if he didn't have a great inning he would be right back in the dugout cheering on the boys louder than anyone else." -- *Coach Dwyer*

DANIEL HAND HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Chris Farrell
Head Baseball Coach: Travis LaPointe
"No I In Team" Honoree: **Cooper Burke, 1B**



"Cooper is the ultimate teammate and brings positivity and energy to the field every day. He is an outstanding teammate and has overcome significant adversity, which has allowed him to become a stronger, better person and teammate. He gives 100 percent of himself to the team every day and we are all better for it." -- *Coach LaPointe*

HILLHOUSE/CAREER co-op

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



Attends Hillhouse High... four-year member of varsity... "Yadriel has been an exceptional teammate and student during his four years. He has waited for his time. During his freshman and sophomore years, Yaddy was not always in the lineup but came to practice every day and never let it affect his performance or the team. He has grown into a tremendous leader and player and will be heavily missed." -- *Coach Voelker*

2025 HONOREES

HOPKINS SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Rocco DeMaio
Head Baseball Coach: Rocco DeMaio
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Matthew Ragaza, OF/1B/P**



“Matthew is the ideal team player willing to do whatever is asked to contribute to the success of the Hopkins baseball community. Our #11 can be seen in a multitude of positions (1B, CF, RF, LF, LHP) at any given moment. When not in the field Matt is practically a member of the coaching staff, assisting in various observations he picks up on to help his peers succeed both in games and practice. His unselfishness is always a welcome sight that puts a smile on everyone’s face at any given moment. Matt is truly a class act with an incredibly bright future.” -- *Coach DeMaio*

JONATHAN LAW HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Tom Drew
Head Baseball Coach: Greg Simler
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Christian Galligan, SS/P**



Three-year starter at shortstop... “Christian plays with a determination and passion for the game of baseball. Every day he shows up to practice to get better and be the most competitive player he can be. He truly exemplifies the idea that ‘There is No I in Team.’” -- *Coach Simler*

LYMAN HALL HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Steve Baker
Head Baseball Coach: Billy Rich
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Owen Rich, SS/P**



“Owen has exemplified what it means to be a team player for the past four years. His commitment to supporting others, leading by example, and always stepping up when needed makes him not just a skilled player but a cornerstone of the team’s unity and spirit. His selflessness on and off the field makes him the kind of teammate every player aspires to be.” -- *Coach Rich*

THE MORGAN SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Meagan Sears
Head Baseball Coach: Trevor Brown
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Wyatt Luke, C**



Four-year varsity starter... “Not only is Wyatt a top player for us, but he’s a total team player. He always puts the team before himself.” -- *Coach Brown*

NAUGATUCK HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Brian Mariano
Head Baseball Coach: Joseph Iannotti
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Kevin Cestari, P/1B**



Two-year captain... “Kevin is a tremendous leader and represents the program in the right way on and off the field. He is a very respected player by his teammates, coaches, umpires and others around the NVL.” -- *Coach Iannotti*

2025 HONOREES

NORTH BRANFORD HIGH SCHOOL



Director of Athletics: Lori Connelly
Head Baseball Coach: Billy Mitchell
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Jason O’Connor, CF/P**

“Jason is the epitome of the meaning of the ‘No I in Team’ Award. He is our captain and has taken on the role with great honor. He often helps younger players improve their game. He takes special interest in the youth baseball programs in North Branford. He often attends and helps out at the middle school practices to help the future high school players improve at any aspect of baseball. He has also organized Little League youth days for players to connect with the high school team.

Not only is Jason a very good baseball player but more importantly he is a very special person. He truly cares about other people, especially his teammates. I have coached JJ for the past six years and have watched him grow into a respectful and honorable person. It has truly been a privilege and an honor to have been part of his life during this time. JJ will be sorely missed by not only me but the entire North Branford baseball community.”
-- Coach Mitchell

NORTH HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL



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

Will attend and play baseball at Mitchell College next year... “Andrew embodies everything that the ‘No I in Team’ Award represents. As team captain this year, he has helped lead this team on and off the field. As a coach it was great to know that no matter the situation, I was able to count on Andrew. I am proud to say that not only will Mitchell College be getting a great baseball player but an exceptional person.” -- Coach Romanelli

NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL



Director of Athletics: Jason Shea
Head Baseball Coach: Brian Hayden
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Nico Bonilla, P**

“Nico was chosen for the ‘No I in Team’ Award because of his outstanding commitment to his teammates and the program. Nico constantly supports those around him, putting the team’s success ahead of his own and always stepping up to help whenever needed. He leads by example with his work ethic, enthusiasm, and positive attitude, and he encourages others to be their best both on and off the field. Nico’s humility, reliability and genuine care for his teammates make him an invaluable part of the team and a true role model for others.” -- Coach Hayden

OLD SAYBROOK HIGH SCHOOL



Director of Athletics: Brendan Saunders
Head Baseball Coach: Ryan Fraser
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Charles Carmichael, IF/OF**

“Charlie is truly a coach’s dream. I know that he will always do the right thing regardless of the setting and situation. He is someone I can always count on to deliver in the classroom and community while also spending time improving his craft and mentoring his teammates.” -- Coach Fraser

ORVILLE H. PLATT HIGH SCHOOL



Director of Athletics: Patricia Wodatch
Head Baseball Coach: Bryan McCarty
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Jayden Gaither, LF**

Two-year captain... “Jayden conducts himself as a pure professional both on and off the field. A true scholar-athlete, he works hard both in the classroom and on the field. Platt’s baseball success is directly correlated to Jayden’s influence.” -- Coach McCarty

2025 HONOREES

MARK T. SHEEHAN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Gary Gravina
Head Baseball Coach: Dom Lombardozzi
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Garrett Wilkinson, 1B**



“Garrett is the kind of teammate who always puts the team first, both on the field and in the dugout. He is consistently the first guy to show up to practice and the last guy to leave. Garrett is quick to celebrate others’ successes and never seeks the spotlight for himself. His selfless attitude and unwavering commitment make him the perfect recipient of the ‘No I in Team’ award.” -- *Coach Lombardozzi*

SHELTON HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Scott Snell
Head Baseball Coach: Scott Gura
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Ben Liberatore, SS**



“Ben is an unselfish player that always puts the team first. He never worried about his personal accomplishments and concentrated on how the team performed. He excelled in the little things that are not seen in the box score; his hustle, intelligence, and instincts on and off the field were unparalleled. Ben is a great role model for the younger players on the baseball team.” -- *Coach Gura*

SOUTHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Steve Risser
Head Baseball Coach: Stan Switala
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Marco Spataro, 2B**



“Marco is the most selfless person in Southington High’s baseball program. He demonstrates positivity and professionalism and is respected by his teammates. He is the perfect example of what it means to be a Blue Knight. His grit, energy, and 100 percent effort do not go unnoticed and will be missed next year. Marco has been a pleasure to coach this season. We know his leadership will be passed on to the current underclassmen going forward.” -- *Coach Switala*

WESTBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

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



“As a junior, Kyle exemplifies everything the No I in Team award represents. Kyle consistently delivers elite-level performance, making plays on defense and producing at the plate with speed and power. What truly sets him apart isn’t just his talent but his character. Kyle leads by example -- showing up early, staying late, and putting in the extra work during the offseason. Whether it’s picking up a teammate after a mistake, offering encouragement in the dugout, or setting the tone with hustle and focus, Kyle embodies selflessness and a team-first approach.

His respect for the game, for his coaches, and especially for his teammates is evident. Kyle doesn’t seek the spotlight; he earns it through effort, humility, and a relentless commitment to his team’s success. He is the kind of player every coach hopes to have and every team is better for having.” -- *Coach Hanssen*

WEST HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Mike Anquillare/Joe Morrell
Head Baseball Coach: Steve Carden
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Zach Boutellier, C**



“Zach is the ultimate team player. He has worked as hard or harder than anyone for four years in our program. Anything that we ask Zach to do, he does. He is willing to do whatever the team needs in order for us to have success.” -- *Coach Carden*

2025 HONOREES

WILBUR CROSS HIGH SCHOOL

Athletics Facilitator: Harold Haughton
Head Baseball Coach: Angel Ramos
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Jean Guerrero, P**



Senior captain... has earned a scholarship to Cornell University... “Jean started playing baseball in Venezuela before moving to the U.S. and joining our team as a freshman. He didn’t get much playing time at first but kept grinding. Our coaching staff saw potential in his arm slot and transitioned him into a sidearm pitcher, and he adapted quickly and embraced the role. This year he’s led by example by playing multiple positions and supporting his teammates however he could, whether on the field or just making sure they don’t forget their cap. He’s successfully balanced school and baseball for four years.” -- *Coach Ramos*

H.C. WILCOX TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Steve Wodarski
Head Baseball Coach: Dave Cronin
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Ean Finkle, OF/P**



“Ean is a hard worker and an excellent teammate. His dedication to our program is unmatched.” -- *Coach Cronin*

WOODLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Chris Dailey
Head Baseball Coach: Steve Bainer
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Brett Lato, OF/DH**



Will attend Western Connecticut State University in the fall... plans to study finance and play football... “We are proud to recognize Brett for his exceptional contributions to our team. Brett is a multi-sport athlete and captain of the baseball and football teams. He injured his hip in 2024 and played multiple seasons with what was later diagnosed as a torn labrum. After having surgery in March, Brett worked tirelessly with the goal to play again during his senior season. He returned to the lineup with seven games left. Brett never missed a conditioning session or practice during his time recovering from injury, and did whatever he could to help the team.

Brett exemplifies what it means to be a true teammate. He’s always focused on putting the team first. He sets a powerful example through his integrity and unwavering commitment to our values, living the ‘Woodland Way.’ His tireless work ethic and dedication to excellence inspire those around him and elevate the entire program. Brett’s impact is felt not only in our results but in the culture he helps create. The ‘No I in Team’ Award is a perfect reflection of our deep appreciation for all that he has contributed to our program.” -- *Coach Bainer*

XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL

Director of Athletics: Dan DeConti
Head Baseball Coach: Nick Cerreta
“No I In Team” Honoree: **Evan O’Connor, 3B/2B**



“Evan is one of the most positive players I have ever been around. He supports all of his teammates every single day and always puts the team first. You simply don’t find young men anymore like Evan when it comes to sports. Evan is the perfect example of a team player. It is never once about him, and he always puts others first. The humility Evan displays is so rare these days among his generation.

Evan has a love for the game that I admire. He plays with passion every single pitch, and with a smile on his face. Whenever our team needed a spark this year, Evan gave it to us. When he gets into a game, momentum always switches our way because of the heart he brings to the field. Evan is a coach’s dream because he is loyal, hard-working, energetic, kind-hearted, responsible, trustworthy, intelligent, humorous and genuine. Evan is a true student-athlete because as dedicated as he is on the field he works even harder in the classroom. It has been an honor watching him grow into such a fine, poised young man over the last four years. The character Evan possesses cannot be matched by others. He is an all-around fine young man. If I had a team full of Evans I would rarely lose a game. He is the heartbeat of the Xavier baseball program.” -- *Coach Cerreta*

2025 HONOREES

BURT LEVENTHAL TEAM OF THE YEAR Lyman Hall High School

The 2025 Lyman Hall baseball team is defined by its unity, resilience, and heart. More than just teammates, these players are like family—many of them have been playing together for more than a decade. Their bond runs deep; while they may occasionally clash like brothers, they always have each other's backs when it matters most.

With a roster made up largely of three- and four-year starters, this team brings a wealth of experience and maturity to the field. These young men have grown into true leaders, proudly wearing the Lyman Hall jersey and representing their school with character and determination.



Their success this season has been built on a foundation of strong pitching, solid defense, and timely hitting. Gritty and relentless, the Trojans never back down from a challenge. Whether it's a tight game or a come-from-behind battle, this team has shown time and again that it is never out of the fight.

What truly sets this team apart is its enthusiasm and commitment to getting better every single day. They show up to practice eager to work, push each other, and refine their game—not because they have to, but because they love to. The 2025 Trojans embody what it means to compete—with pride, passion, and perseverance—and they've earned every bit of their success together.

VIN VIRGULTO TEAM OF THE YEAR H.C. Wilcox Technical High School

The 2025 Wildcats of Wilcox Tech finished the regular season at 14-6. Weathering key injuries, Wilcox went undefeated in Connecticut Technical Conference play and won the CTC Nutmeg Division. The Wildcats entered the CTC Tournament as the No. 1 seed and claimed their second consecutive and seventh overall conference title. Wilcox was the No. 13 seed for the CIAC Class L Tournament.

Team captains Bobby Herzman and Gavin Pettit were selected to the All-CTC Team. Both seniors will attend college in the fall and plan to continue playing baseball -- Herzman at the University of New Haven and Pettit at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Herzman and Pettit are repeat all-conference selections with Herzman also earning all-state honors. Junior Zavier Salas was also nominated for all-conference consideration and received honorable mention.

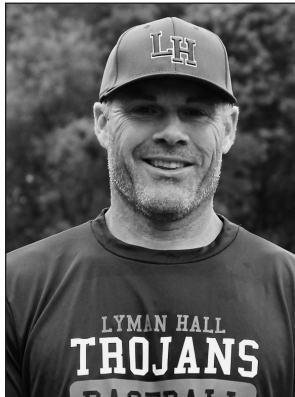


The varsity team consisted of: seniors Bobby Herzman (P/SS), Gavin Pettit (1B), and Landon Leavitt (OF); juniors Ean Finkle (P/OF), Tyler Weileisz (3B/P), Zavier Salas (IF/P) and Brady Kennedy (C); sophomores Brody Stimpson (OF), Max Curcio (OF/DH), and Owen Buonfiglio (IF); and freshmen Jayko Villanueva (IF) and Jackson Leavitt (IF).

The Wildcats are coached by Dave Cronin, Derek Madrid, and Pat Romano.

2025 HONOREES

SAMUEL A. BURRELL JR. COACH OF THE YEAR **Billy Rich, Lyman Hall High School**



Coach Billy Rich is a dedicated Technology Education teacher at Lyman Hall High School and has been at the helm of the Lyman Hall baseball program since 2019. He guided the 2025 Trojans to the Southern Connecticut Conference Quinnipiac Division title and their first SCC Tournament championship. Lyman Hall entered the CIAC Class L Tournament as the No. 3 seed with a No. 7 state ranking.

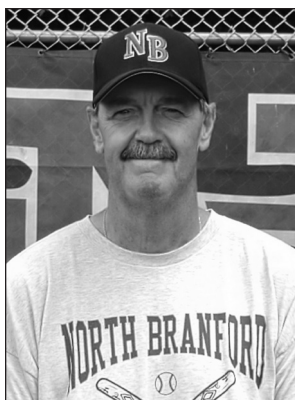
Over the past six seasons, Rich has built a consistently competitive program, guiding his teams to six consecutive appearances in the CIAC State Tournament and four straight trips to the Southern Connecticut Conference (SCC) Tournament. Under his leadership, Lyman Hall reached new heights in 2021 by advancing to the Class L State Tournament semifinals. The following year, the program made history by earning its first-ever berth in the SCC Tournament. Coach Rich's influence on the program has extended beyond team success—individual players have also thrived under his guidance. In two of the last three seasons, a Lyman Hall athlete has been named SCC Player of

the Year, a testament to the player development and high standards instilled within the program.

A lifelong baseball enthusiast, Coach Rich played collegiately at the University of Connecticut and was drafted by both the Boston Red Sox and Detroit Tigers, reflecting his exceptional talent and deep understanding of the game. Since beginning his coaching journey in 2005, he has shared over 20 years of baseball knowledge with players at various levels, helping them grow both on and off the field.

Coach Rich continues to be a cornerstone of the Lyman Hall community, inspiring student-athletes through his passion for teaching, coaching, and the game of baseball.

TOM FAHY COACH OF THE YEAR **Billy Mitchell, North Branford High School**



Billy Mitchell has been the head coach of North Branford High School since 2008. He was promoted after serving as an assistant with the Thunderbirds to Frank Bombace for five years.

Mitchell is a Southern Connecticut Diamond Club Coach of the Year for the second time, having also earned the honor in 2011. His 2024 T-Bird squad was chosen as an SCDC Team of the Year.

Under Mitchell's guidance, NBHS has qualified for state tournament play in 15 of 17 seasons. Last year, the T-Birds went 20-6, including Mitchell's 200th career victory. They captured the program's first Shoreline Conference championship and reached the CIAC Class S quarterfinals. This year's team enjoyed a 16-4 regular season and repeated as SLC regular-season and tournament champions. The T-Birds are the No. 2 seed for the 2025 Class S Tournament.

Mitchell began coaching by assisting his father in the North Haven Babe Ruth division. He then moved on to coach in the North Branford Little League, where he led the 11/12-year-old all-star team to 1999 district and state championships. Prior to joining Bombace's staff, he helped restart the baseball program at North Branford Middle School.

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 Ascencao
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		2024	
Amity.....	Christian Dastous	Amity.....	Johnny Aldi
Ansonia.....	Brendan Palmer	Ansonia.....	Brendan Lynch
Branford.....	Tyler Jarvis	Branford.....	Giuseppe Piscitelli
Canterbury.....	Will Granata	Canterbury.....	Seth Schullery
Cheshire.....	Phoenix Kasinkas	Cheshire.....	Christopher Kobylanski
Derby.....	Aaron Grammatico	Derby.....	Kobe Marroquin
East Haven.....	Marcello Proto	East Haven.....	Dominick Perillo
Fairfield Prep.....	A.J. Preisano	Fairfield Prep.....	Griffin Fisher
Foran.....	Brayden Walker	Foran.....	Kasen Lanese
Guilford.....	Aiden McBrierty	Guilford.....	Joe Tafro
Hamden Hall.....	Anthony Aceto	Hamden Hall.....	Ryan Lynch
Hamden.....	Daniel Moore	Hamden.....	Tristan Manganiello
Hand.....	Will Bazenas	Hand.....	Johnny Reh
Hillhouse/Career.....	Donte Carter and Johnny Guaraya	Hillhouse/Career.....	Henry Rugemer
Hopkins.....	Matthew Spenner	Hopkins.....	Jaan Desai
Law.....	Kian McEnerney	Law.....	Alex Bludevich
Morgan.....	Garrett Garbinski	Morgan.....	Ryan Donadio
North Branford.....	Ryan Nuzzo	North Branford.....	Victor Castillo
North Haven.....	Michael Brandt	North Haven.....	Jordan Higgins
Notre Dame.....	Matt Prete	Notre Dame.....	Matthew Cinque
Platt.....	Tucker Sperry	Old Saybrook.....	Nick Denovellis
Sheehan.....	Andry Guy	Platt.....	Aiden McCarty
Shelton.....	Ryan Blakeslee	Sheehan.....	Paul Gorry
Westbrook.....	Charles Schneider	Shelton.....	Jake Duda
West Haven.....	Damian Gazzaneo	Southington.....	Carson Lentini
Wilbur Cross.....	Alberto Rivas	Westbrook.....	Kyle Litevich
Xavier.....	Jake Gesse	West Haven.....	Haygen Axelrod
		Wilbur Cross.....	Andrez Garcia
		Wilcox Tech.....	Noah Zamorano
		Woodland.....	Ethan Stepputtis
		Xavier.....	Luciano Frezza
2023			
Amity.....	Alex Blomberg		
Ansonia.....	Dylan Ellison		
Branford.....	Michael Rebmann		
Canterbury.....	Jason Fisher		
Cheshire.....	Anthony Votto		
Derby.....	Ryan Slack		
East Haven.....	Rocco Lombardi		
Fairfield Prep.....	Trey Hartnett		
Foran.....	Brendan Fallon		
Guilford.....	Alex Vincent		
Hamden Hall.....	Kaleb Cohen		
Hamden.....	Larry Rarick		
Hand.....	Cole Daignault		
Hillhouse/Career.....	Tyler Saxton and Adrian Padilla		
Hopkins.....	Luke O'Connell		
Law.....	Nolan McKenna-Hansen		
Morgan.....	Nicholas Spaziano		
North Branford.....	Nico Falcioni		
North Haven.....	Steven Vincent		
Notre Dame.....	Will Panza		
O'Brien Tech.....	Mike Smith		
Old Saybrook.....	John Witczak		
Platt.....	Bruce Candelora		
Sheehan.....	Ben Busillo		
Shelton.....	Ken Supersano Jr.		
Southington.....	Tyler Blumetti		
Westbrook.....	Tyler Prisley		
West Haven.....	K.J. Harp		
Wilbur Cross.....	Joshua Santiago		
Xavier.....	Ryan Santello		

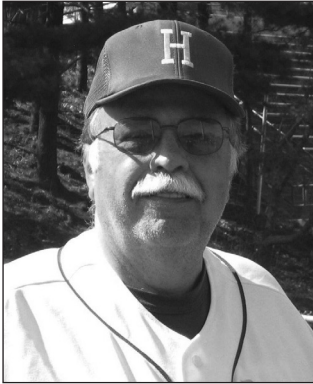
PREVIOUS WINNERS

Past winners of the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club COACH OF THE YEAR and TEAM OF THE YEAR Awards

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
2024	Butch Johnson, East Haven HS and Stan Switala, Southington HS	Daniel Hand HS and North Branford 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.



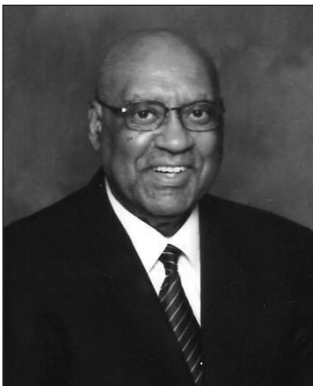
Tony Mentone
1945-2009



Mel Zeidenberg
1925-2018



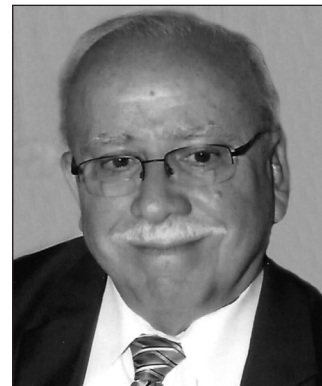
Ed Rapuano Sr.
1937-2021



Sam Burrell
1932-2022



Vin Virgulto
1941-2023



Joe Mattei
1937-2024

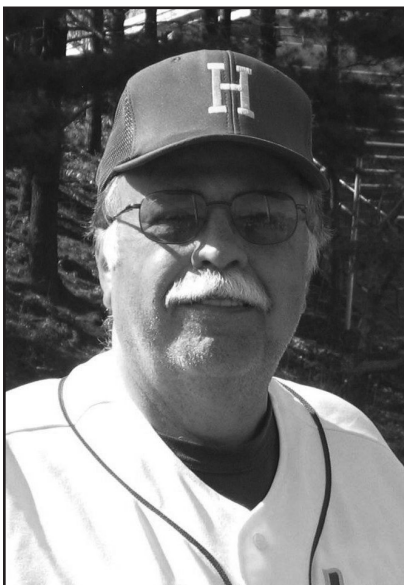


Burt Leventhal
1935-2025

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

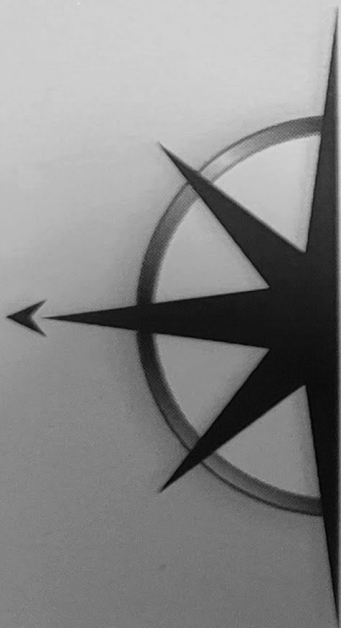


November 9, 1945 -- October 20, 2009



- * 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

tvirgulto@hill-hill.com

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WEST HAVEN TWILIGHT LEAGUE

Amateur Baseball Since 1933

Serving Southern Connecticut

The West Haven Twilight League congratulates all the winners of the 2025 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!

www.gnhbua.com
www.facebook.com/gnhbuaumps



At J Roo's, we believe in teamwork, dedication, and community—values that align perfectly with the spirit of the "There's No I In Team" Award.

We're honored to support the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club in recognizing student-athletes who selflessly contribute to their teams.

Congratulations to all the deserving recipients!





Southern Connecticut Conference

Celebrating its 31st year in 2024-25

Congratulations

John “Whitey” Piurek “There’s No ‘I’ in Team” recipients.

Lyman Hall Trojans - Burt Leventhal Team of the Year

Billy Rich, Lyman Hall - 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

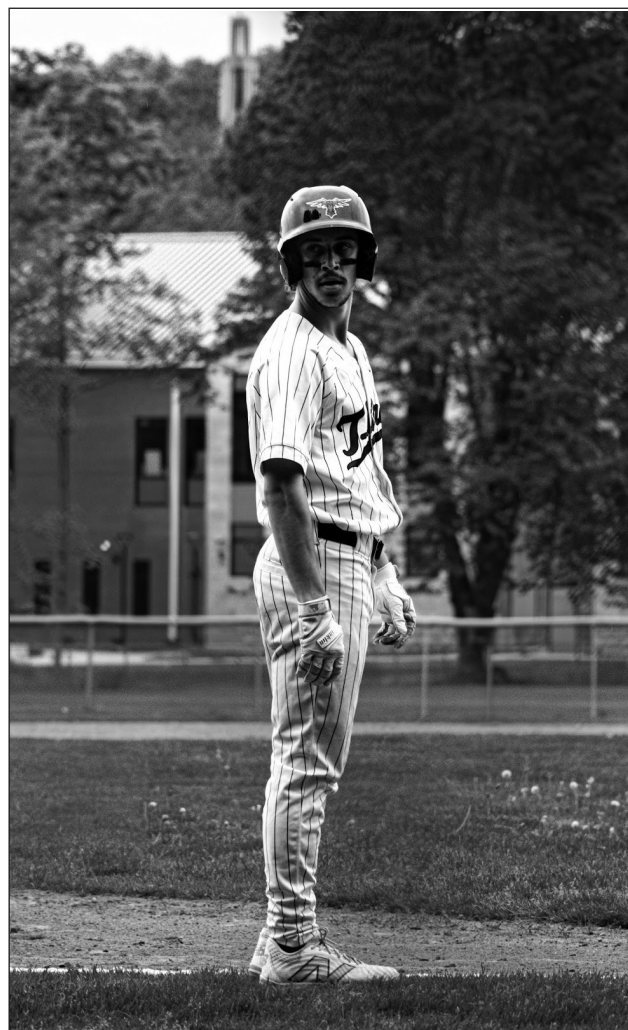
www.SouthernConnecticutConference.org

**Congratulations to all
of the No 1 in Team
award recipients and
Coach and Team Awards.**

**-- Thomas Fahy Sr.
and Family**

Congratulations to Jason O'Connor for receiving the Southern Connecticut Diamond Club "No 'I' in Team" Award.

He has been a great representative of T-Bird baseball and the North Branford community. We wish him all the best.



-- From the NBHS Diamond Club

*Two Class Acts at
North Branford High School*



J.J O'Connor



No "I" in Team Award.



**Coach Billy Mitchell
Coach of the Year.**



Go T-Birds

Congratulations,
Coach Mentone



COLTON MEROLA



**Congratulations,
Colton,
on a great
baseball career
at Haddam-
Killingworth
High School.**

**From your coaches
and teammates at HK**

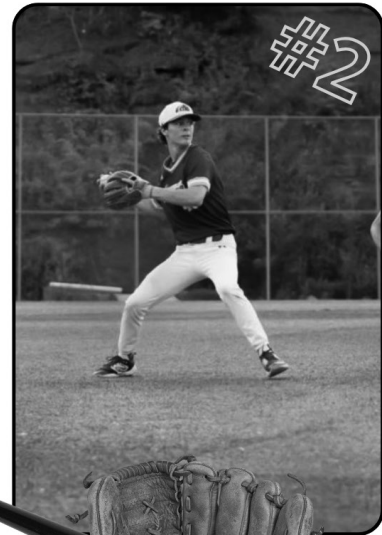


CONGRATULATIONS
to **HADDAM KILLINGWORTH HIGH SCHOOL'S**



**COLTON
MEROLA**

on the **2025**
**Southern
Connecticut
Diamond Club's**



"THERE'S NO I IN TEAM" AWARD

**Congratulations to
Westbrook High School's
Kyle Leandri**



Your dedication, skill, and competitive spirit have set you apart as a respected leader and teammate on the field.

As you continue your high school career, may your commitment to excellence and love for the game carry you even further.

With pride,
Your WHS Athletic Department Family



XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL

congratulates

EVAN O'CONNOR

Southern Connecticut Diamond Club

Whitey Piurek

"There is no I in Team Award"

2025

**The Notre Dame
Athletics Department
congratulates**

NICO BONILLA

The West Haven High School baseball team
would like to congratulate all honorees,
especially our senior catcher
Zach Boutellier
on his No I in Team Award

– The West Haven High School
Dugout Club

GARRETT WILKINSON

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

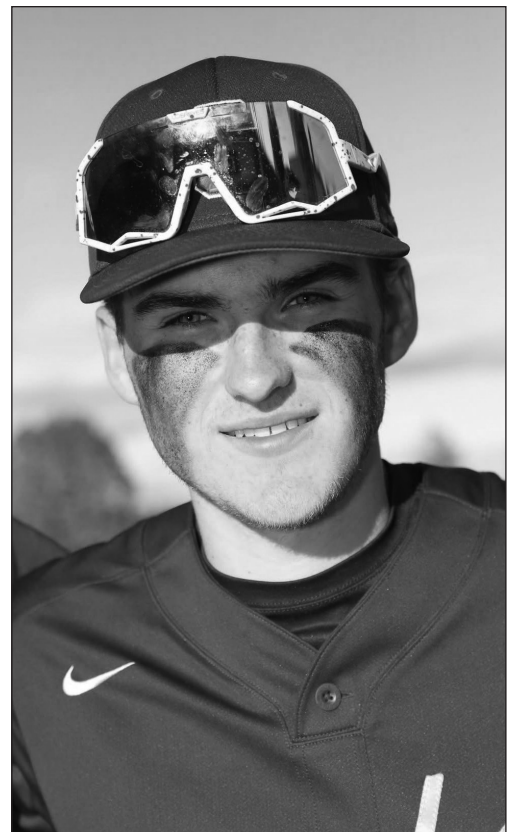
**YOU EXCELLED ACADEMICALLY
AND IN BASEBALL AND HOCKEY!**

**NEXT UP IS
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY!**

**BE KIND, BE HUMBLE, AND KEEP
CHASING YOUR DREAMS!!**

LOVE,

MOM, DAD, AND EVAN



**The North Haven
High School Booster Club
would like to congratulate**

ANDREW MANZO

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



**CONGRATULATIONS
ANDREW!**

**We are extremely proud of
you, and we cannot wait
for what the future will
bring!**

**Love,
Mom, Dad, James, Kelly,
and your entire family**

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL AWARD WINNERS**

FROM

TONY NOTARINO

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

Working smoke detectors save lives.



Don't let your dreams go up in smoke.



Congratulations to Ean Finkle, Wilcox Technical High School on receiving the 2025 "There's No I In Team" award!!

**NEXT SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT DIAMOND CLUB EVENT
HALL OF FAME INDUCTION**

Ticket information available soon!

All are welcome – coaches, umpires, players, parents, fans, media.

OCTOBER 23, 2025, 5:30 P.M.

THE WOODWINDS

BRANFORD, CONN.

To make a nomination, please e-mail rmentone@comcast.net
or visit 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!

Congratulations to all of the
award recipients and their families!



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Congratulations
**TO THE 2025
AWARD RECIPIENTS**

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