

NORTH HAVEN SPORTS

Welcome Back NHHS Student Athletes!



The excitement of the athletic atmosphere is in full swing this September at NHHS. Teams have been waiting since last fall to get back to playing and being in front of their fans and peers. The NH Football team and the Band have developed a neat tradition in recent years,

making Friday nights a symbiotic relationship. After every home game, the team gathers in front of the band and sings the school's alma mater while Mr. Tedeschi and the band plays along. This is just one of many examples of the great student climate at NHHS.

FALL ISSUE: SEPT

What's Up around the Field



Introduction of the bi-weekly newsletter, created to share updated status of teams in their athletic seasons and the positive things our athletes are doing at North Haven High School

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Sports specific information regarding all the Fall Sports teams.

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Upcoming Events



Swim-A-Thon on Sunday September 27th, 2015 at Beckerman Athletic Center

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Fundraising Events scheduled



- Field Hockey clothing drive on September 26th from 9 – 3pm at NHHS parking lot
- Soccer Alumni Game at NHHS Athletic Complex: Womens' game at 1pm followed by Mens' game at 3pm.

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"Stay focused. Your start does not determine how you're going to finish." -- Herm Edwards, Head Coach

From the desk of the Athletic Director

I am excited to bring this athletic newsletter to all of you this year. The idea of this newsletter stems from searching for additional ways to better recognize the student athletes of North Haven High School. We have so many student athletes at NHHS that accomplish incredible things on the athletic venue and in the classroom. They receive accolades both

individually and as a team throughout their athletic seasons. I look forward this year to share many of their exciting stories with all of you throughout the school year. I wish all of you and your families a great fall sport season and Go Indians!

- Todd Petronio

NH Football – Looking for another Division title and CIAC Playoff berth in 2015.

The North Haven Football team, led by this year’s senior class has started off the 2015 season with two convincing wins. They opened the season with a 56 – 28 win vs. Jonathon Law High School. In this game the scoring was started early, with senior captain Michael Montano scoring three TD’s in the first quarter and Tom Dodge adding another first quarter score with a 50 yard punt return for a touchdown. For Montano’s performance, he was nominated as a GameTime CT Friday Night Star.

In week two, this past Friday night, seniors Michael Montano and Jeremy Imperati hooked up

on a beautiful TD pass in the back of the end zone to get the scoring started. Then senior Connor Suraci led the way scoring 4 TD runs of 5, 2, 84, and 32 yards. Montano added another pair of rushing touchdowns securing the 48-0 victory over the visiting Sheehan Titans. The biggest highlight of the evening might have been the early “Gatorade” shower given to Coach Anthony Sagnella by the seniors in celebration of his 100th win at North Haven High School. The team is looking for many more wins this season to get them back into the CIAC postseason.



“We have a very experienced group of players returning. They have worked very hard this offseason getting ready and we are all excited to start playing games.” - Coach Sagnella

NH Field Hockey begins the 2015 season in exciting fashion!



The NH Field Hockey team has opened up the season 1-1-1. It was an exciting first week for the lady Indians, scoring two late second half goals by junior Hope Marino in their opener to tie Lyman Hall 2-2. Then in their next game, senior captain Catherine Babbidge did all the scoring needed as the defense held Sheehan to no goals. The team has been led by excellent goalie play by senior Rylee Bathrick recording 24 saves in the two games. Even in a losing effort on Friday to Amity, freshman keeper Meg Christoforo had 12 saves in her first game. The season is off to a fast start and the coaching staff and team are expecting good things this season.

Cross Country teams sprint to the finish line in 2015.

In their opening meet this year, the Girls' team defeated Foran High School 21-36. It was a great effort by the team finishing first, third, fourth, fifth, and eighth place. The team was led by junior Elise Symon. She placed first overall with a time of 21:36 min. Senior captains Connie Tao and Erica Salvo, freshman Clare Connell, junior Hillary Hoyt scored for the team. The girls will next face Lauralton Hall, East Haven, and Sacred Heart Academy at Eisenhower Park in Milford on Tuesday. Coach Jackson is expecting good things from them this week.

The boys' team faced Foran in the same meet last week, however coming up short losing 33-22. Without the boys team at full strength, it was led by last year's State Open qualifier, senior tri-captain Ryan Brennan. He placed first overall finishing the race in a time of 17:25 min. Fellow tri-captain, Benjamin Papsun, juniors Forrest King & Johua Bryson, and sophomore Gabe Durante all scored for the Indians. The boys will next compete on Tuesday at Milford against Fairfield Prep, Notre Dame of WH, and East Haven.



The boys' team are led by seniors Ryan Brennan and Ben Papsun – both talented senior captains. The girls' are led by a strong senior class – Erica Salvo, Connie Tao, and Reaghan Bathrick, along with junior Elise Symon.

Photo courtesy of Storytellers Photography

NH Swimming looking to dive forward in Division I this season.



The girls are really excited for this event and gearing up for our Lionheart event..." Sr. Captain Rachel Buonasora

As the North Haven swim team prepares for their season, they have additional plans for something bigger. As Senior captain, Rachel Buonasora stated, "with a month of preparation and practice behind us, the team is gearing up for our Lionheart event this upcoming Sunday." Each swimmer will be swimming as many laps as possible in the time allotted to help raise money to donate to Breast Cancer research. This fundraiser event was started by Coach Phelan a few years ago and has become an annual event. Since 2007, Lionheart has raised over \$500,000. For more information, please contact Coach Phelan directly on the NHHS – team swim page. The team also starts its home season this week verses Jonathon Law on Tuesday and East Haven on Thursday. Both meets will start at 4:00pm at the Gawrych Town Pool.



Girls Soccer looking to get a "head" of the competition in the SCC

The 2015 soccer campaign has begun this fall. This year's team is led by senior captains, Morgan Heyl and Kristina Holle. The team would also like to welcome new junior varsity coach, Rocco Christiana. Coach Christiana comes to North Haven from Durham, CT with a wealth of soccer knowledge and coaching experience. With Victoria Casco graduating, the keeper position was taken over by sophomore Angela Sanzari. With Coach Christiana's goal keeper background, it has the potential to be a good match.

When asked about his experience so far in North Haven, Coach Christiana stated, "the girls on the team and the parents have been so supportive. It has been a great experience so far and I'm so excited about all the great progress that has already occurred."

With the current season off to a slow start, North Haven welcomed Sacred Heart Academy on Friday afternoon. With the team losing 0-3, senior captain Morgan Heyl took charge offensively, scoring in the second half to cut the lead to 1-3. While the game ended in a loss, the second half was a change of momentum. The team is looking to use that momentum to change their season moving forward. As the captains have commented on Social Media, "girls - keep your heads up, the goals will come!" Just the kind of positive message needed from the captains. Great job Morgan and Kristina!



Photo courtesy of Storytellers Photography



Photo courtesy of Storytellers Photography

NH Volleyball trying to spike the competition this season in the SCC.

The North Haven volleyball team is looking to make a splash in the SCC - Oronoque conference this season. They have opened up the 1-3 but had some impressive matches in some of the losses, taking a first set match with SCC powerhouse Amity. The coaching staff is excited about the progress so far and Coach Mark Giordano believes with more consistency the victories will come. With the shifting of players, the coaches have seemed to find some legitimate front line attack with senior Marissa Mocarsky (49 kills) and junior Laurissa Amaker (15 kills) in the new format.

The team is planning for its big PINK game on October 8th verses Sheehan High School at 6:30pm. This has become a big event for the team and the local charity it supports, "The Sister's Project." This local group provides financial assistance to families with loved ones battling cancer. For more information please see team senior captain - Antonia Barbiero.

This week is a big week with two oronoque division games verses Career and Branford High School. Their next home game is Tuesday at 5:15pm against Branford.

SAVE THE DATE



Lionheart Swim-A-Thon

The event will be on Sunday September 27th at 8:30am at the Beckerman Athletic Center on the campus of Hamden Hall Country Day School. For more information please visit lionheart.kintera.org created by the Smilow Cancer Hospital.



Field Hockey clothing drive

On Saturday September 26th from 9am - 3pm the Field Hockey team will be sponsoring a clothing drive in the NHHS parking lot. While you are switching over your wardrobes, the team will be accepting all clothing donations during this time.

NH Soccer looking to repeat as Oronoque champions again this year.

The NH Soccer team looks to continue its success in the SCC Oronoque division. This year is led by its four senior co-captains. During the preseason, the coaching staff voted unanimously to award senior captain Thomas Bogen as preseason MVP. He was selected for his overall leadership, work ethic, attitude, and his leadership by example. Fiondella states, "Having graduated 15 seniors last year (most of team's starters), we are very young this year. That being said, we have been very pleased with the work ethic given by our team, as well as the leadership provided by our four captains: Thomas, Ian, Trevor, and JJ." These four senior leaders will lead the challenge to replace many new players to the squad. In the first three games this season, five freshman have seen significant playing time. After losing the opener to Guilford, the team prepared to take on oronoque division opponent Wilbur Cross this past Thursday. Though the team appeared to come out in the first half a bit flat, the team increased the intensity by the end of the half with goals scored by junior Colin Finkle and senior captain JJ Jenson. Unfortunately, the team missed on some opportunities and Wilbur Cross scored with 6 minutes left to add a key insurance goal to defeat the Indians 4-2. Even in the loss, senior captain Trevor MacDonnell was voted by the team as the player of the game for his tremendous effort in keeping the team in the game with 8 saves.

While the team has started 0-3 to open the season Coach Fiondella had this to say about the team. "I believe in this team and know that with some tactical changes, time, and improvement we can get better individually and



begin to make some noise in the SCC. We will need time and patience, but I truly believe it will come."



Photos courtesy of Storytellers
Photography and parent photographer.

Where are they now?

Colin Uyeki had a prolific career at NHHS and helped raise NH Lacrosse from a tier three team to a First tier contender in the SCC. Last season he finished the season as the leading scorer in the state of CT. His list of accomplishments in lacrosse is long and illustrious. He was selected as an All-American from US Lacrosse. This is a huge honor to be selected as only one of only 18 players in the state and only one of two players outside of Fairfield Country. He was also a First team All-State (2X), First Team All Conference (2X), the SCC Player of the Year, First Year All Area (2X), and "oh by the way" a

pretty good student. He was an CIAC Scholar Athlete and graduated as a Top 10 student. He is currently attending Wesleyan University and will play for the Cardinals this upcoming Spring season. Says NHHS Coach, Eric Bailey, "In my eight years as a high school coach, Colin is one of the most dedicated, selfless players I've ever seen. I've coach plenty of All-League, All-State, a few All-Americans and a CT HS player of the year. He is by far one of my favorites because of his passion, relentless motor and work ethic. It is rare to have a kid like that come through your program and I feel fortunate to have had the chance to coach him and now work with him."



Colin Uyeki: Class of 2015.

Weslyan University

Position: Attack

NORTH HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

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