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Walter Camp Football Foundation Hosts High School “Breakfast of Champions”

All-Connecticut Team, Player of the Year and Coach of the Year announced

New Haven, Conn. – As part of the 43rd annual Walter Camp Weekend festivities, the Walter Camp Football Foundation hosted its High School “Breakfast of Champions” on Saturday morning at Anthony’s Ocean View. The event was sponsored by the Dan Orlovsky Foundation.

Notre Dame of West Haven, the Class L champion and state’s top-ranked team, was honored along with the five other state champions – Cheshire (Class LL), New Canaan (Class MM), Berlin (Class M), St. Joseph’s of Trumbull (Class SS) and Hyde Leadership (Class S). In addition, presentations of three awards were made.

The state **Coach of the Year** award, presented by Stadium System, went to **Tom Marcucci (Notre Dame)**. The other two finalists were Chuck Drury (Pomperaug) and Mark Ecke (Cheshire). Marcucci led the Green Knights (11-1) to the Southern Connecticut Conference Division I East title and the Class L state championship. Notre Dame was also honored with the Kelly Award, presented by the Walter Camp Foundation to the state’s top high school team.

The state **Player of the Year** was awarded to running back **Ben Crick (Pomperaug)**. The other two finalists were Tyler Murphy (Wethersfield) and Greg Palmer (Cheshire). Crick rushed for 2,105 yards and 30 touchdowns for the Panthers, who were Class L runner-ups.

The Lifetime Achievement Award, presented by NFP Sports, was presented to **Jerry McDougall**, former long-time coach at Trumbull High School.

2009 Walter Camp All-Connecticut Team

Offense: **OL:** Sean Berglund (Wolcott), Jamie Daniels (New London), Ernest Wiggins (Bridgeport Central), Conor Hanratty (New Canaan), Chris Valenti (Bethel) **WR:** Brendan Rankowitz (Staples), Cody Newton (New Canaan) **TE:** Jake Santora (Staples) **QB:** Greg Palmer (Cheshire) **RB:** Julian Hayes (Xavier), Ben Crick (Pomperaug)

Defense: **DE:** A.J. Wilcox (Ledyard), Cameron Davis (Hamden) **DT:** Rob Bowman (Notre Dame), Tom Jordan (Ridgefield) **LB:** Graham Stewart (Xavier), Patrick Atkinson (Stamford), C.J. Elser (Pomperaug), Tyler Matekevich (St. Joseph’s) **DB:** Conor Keniry (Notre Dame), Matt Kelly (Staples), Andrew Clements (Pomperaug), Christon Gill (Bridgeport Central)

Special Teams: **PK:** Santiago Cuartas (Staples) **P:** Ray Pendagast (Shelton) **KR:** Tyler Murphy (Wethersfield)