

PRESS RELEASE

May 2, 2013

ESSEX COUNTY FREEHOLDERS HONOR THE NEWARK TECH BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM 2013 GROUP 2 STATE CHAMPIONS

(Newark, NJ) – During its Wednesday, May 1, 2013, meeting at the Hall of Records, the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders honored the Newark Tech Boys Basketball Team for winning the 2013 Group 2 State Championship. The Board's commendation was sponsored by acclamation and presented to the team by Freeholder President Blonnie Watson and Freeholders Rufus Johnson and Rolando Bobadilla of Newark, and Freeholder Carol Clark of East Orange.



Members of the N. J. Group 2 State Champion Newark Tech Boys Basketball Team were honored by the Board during its May 1st meeting at the Hall of Records. The players are pictured above with Freeholders Blonnie Watson, Rolando Bobadilla, Rufus Johnson, Carol Clark and Leonard Luciano, as well as their coaches, Joe Jordan, Richard Woods, George Benton and Robert Coles, Athletic Director Daniel Harris, and Superintendent Dr. Michael A. Pennella. (Photo by Glen Frieson)

The Newark Tech Boys Basketball Team won the 2013 Group 2 State Championship when it defeated Medford Tech, 56-44, at the Rutgers Athletic Center on March 10th.

In State Tournament competition, the Newark Tech first defeated Orange H.S. (75-52), and then Newark Central H.S. (76-54) to win the North Jersey Section 2, Group 2 Sectional Championship, its first since 1992, before going on to defeat Pascack Hills H.S. (66-31) and then Medford Tech to capture the Group 2 State Championship, the second state championship in school history, the last being in 1991. The team then went on to compete in the Tournament of Champions (TOC) where it first defeated Newark East Side H.S. in a hard-fought game (42-39), before falling to the eventual TOC Champion in the semifinals.

The Terriers finished their season with an outstanding record of 23 victories with only 9 losses, and ranked by *The Star-Ledger* as the #1 Group 2 team and #13 team overall in the State of New Jersey, as well the #2 team in Essex County, as well as the #11 team in New Jersey by Max Preps.

The team was further recognized by honors bestowed upon three of its members: Rakwan Kelly was named to the 1st Team All-Group 2 and All-County; Dwayne Murrill was named to the 3rd Team All-Group 2; and Tyree Sykes was named to the 3rd Team All-County.

The Newark Tech Boys Basketball Team is comprised of the following members: Seniors Nasir White, Justin Eke, Dwayne Murrill, Rakwan Kelly, Komoko Turray, Stephon Johnson and Travis Wint; Juniors Al-Tariq Halsey, Sharilon Labato, Dino Boyd and Tyree Sykes; Sophomores Jeros Page, Jordan Zagadou and Walker Wilson; and Freshman Mustafa Lawrence. The team managers were Julia Barton, Jamanii McCreary, Monique Hunter, Ny'ae McMillan and Shadae Smith. The team was coached by Head Coach Joe Jordan, Assistant Coaches Richard Woods and George Benton, and JV Coach Robert Cole, and received administrative support from Essex County Vocational Technical Schools Superintendent Dr. Michael A. Pennella, Principal Oge Denis, Vice Principal Ayisha Ingram-Robinson and Athletic Director Daniel Harris,

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