

PRESS RELEASE

June 21, 2012

ESSEX COUNTY FREEHOLDERS HONOR THE MONTCLAIR H. S. BASEBALL TEAM 2012 GREATER NEWARK TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS



Freeholder Brendan Gill (right) of Montclair presented the Board's Commendation to Ron Gavazzi, Head Coach of the Montclair High School Baseball Team, during the Board's Wednesday, June 20th, meeting held at Montclair Town Hall. (PHOTO BY GLEN FRIESON)

(Newark, NJ) – During its Wednesday, June 20th, meeting held at Montclair Town Hall, the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders honored the Montclair High School Baseball Team for its outstanding season and specifically for having won the 2012 Greater Newark Tournament. The Board's Commendation was sponsored and presented by District 5 Freeholder Brendan Gill of Montclair to Head Coach Ron Gavazzi who, along with Assistant Principal for Athletics/Student Activities John Porcelli, stood-in for the team.

The Montclair High School Baseball Team won the prestigious 2012 Greater Newark Tournament (GNT) on May 20th by defeating Nutley High School, 2-1, its first GNT Championship since 1963, and its 5th overall. In the lead-up to the championship game, the team first defeated Glen Ridge High School (4-2), Newark Academy (7-1) and Millburn High School (4-2).

The winning of the Championship of the 80th Annual GNT, the oldest high school baseball tournament in New Jersey, was the highlight of the most successful, exciting and memorable season in many years for the Montclair High School Baseball Team, and was a source of great pride and excitement not only at MHS, but also throughout the entire Montclair community, elevating interest and support for the baseball program to the highest level in many years.

The team finished its season with an outstanding record of 20 victories with only 8 defeats, the most victories for the program since the 1970's. The season's accomplishments also included the compilation of a 9-7 record in the highly-competitive Super Essex Conference, a 6-2 victory over West Orange High School in the NJSIAA Tournament, and the capturing of the school's 5th consecutive victory over Montclair Kimberley Academy in the Annual Yogi Berra Cup Game.

The Montclair High School Baseball Team, the Mounties, is comprised of the following members: **Seniors** Darren Horne, Mackenze Genauer, Evan Janifer, John Lee, Eric Frazzano, Elliot Gertner and Miles Davenport; **Juniors** Aaron Yanku, Cole Futterman, Ben Hamilton, Keith Harrison, Jared Berman, Leo Poggie, Eli Kashi, Sam Ackerman, Brett Cooper, Jack Biebel, Nick Twommey, Chris Vincent and Brandon Taylor; **Sophomores** Will Kline, Ben Guterl and Cameron Freda; and **Freshman** Nick Starpoli. The team was coached by Head Coach Ron Gavazzi and Assistant Coaches Jamie Bittner and Angelo Intile.

For Additional Information:
Gary Kroessig, Public Information
Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders
973-621-4452
Gkroessig@freeholders.essexcountynj.org