

## PRESS RELEASE

July 7, 2016

### **ESSEX COUNTY FREEHOLDERS HONOR WEST ESSEX GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM**

**Winners of the NJSIAA North Jersey, Section 1, Group 3 Tournament, the 2016 Super Essex Conference Championship and the 2016 Essex County Tournament Championship**



The West Essex H.S. Girls Softball Team was honored by the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders during its Thursday, July 7th, meeting held at Livingston Town Hall. Pictured above are (front row, left to right): Head Coach Andrea Llauget, Gianna Waack, Alexa Vardiman, Amanda Garofalo, Bridget Betley and Julia Vardiman (2<sup>nd</sup> row, left to right): Maddie Gemma, Freeholder Leonard Luciano of West Caldwell, Sami Huetter and Assistant Coach Jason Ahmed. Photo by Glen Frieson

(Newark, NJ) – During its Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, meeting held at Livingston Town Hall, the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders honored the West Essex High School Girls Softball Team for its outstanding 2016 season. The Board’s Commendations were sponsored and presented to the team coaches by District IV Freeholder Leonard M. Luciano of West Caldwell.

The West Essex High School Girls Softball Team completed its season by winning the North Jersey, Section 1, Group 3 Tournament (NJSIAA), defeating Morris Hills on May 24, 2016, 10-0. This is the first time since 2010 that West Essex won a state section championship. In his introduction, Freeholder Luciano started things off by stating, “We are proud of all of you, so I can only imagine how proud your coaches, athletic director, parents and entire school are of each and every one of you.”

The team won the Essex County Championship, with impressive wins defeating Newark Eastside 15-0 on May 7, 2016, then Bloomfield 3-0 on May 14, 2016, Cedar Grove 8-1 on May 20, 2016, and Montclair 11-3 on May 21, 2016. This is the first time since 2007 that West Essex won the Essex County Championship. The team ended its season with 23 wins.

The West Essex High School Girls Softball Team is comprised of the following members: *Seniors* Kate Jencarelli and Dinore Gashi; *Juniors* Sami Huetter, Bridget Betley, Alexa Vardiman, Madison Gemma, Amanda Garofalo, Rachel Rodriguez, Marissa Corso, and Alexa Estrada; *Sophomores* Lilly James, Amanda Schwartz, and Alex Apito; *Freshmen* Julia Vardiman and Gianna Waack. Honorable mention also goes to the coaching and administrative staffs that contributed to the team's success by providing outstanding support: Head Coach Andrea Mondadori Llauguet, Assistant Coaches Jason Ahmed, Steven Mondadori and Dominick Linsalato, and Athletic Director Anthony Minnella; the team also received administrative support from Superintendent: Barbara Longo, Principal Caesar Diliberto, Assistant Principals Julie Hoebee and Damion Macioci, and Athletic Trainers John Mascola and Kevin Gramata, as well as, School Security officer; Pete Davis.

Freeholder Leonard Luciano of West Caldwell has served District 4 on the Freeholder Board since August of 2011 and represents the towns of Caldwell, Cedar Grove, Essex Fells, Fairfield, Livingston, Millburn, North Caldwell, Roseland, Verona, West Caldwell and West Orange.

\*\*\*\*\*

**For Additional Information:**  
**Debra Marvel, Deputy Clerk**  
**Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders**  
**973-621-4489**  
[dm Marvel@freeholders.essexcountynj.org](mailto:dm Marvel@freeholders.essexcountynj.org)

**Board of Chosen Freeholders, County of Essex**  
Hall of Records - Room 558, 465 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd., Newark, New Jersey 07102  
Tel: (973) 621-4486 Fax: (973) 621-5695