



Office of the Mayor

Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: December 12, 2012

CONTACT: Alexander Marion

Press Secretary (315) 448-8044

MAYOR MINER TO HONOR FOWLER HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER TEAM

Fowler Team, Consisting Nearly Entirely of Immigrants and Refugees, Won Section III Championship, Advanced to State Semi-Finals, Finished Third in New York State

Miner: This Team is Our Miracle on the Field

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner will welcome the Fowler High School boys' varsity soccer team to City Hall today for a 3 PM ceremony honoring their accomplishments over the course of the season and post-season. The team won the Section III championships and competed in the state semi-finals. The team is made up nearly entirely of students who are immigrants to the United States. Many of those students are refugees from Middle Eastern and African nations. The team is coached by Chris Pelligra. Attached is a team roster.

“The achievements of this team, both on and off the field, have been remarkable,” said Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner. “These kids have the kind of resilience and tenacity that make this community such a unique and special place. They have made Syracuse their home and are thriving in our community. This team is our miracle on the field and a treasure to have.”

The Fowler team had a remarkable season. Going 12-0 before losing a single game and they ended with an overall record of 19-2. They were ranked as fifth in the state most of the season. Realizing their great potential, many different groups united to support the team. Fowler students held rallies at school before the final six games of the season. Nike donated balls and cleats for the team. Additionally, parents in neighboring communities paid for tickets so students and parents could attend and a local busing company donated transportation to the statewide games.

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Fowler Boys Soccer Team Roster

#	Name	Grade	Position	Notes
17	Ndabaruta, Vincent	12	Mid/For	Captain <i>1st Team All League, All CNY, Player of the Year, All State, 23 goals</i>
12	Kumeh, Elijah	12	Mid/Def	
G	Fratto, Mario	12	Keeper	
16	Muhoza, Ndarishize	11	Mid	
10	Ghanem, Ghanem	11	Mid	
15	Al-Harbi, Abdul-Jabbar	11	For	
6	Butikima, Titan	11	Def	
7	Donzo, Yahiya	11	Def	Captain
11	Abdulkareem, Abdulkareem	11	For	<i>1st Team All League, All CNY, 24 goals</i>
5	Kubera, Mupenzi	11	Mid/For	
2	Raacha, Adan	11	Mid	
9	Mboyoy, Jean-Paul	10	For/Mid	<i>1st Team All League</i>
8	Ndikije, Karebo	10	For/Mid	<i>2nd Team All League</i>
4	Goe, Nyezee	10	Mid	
13	Say-Dee, Sweet	10	Mid	
3	Rugira, Bonke	9	Def	<i>2nd Team All League</i>
G	Abdulkareem, Abdullah	9	Keeper	<i>2nd Team All League</i>

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