

## NJCAA DII MEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

### #5 SOUTH SUBURBAN COLLEGE

(South Holland, IL)

VS

### REND LAKE COLLEGE

(Ina, IL)

For immediate release:

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

*Danville, IL-* Game 2 of the NJCAA DII Men's Basketball National Tournament featured NJCAA District 4 Champion South Suburban College (30-3) vs. NJCAA District 13 Champion Johnson County Community College (15-18). South Suburban comes into this game ranked #5 in the NJCAA National Poll and as the #2 seed in the tournament.

It was very evident early on in this contest that it was going to be a defensive battle. There was limited scoring for the first couple minutes. South Suburban eventually forced a couple turnovers and scored some transition baskets to get their offense rolling. After 5 minutes, South Suburban claimed a 12-2 lead. South Suburban maintained a 10 point lead throughout the majority of the half. Rend Lake struggled to get any consistency on the offensive end of the floor. By the 5 minute mark South Suburban held a 16 point lead. They didn't look back for the latter part of the first half, leading by as much as 18 points. Rend Lake made a short run in the closing minute of the first half, cutting the lead to 13. **HALFTIME SCORE: South Suburban 45, Rend Lake 32.**

#### **1<sup>ST</sup> HALF LEADERS FOR SOUTH SUBURBAN:**

Bryce Walker, 5'9" FR, 17 pts

Marcus Lewis, 6'4" SO, 8 pts

#### **1<sup>ST</sup> HALF LEADERS FOR REND LAKE:**

TeNale Roland, 6'1" FR, 12 pts

Noel Allen, 6'5" FR, 8 pts

Rend Lake came out in the second half and let everybody know that they were not done yet. Their offense started clicking and cut the lead to 6 points. South Suburban subsequently went on their own run to bring their lead back to 10 points. Midway through the second half both teams traded blows as Rend Lake kept within striking distance. South Suburban's lead hovered around 4 points for several minutes. Rend Lake cut it to 2 points but South Suburban's perimeter defense stepped up and forced several Rend Lake turnovers, to which they converted to points for an 8-2 run. Bryce Walker of South Suburban was willing his team to win

with an outstanding offensive performance. This allowed South Suburban to hold a comfortable lead until Rend Lake brought it back within 3 points with less than 3 minutes to play. Unfortunately for Rend Lake, that was as close as they were able to get. **FINAL SCORE: South Suburban 81, Rend Lake 77.**

South Suburban College will now advance in the winner's bracket to play Johnson County on Wednesday at 6:00pm. Rend Lake College will continue to play in the consolation bracket to play Moraine Valley on Wednesday at the 3:00pm.

**GAME LEADERS FOR SOUTH SUBURBAN:**

Bryce Walker, 5'9" FR, 38 pts

Marcus Lewis, 6'4" SO, 10 pts

Keenan Williams, 6'6" SO, 9 pts

Michael Harris, 6'1" FR, 8 pts

**GAME LEADERS FOR REND LAKE:**

Noel Allen, 6'5" FR, 22 pts

TeNale Roland, 6'1" FR, 17 pts

Dawson Verhines, 6'3" FR, 16 pts

Kevon Fortney, 6'2" FR, 12 pts