

## NJCAA DII MEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

### LAKELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

(Kirtland, OH)

VS

### SOUTH MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

(Phoenix, AZ)

For immediate release:

Thursday, March 22, 2012

*Danville, IL-* Game 17 featured #5 seeded Lakeland Community College vs. #4 seeded South Mountain College. Lakeland advanced after defeating Bismarck State College in the first round. South Mountain defeated Grand Rapids Community College in the first round to advance. The winner will advance to the final 4.

The game was close from the start. Baskets were hard to come by for both squads. South Mountain held an early 9-6 lead but Lakeland quickly closed the gap. The lead changed hands several times through the physical play. Lakeland took their biggest lead of the game of 3 points with 9 minutes left in the half. It didn't last long being followed by a South Mountain 6-0 run to put the 3 point lead in their favor. Both teams continued to get after each other and neither team was able to get any significant lead. This trend continued until a big 3-point shot at the halftime buzzer gave Lakeland the biggest lead of the game. **HALFTIME SCORE: Lakeland 34, South Mountain 27**

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

Chaz Rollins, 6'6" FR, 8 pts, 7 rbs

Richard Smith, 6'7" FR, 7 pts, 8 rbs

Martell Medley, 6'1" FR, 7 pts

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

Michael Craig, 6'5" SO, 6 pts, 5 rbs

Ernesto Andrade, 6'5" SO, 5 pts, 4 rbs

Tarik Smith, 6'2" SO, 5 pts

South Mountain came out strong to close the lead to 3 points but Lakeland retaliated and brought their lead right back to 7 points. Lakeland's lead got up to 8 points before Michael Craig finished some tough plays at the rim to keep South Mountain within reach. South Mountain turned up the pressure in their 1-3-1 zone defense to help close the lead to 3 points with 13 minutes to play. Chaz Rollins and Martell Medley both helped Lakeland out of a rut on the offensive end to maintain a healthy lead. Lakeland implemented a 2-3 zone defense that

caused some problems for South Mountain. By the 10 minute mark Lakeland held a 9 point lead, partly because they were already shooting in the double-bonus. Lakeland held a healthy lead for the next several minutes but South Mountain was not finished. They cut it to 5 points with less than 4 minutes left. Michael Craig of South Mountain would not let his team quit and helped them cut the lead to 3 points with less than 2 minutes left. South Mountain had an opportunity but couldn't get any closer at the end. Lakeland made their free throws and secured the victory. **FINAL SCORE: Lakeland 81, South Mountain 74.**

With the win, Lakeland will now advance to play Mott Community College on Friday at 8:00pm in the final 4. South Mountain will continue play in the consolation bracket vs. Louisburg College on Friday at 3:00pm.

**GAME LEADERS FOR LAKELAND:**

Chaz Rollins, 6'6" FR, 25 pts, 10 rbs  
Martell Medley, 6'1" FR, 19 pts  
Brendan Cooper, 6'7" SO, 10 pts, 10 rbs  
Richard Smith, 6'7" FR, 7 pts, 10 rbs

**GAME LEADERS FOR SOUTH MOUNTAIN:**

Michael Craig, 6'5" SO, 28 pts, 11 rbs  
Ernesto Andrade, 6'5" SO, 11 pts, 12 rbs  
DaLan Stafford, 6'0" FR, 11 pts