

## NJCAA DII MEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

### SOUTH SUBURBAN COLLEGE

*(South Holland, IL)*

VS

### LAKELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*(Kirtland, OH)*

For immediate release:

Saturday, March 24, 2012

*Danville, IL-* Game 25 featured a consolation match-up between South Suburban College and Lakeland Community College. The winner will finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in the NJCAA DII Men's Basketball National Tournament. The loser will finish 4<sup>th</sup> in the tournament. Both teams won their first and second round games before losing in the semifinals.

Lakeland had the early advantage. South Suburban struggled with turnovers early on the offensive end. Lakeland used their length to their advantage with some great finishes at the rim. Eventually South Suburban warmed up and hit some outside shots to tie the game 10-10. South Suburban's hot outside shooting continued and they hit 3 3-pointers to go up 5 points midway through the half. The lead got to 13 points and South Suburban didn't show any signs of slowing down. Lakeland was able to manage the lead from getting any bigger for a few minutes, but South Suburban didn't cool off for long. They hit multiple outside shots down the stretch that put them up 40-22 with less than 2 minutes remaining in the half. South Suburban made 7 3-pointers in the first half, accounting for almost half of their total field goals. Lakeland was 0-4 from 3-point range. South Suburban went into the break on fire and with a healthy lead. **HALFTIME SCORE: South Suburban 43, Lakeland 27.**

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

Michael Harris, 6'1" FR, 13 pts, 9 rbs

Sultan Muhammed, 6'1" SO, 8 pts

Marcus Lewis, 6'4" SO, 8 pts

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

Chaz Rollins, 6'6" FR, 9 pts, 9 rbs

Brendan Cooper, 6'7" SO, 6 pts, 4 rbs

Deran Banton, 6'1" FR, 6 pts

South Suburban got the lead up over 20 points almost immediately in the second half. Lakeland put together a run to cut it to 14 points shortly after, giving them their second wind. They cut the lead to 6 points by the 15 minute mark. South Suburban responded well to the threat and

rekindled their lead. Midway through the half they sat comfortably at a 10 point lead and it slowly crept up to around 14 points over the next couple of minutes. The game continued without much change until around the 5 minute mark. Lakeland got some key defensive stops and got on a roll. They eventually cut South Suburban's lead to 75-70 with just 3 minutes to play. The last 3 minutes of the game were action packed. South Suburban struggled to take care of the ball and Lakeland cut their lead to 77-75 with 46 seconds left. Lakeland got a great defensive stop and got the ball back with 12 seconds to play. Martell Medley of Lakeland was fouled while shooting with 5 seconds left. He made 1 of 2 free throws and South Suburban got the rebound. Lakeland fouled immediately and South Suburban made 1 of 2 free throws with 1.8 seconds left. Brendan Cooper caught a full court pass and had an open look in the lane, which he made. Unfortunately for Lakeland, it was reviewed and ruled after the regulation buzzer. **FINAL SCORE: South Suburban 78, Lakeland 76.**

With the win, South Suburban earns a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in the NJCAA DII Men's Basketball National Tournament. With the loss, Lakeland earns a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish in the tournament.

**GAME LEADERS FOR SOUTH SUBURBAN:**

Michael Harris, 6'1" FR, 20 pts, 12 rbs

Marcus Lewis, 6'4" SO, 14 pts

Bryce Walker, 5'9" FR, 14 pts

Keenan Williams, 6'6" SO, 10 pts

**GAME LEADERS FOR LAKELAND:**

Chaz Rollins, 6'6" FR, 21 pts, 16 rbs

Brendan Cooper, 6'7" SO, 18 pts, 8 rbs

Deran Banton, 6'1" FR, 17 pts, 10 rbs