

Press Release

LAMAR
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RUNNIN' LOPES FINISH FIFTH IN NATION

(Lamar, Colorado; March 24, 2009) After an exciting regular season, the Lamar Community College Runnin' Lopes Men's Basketball Team capped off its 2008-09 play by winning its first Region IX Championship and making its first ever appearance at the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I National Tournament in Hutchinson, KS on March 17-21. The team finished fifth in the Tournament, after losing just one game to #1 seeded Chipola Community College (Florida, 33-1).

"The opportunity to represent Lamar Community College and Southeast Colorado in the NJCAA National Tournament is something our coaches and players take great pride in," commented Head Coach Chris Tifft. "Having won our first ever Region IX Championship and having made our first appearance in the National Tournament, it was a season of great accomplishment for our basketball program. Our students played with great pride and toughness and proved that we belonged on a national stage by winning 3 of our 4 games and placing 5th in the nation. We want to thank all of the people who have supported our program and made our success possible."

The results for games in which LCC played are:

Game #1: Lamar CC (25-10) 57, Cape Fear CC (20-13) 47
Game #10: Lamar CC (25-11) 66, #1 Chipola CC (33-1) 82
Game #15: Lamar CC (26-11) 77, #10 North Dakota State College of Science (31-4) 64
5th/6th Place Game: Lamar CC (27-11) 61, Garden City CC (25-13) 58

Lamar challenged a former LCC coach in its final game when it faced Garden City Head Coach Kris Baumann's Broncbusters. Baumann coached at LCC from 2001-2004.

Lamar statistics for the National Tournament include:

LCC Leading Scorers:

PJ Reyes (Sophomore, Taylor Truman HS, Taylor, MI) 15.5 pts
Ogo Adegboye (Sophomore; Findlay Prep, London, England) 14.3 pts
Jamal Edwards (Sophomore; Atlantic City HS, Mays Landing, NJ) 11.5 pts
Antwone Snead (Sophomore; Atlantic City HS, Atlantic City, NJ) 10 pts

LCC Leading Rebounders:

Antwone Snead (Sophomore; Atlantic City HS, Atlantic City, NJ) 9.3
MarcAnthony Franks (Freshman; Our Lady Mt. Carmel HS, Aberdeen, MD) 6.8
PJ Reyes (Sophomore, Taylor Truman HS, Taylor, MI) 4.3
Scott Day (Sophomore; ThunderRidge HS, Highlands Ranch, CO) 4.0

Adegboye was named to the All-Tournament Team at the National Tournament for averaging 14.3 pts, 4 assists and 1.5 steals.

Lamar had the 3rd best scoring defense in the Tournament, allowing 62.75 points per game. Only Midland College (61.5) and Salt Lake CC (61.75) allowed fewer points per game during the Tournament. Midland and Salt Lake played in the National Championship game, where Salt Lake won 67-60.

With a 27-11 final record, the 2008/2009 Lamar Community College Men's Basketball season will be remembered as the most successful one in the school's 73 year history. In addition to a successful showing at the National Tournament, the Runnin' Lopes won four games in four days, defeating North Platte 63-61 for its first Region IX championship.

Along with the team's success, there were also a number of individual accomplishments. Reyes, a 6'4'' forward, was voted onto the Region IX All-Region team and has been nominated as an NJCAA Division I All-America selection. Reyes was also named to the Region IX All-Tournament team. Point guard Ogo Adegboye was named to the Region IX All-Tournament team. In his fifth year at Lamar Community College, Tiffitt was named the District 9 Men's Division I Basketball Coach of the Year after leading Lamar Community College to the NJCAA National Tournament.

For more information regarding Runnin' Lopes Basketball, see www.lamarcc.edu/basketball.

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