

JUNIOR COLLEGE BASKETBALL



Don Campbell / HP staff

Lake Michigan College's Kevion Morse shoots over Muskegon Community College's Tyrome Maxwell II during the first half of Friday's game.

# Winning the close ones

## Lake Michigan College basketball teams sweep Muskegon Community College

By **AUSTIN BORNHEIM**  
HP Sports Writer

**BENTON HARBOR** — With the shot clock winding down under five seconds, Lake Michigan College's LaBradford Sebree threw up a contested 3-pointer.

The shot arced high, over the outstretched arm of Muskegon Community College's Aaron Syndor and into the basket as the buzzer sounded.

The 3 gave LMC a six point lead and enough cushion to hold on for an 87-81 win Friday night.

"I just looked up, saw I had to get a shot off and I made it," Sebree said. "It was a tough look, but it fell for me."

While the men's team was locked in a close game the entire way, the Lake Michigan College women opened

up a 20-point lead in the first half before seeing it evaporate down to 1 midway through the second.

The RedHawks responded, though, and went on to win 66-54.

Sebree led LMC (1-0 MCCA West, 10-4) with 20 points on six baskets, none of which were bigger than his 3-pointer with 1:33 left in the game.

"It was huge," Lake Michigan College coach Doug Schaffer said of Sebree's shot. "With the shot clock almost gone and he hit that (shot) and gave us a lead to work with was big."

The RedHawks opened up their largest lead of seven points a few minutes before on two Mitch Meyer 3-pointers.

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Lake Michigan College's Shalay Stevens pressures Muskegon Community College's Danielle Jones during the first half of Friday's game.



**REDHAWKS**

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“We hit three big shots tonight in a very close game,” said Schaffer of a game that 12 ties and 13 lead changes. “Mitch with two big three’s to give us some space around the seven-minute mark and Sebree down the stretch.”

Offensively, LMC struggled in the first half against a quick, attacking Muskegon zone.

But out of the break, the RedHawks made a concerted effort to get the ball inside and use their size advantage.

Forwards Montel Green and Arsenio Arrington consistently beat the Jay Hawk posts and helped loosen up the zone.

Arrington finished with 12 points and Green had a double-double with 10 points and a game-high 16 rebounds.

“Our size hurt them, no doubt about it,” Schaffer said. “We talked at halftime about how our advantage was inside and we were being too aggressive with perimeter shooting. But we did a much better job (in the second half) of looking inside and getting some inside touches.”

The Jay Hawks played four guards most of the game, which gave LMC trouble on the defensive end.

Muskegon’s Eddie Thomas used his ability to drive to score a game-high 28 points.

“They were quick,” Sebree said. “Our size helped on offense, but it made guarding them tough because they were shooting the ball good from outside so we couldn’t pack in our zone.”

Muskegon was able to pull within four in the final minute, but LMC was able to make its free throws to close the game.

For the LMC women, a 21-3 run put the RedHawks up by 20 and well on their way to what appeared to be a blow out.

But the RedHawks outside shots stopped falling and the Jay Hawks slowly started to come back.

A handful of 3s from Abby Rodriguez, who finished with a game-high 21 points for Muskegon, and some easy baskets brought the Jay Hawks within six at the break.

“I think we lost our edge and getting complacent,” LMC coach Jason Cooper said. “Anyone can come in and beat you if you’re not playing hard for 40 minutes.”

Muskegon pulled within one on two occasions in the second half and each time LMC’s Tammy Lee had a response.

Twice the Brandywine graduate answered a Muskegon basket with a layup of her own.

Then, Lee put the Red-



Don Campbell / HP staff

Lake Michigan College’s Christy Gonzalez, center, battles for a rebound against Muskegon Community College’s Taylor Brown during the second half of Friday’s game.

Hawks (1-0, 11-7) up for good with a corner 3.

“She came in here and responded, was very aggressive for us and she played very well in the second half,” Cooper said.

Sabrina Trujillo led LMC with 20 points and Shalay Stevens had a game-high 13 rebounds.

Cooper was proud of the way his team was able to hold on to win, but saw plenty of areas his team can improve in.

“We’re not playing very well right now,” he said. “We don’t really have an identity, so when it comes down to when we need baskets we really don’t know where we need to be.”

**LMC MEN 87, MUSKEGON CC 81**

MUSKEGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE (81)  
Will Roberson Jr. 4 2-2 12, Eddie Thomas 11 1-2 28, Marcus Tumblyn 2 0-0 6, DeShawn Sanders Jr. 5 6-9 16, Aaron Sydnor 2 1-1 6, Jordai Lewis 1 1-2 3, Tyrome Maxwell II 5 0-0 10. Totals: 80 11-16 81.

LAKE MICHIGAN COLLEGE (87)  
Montel Green 5 0-2 10, Alec Brown 7 4-4 19, Michael Bush 2 3-4 8, LaBradford Sebree 6 7-7 20, Kevion Morse 3 2-3 3 2-3 8, Mitch Meyer 2 0-0 6, Arsenio Arrington 5 2-2 12, Jamare Washington 2 0-0 4. Totals: 32 18-22 87.

Halftime — Tied 35-35.  
3-point goals — LMC 5 (Meyer 2), Muskegon 10 (Thomas 5, Tumblyn 2, Roberson 2). Total fouls — LMC 11, Muskegon 17. Fouled out — none. Technical fouls — none. Rebounds — LMC 48 (Green 16, Morse 10, Brown 5), Muskegon 31 (Sydnor 8, Thomas 5). Assists — LMC 18 (Bush 6, Green 5). Muskegon 12 (Sydnor 5, Sanders 3, Thomas 3). Record — LMC 1-0 MCCA West, 9-4.

**LMC WOMEN 66, MUSKEGON CC 54**

MUSKEGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE (54)  
Jatue McKinnon 2 0-0 4, Francesca Cerniglia 1 0-0 2, Danielle Jones 6 0-0 12, Abby Rodriguez 7 2-2 21, Taylor Brown 3 3-4 9, Kaylie Caverly 1 0-0 2, McKayla McDonald 1 1-2 3. Totals: 21 6-8 54.

LAKE MICHIGAN COLLEGE (66)  
Shalay Stevens 4 2-2 10, Nicole Decker 1 1-1 3, Madison Cameron 4 2-2 13, Sabrina Trujillo 8 2-2 20, Sarah Huffman 2 0-0 4, Tammy Lee 4 0-0 8, Alexis Firovich 1 0-0 3, Christy Gonzalez 2 0-2 4. Totals: 26 7-9 66.  
Halftime — LMC 30-24.



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Lake Michigan College’s Montel Green powers his way through Muskegon Community College’s defense during the first half of Friday’s game.

3-point goals — LMC 7 (Cameron 3, Trujillo 2), Muskegon 6 (Rodriguez 5). Total fouls — LMC 11, Muskegon 12. Fouled out — none. Technical fouls — none. Rebounds — LMC 39 (Stevens 3, Decker 7), Muskegon 35 (Jones 15, Brown 9). Assists — LMC 10, Muskegon 12 (Brown 5). Steals — LMC 15, Muskegon 7. Record — LMC 1-0 MCCA West, 11-7.  
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**After 115 straight Dunleavy could miss 1st game with Bulls**