

Men Improve to 6-3 at Home

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The Lake Superior State University Men's Basketball team (6-12, 5-8 GLIAC) has been on fire this season in the Bud Cooper Gymnasium. Their home record was an astounding 5-3 before this game; two of these losses were against undefeated teams but were able to knock off previously undefeated Central State.

They have taken care of business on their hardwood, why should one of their GLIAC rivals be any different?

Merely a half hour after the Women Laker team knocked off NMU, the boys took them on with the same idea in mind. A little bit of a rough start hit the Lakers, but they took it in the chin and played on with some tough defense that only allowed NMU 5 points in the first 9 minutes, which was key in giving the Lakers an 8 point advantage in that span; Mark Morse hit two quick three's in a 20 second duration to help create that lead.

After missing his first five shots of the game Tyler Kazmierkoski of NMU started to dig the Wildcats out of the hole as he connected on a 2 and a 3 point shot back to back, but then misfired on his next two shots. Lakers grabbed the rebounds on both and converted them into points for a 17-10 lead. Jake Suardini and Tyler Kazmierkoski both hit some shots from beyond the arc to pulled them within one.

VanOudheusden nailed some critical free throws to make the score 19-16. Shortly after, Suardini split a pair from the line to bring NMU within 2.

VanOudheusden got fouled as he put one in and made the extra from the line. NMU made a run at the end of the half, but the Lakers withstood it and went into the locker room up by 3, 29-26

LSSU and NMU shot the exact same from the field in the first half, 9-26. The Lakers made the difference by shooting less 3-point shots than, and making more than NMU. LSSU was also 7-9 from the line, in huge part to VanOudheusden's 5-5.

How fitting was it then that VanOudheusden had the first four points in the second half, giving the Lakers a 7 point lead, which started a 15-6 run by LSSU to give them a gapping lead of 11 with under 8 minutes left to play. Perkins hit a line of free throws at the end of the game to close the door on the Wildcats. That was all the Lakers needed to seal the victory and their 6th win out of their last 7 here at Bud Cooper, and their second in a row.

VanOudheusden had 23 points and 6 boards, but more importantly didn't miss a free throw in all 9 attempts. Ryan Kuhl played physical to pull down 13 boards to along with his 13 points. Kazmierkoski had 21 points and 5 steals.