

# An Inside Look at

# LEHMAN ATHLETICS

## Lehman College Men's Basketball Season Preview

After three straight post-season appearances, the Lehman College men's basketball program has become one of the elite programs in the CUNY conference. With a host of new faces, and the return of the most dominating player in the CUNY, Lehman fans are looking to continue their dominating ways.

Francis, the 2004-05 CUNY athletic conference Most Valuable Player returns to the Lightning after an outstanding junior campaign. The 6'10" center led the squad with a team high 18.6 points, while pulling down 12.2 rebounds per game in leading Lehman to a 21-7 overall record and a berth in the ECAC Metro tournament. In just one season at Lehman, Francis has been honored as the CUNY conference Player of the Year, Metropolitan Sports Writers first-team all-star and an ECAC and D3Hoops all-star selection. Francis also earned a distinct honor this pre-season, as he was selected as a second team Street & Smith's Pre-season All-American, and was a unanimous choice for the CUNY conference Player of the Year.

"We are looking for Sekani to lead the way for this year's young squad," said sixth year head coach Steve Schulman. "This could be a breakout year for the big guy, and we hope he welcomes the challenge."

With the loss of four starters from last season's team, Lehman will look to some very talented role players to fill the void. Sophomore guard Rafael Bueno will assume the role of point guard for this year's squad. Bueno, a 6'2" guard has a canny court sense, and is great and finding open teammates.

The backcourt will be rounded out by the return of junior guard Kyle Lockett. Lockett a sharpshooter from White Plains, New York was a key component on the 2003-04 Lightning team which captured the CUNY championship, and advanced to the NCAA Division III tournament.

With most teams devising a game plan centered on the 6'10" Francis, coach Schulman will rely on junior forwards Lenny Gonzalez, and Derek Moses to provide depth in the frontcourt position. Both juniors played significant minutes on last year's squad, and both will vie for starting positions alongside Francis. Senior forward Franky Gedeon is an exciting high-riser who will look to energize the team with his athletic abilities.

Lehman will look to newcomers Verdayne Townsend (Medgar Evers College), and Duane Rhoden (Clinton H.S) to provide a spark to this year's team.

The Lightning schedule will be very challenging, aside from the rigorous battles of the CUNY athletic conference. Lehman has assembled a non-conference schedule beginning with the Plattsburgh State tip-off tournament. Lehman will then take on regional powers such as the College of New Jersey, College of Mt. St. Vincent, Yeshiva University, and SUNY Farmingdale. The Lightning will open the home campaign on December 6, 2005, with a CUNY match-up against the College of Staten Island. Staten Island will also be the site of the Con Edison CUNY Basketball tournament to be held in February.

## Men's Basketball



**LENNY  
GONZALEZ**

*Junior Lenny Gonzalez looks to provide depth for this year's Lightning*

### 2005-2006 LIGHTNING MEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER

No.	Player	Year	Pos.	Ht.	High School	Hometown
10	Franky Gedeon	Sr.	G	6-3	Palm Beach Lakes	W. Palm Beach, NY
11	Kyle Lockett	Jr.	G	6-0	Alexander Hamilton	White Plains, NY
12	Angelo Rodriguez	Fr.	G	5-8	John F. Kennedy	New York, NY
15	Duane Rhoden	Fr.	G	6-1	DeWitt Clinton	Bronx, NY
23	Jason Marchena	Fr.	G	6-0	St. Agnes	New York, NY
24	Rafael Bueno	So.	F	6-3	Monroe Woodbury	Bronx, NY
25	Ralph Mojica	Jr.	F	6-1	William H. Taft	Bronx, NY
31	Greg Terry	Sr.	G	6-0	Prospect Heights	Brooklyn, NY
32	Lavar Larrier	Jr.	C	6-3	New Rochelle	New Rochelle, NY
33	Chris Diplan	Jr.	G	6-4	Long Island City	Long Island City, NY
43	Derek Moses	Jr.	F	6-5	DeWitt Clinton	Bronx, NY
44	Lenny Gonzalez	So.	C	6-3	Tuckahoe	Bronx, NY
45	Rafael Czerniawski	Jr.	F	6-5	Yonkers	Yonkers, NY
51	Verdayne Townsend	Jr.	G/F	6-7	John Jay	Brooklyn, NY
53	Sekani Francis	Sr.	C	6-10	John F. Kennedy	Bronx, NY

Head Coach: Steven Schulman

Assistant Coaches: Wolfgang Lucena, Phil Terry, Vantroi Chapman, Chris Bowman