

Eagles edge Bobcats, 1-0

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Substitute Danna Stringle scored early in the 82nd minute to tally the only goal of the afternoon and lead the Carson-Newman College women's soccer team to a 1-0 win over Lees-McRae College in non-conference action on a rain-

soaked Tate Field on Saturday afternoon. Lees-McRae (1-2-1) controlled the run of play for much of the match, outshooting Carson-Newman (2-2) by a 25-6 margin, including a 14-3 advantage in the second half. Meagan Thornton (Millville, N.J.), MaryBeth Sullivan (Greensboro, N.C.), and Emily Jones (Leonardtown, Md.) each tallied five attempts at goal, while Kaitlyn Briggs (Oviedo, Fla.) made three saves between the pipes for the Bobcats. Stringle led the way for Carson-Newman with one goal on three attempts, as Mikayla Gregg, Sidnee Edwards, and Brooke Ehman each posted one shot. Kendra Ivans kept a clean sheet for the Eagles, making four saves.

The Bobcats dictated the tempo for much of the match, nearly breaking the deadlock in the 20th minute when Jones' effort following a Kaitlyn Kerrigan (Lakewood Ranch, Fla.) corner kick was pulled off the line by an Eagle defender. Freshman Molly Ames (Greensboro, N.C.) forced a tremendous diving save by Ivans in the 34th minute, making a run onto a brilliant through ball and slotting the finish toward the bottom corner after a skillful buildup on the flank.

Carson-Newman nearly grabbed the lead through Gregg in the 56th minute, when the freshman midfielder volleyed an effort from the top of the 18 and forcing Briggs to come off her line to snatch the effort out of the air. The Bobcats continued to push forward over the next several minutes, as Thornton and Jones fired just wide while Sullivan forced a skillful save by Ivans early in the 61st minute.

After freshman Sarah Mahar (Jacksonville, Fla.) nearly slotted the finish inside the post from just inside the area, Kerrigan forced a tremendous save from Ivans in the closed moments of the 80th minute to preserve the deadlock. Carson-Newman quickly broke on the counter, setting up Stringle with a run down the flank and putting the junior forward in perfect position to send a high lofted finish into the back of the net from 20 yards out to give the Eagles the breakthrough and a 1-0 lead.

The Bobcats continued to push forward in search of a quick answer, sending a trio of chances toward goal in the following five minutes as the Eagle backline clamped down to preserve the shutout and the victory.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Wednesday when the Bobcats host Converse College to open their Conference Carolinas schedule at 7 p.m. on Tate Field.