

Catawba Sweeps LMC Men's, Women's Teams

Written by Whitney Noble

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Freshman Hilary Lutz (Shelby, N.C.) posted a pair of victories, teaming with sophomore Samantha Wohlers (Windsor, Ontario, Canada) for an 8-6 win the top doubles flight, to pace the Lees-McRae College women's tennis team in a 7-2

setback against Catawba College on Friday afternoon in non-conference play.

Lees-McRae's (0-3) duo of Wohlers and Lutz opened doubles play with a hard-fought 8-6 victory over Catawba's (2-0) tandem of Liz Renteria and Sloan Kessler, before Olivia Myers and Lauren Sledd evened the score with an 8-2 win against Taylor Bost (Jefferson, Ga.) and Stevie Harrell (Morganton, N.C.). Rachel Rudisill and Andrea Bell defeated LeeAnn Sullivan (Greensboro, N.C.) and Emily Jones (Leonardtown, Md.) in the third flight, 8-0, to give the Catawba Indians a 2-1 lead in the match.

Renteria pushed the advantage to 3-1 with a 6-1, 6-1 victory against Wohlers in the top singles flight, before Lutz cut the lead to 3-2 following a hard-fought 6-2, 7-6 win over Kessler. Catawba answered with four wins in the final four flights, surrendering just two games in that span.

Sledd defeated Bost, 6-0, 6-1 in the third flight, as Myers posted a 6-0, 6-0 win over Harrell at No. 4 singles. Bell notched a 6-0, 6-0 victory against Sullivan at No. 5 singles, before Hannah Kovach closed out the day with a 6-0, 6-1 win over Jones.

The Catawba College men's tennis team swept doubles play and took five of six flights in singles action en route to an 8-1 victory over Lees-McRae College in non-conference play on Friday afternoon.

Catawba's (2-0) tandem of Alex MacDonald and Matthew Nicholson defeated Lees-McRae's (0-2) Joao Araujo (Curitiba, Puerto Rico) and Carlos Pinel (Vitoria, Espirito Santo, Brazil), 8-3, before Mitchell McDonald and Jack Mordey posted an 8-4 victory over Taduez Poplawski (Asheville, N.C.) and Hang Lak Choi (Newton, N.C.). Aaron Vanhorenbeck and Jess Goodall gave Catawba a 3-0 lead with an 8-0 win against Adam Chivers and Jesse Artrip in the third doubles flight.

MacDonald pushed the lead to 4-0 with a 7-5, 6-2 victory over Araujo in the top singles flight, before Poplawski cut the advantage to 4-1 with a hard-fought 7-6, 6-1 win against Goodall at No. 2 singles. Nicholson defeated Pinel, 6-3, 6-2 at No. 3 singles to clinch the team victory for the Catawba Indians, as McDonald posted a 6-3, 6-3 win against Choi in the fourth flight.

Mordey registered a 6-0, 6-0 victory over Artrip, before Vanhorenbeck capped the day with a 6-2, 6-0 win against Chivers.

Lees-McRae returns to the courts on Tuesday, February 26 when the Bobcats open Conference Carolinas with a 2 p.m. matchup in Tigerville, S.C. against North Greenville University.