Written by Whitney Noble
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Two players from the United States Soccer Development Academy have signed to attend Lees-McRae College and play men's soccer in the fall of 2013, announced head coach Lee Squires Thursday.

Chris Mullins (Greensboro, N.C.) and Brett Martin (Chesapeake, Va.) join an already deep and talented recruiting class for the Bobcats that includes several standouts from throughout the Southeast region. Both Mullins and Martin are products of the US Development Academy, which is the highest level of youth club soccer in the United States.

Chris Mullins – Midfielder – 5-10 – Greensboro, N.C.

Mullins joins the Bobcats from Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, where he starred as a three-time all-conference and all-region selection as a four-year varsity athlete. A native of Greensboro, N.C., Mullins played at the club level for NC Fusion, and currently holds the career assist record at Bishop McGuinness. Mullins is the son of Pete and Angie Mullins, has one brother, Peter, and two sisters, Lily and Kaitlyn.

"I chose Lees McRae because I really like the style of soccer," said Mullins. "Also, I believe that the team is on their way up and I'd like to be a part of that. I think that I could help the Lees McRae team, and that I would fit in to the style of play. Finally, I really enjoy the mountains and the campus was beautiful."

"[Chris] Mullins came to our residential camp last summer," expressed Squires. "He has gained great experience at the Academy Level with NC Fusion this year. He is versatile, very good technically, and is calm on the ball. He understands the game and is a great addition to our team."

Brett Martin – Defender – 6-2 – Chesapeake, Va.

Martin comes to Lees-McRae from Western Branch High School, where he started at several different positions and was named the team's Best Newcomer in 2010. The Chesapeake, Va. native has been a member of the USSDA since 2009, playing with Virginia Rush. Martin is the son of William and Christine Martin, and has one brother, Billy.

"I chose Lees-McRae because the campus immediately seemed like a fit," said Martin. "I love the area, and feel like it will greatly develop my skills as a soccer player."

"I am delighted that Brett has joined us," praised Squires. "He will improve us defensively and has the ability to play anywhere across the back. He has good size and athleticism and reads the game well, as well as being comfortable in possession. He has a great personality and will fit in with our team right away."

Mullins and Martin join a recruiting class that already includes Yago Xavier, Patterson Towles, Avery Varley, Daniel Harris, and Isauro Estrada.

Photo Courtesy: Chris Mullins and Brett Martin, LMC Athletics