

Men's Soccer Outlasts Knights In OT

Written by LMC Sports Information
Saturday, 10 September 2011 23:07

Senior captain Luke Duffy (Wakefield, England) tallied the deciding goal just over five minutes into the first overtime period on Saturday afternoon at Tate Field, leading the Lees-McRae College men's soccer team to a narrow 1-0 victory over visiting St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Conference Carolinas play.

Lees-McRae (3-1, 1-0 CC) controlled the run of play for much of the match, outshooting the Knights (1-3, 0-1 CC) by a 26-2 margin, including a 12-1 advantage in the first half. The Bobcats also held a 12-4 advantage in corner kicks, as James Smith (Eastbourne, England), David Palmer (South Shields, England), and Preston Shahdad (Charlotte, N.C.) each tallied a match-high four shots.

The match remained scoreless throughout regulation, despite several magnificent scoring chances by the Bobcats in the second half. Lees-McRae controlled the tempo of the match in extra time, making a pair of attempts on frame before Duffy came through in the clutch, delivering a strong finish into the back of the net after claiming a loose ball in the area at the 95:09 mark.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Wednesday when the Bobcats travel to Bristol, Tenn. to take on conference newcomer King College in a 5 p.m. matchup.

Women's Soccer Breeze Past Knights, 10-0

MaryBeth Sullivan (Greensboro, N.C.) and Jessica O'Leary (Millbury, Mass.) each scored two goals, as Vickie Rich (Arlington Heights, Ill.) added three assists to lead the Lees-McRae College women's soccer team to a 10-0 win over visiting St. Andrews Presbyterian College on Saturday afternoon in Conference Carolinas play.

Lees-McRae (1-2, 1-0 CC) tallied 51 shots while holding St. Andrews (1-2, 0-1 CC) without an attempt on goal, as the Bobcats scored eight times in the first half en route to their largest

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margin of victory since LMC posted a 10-0 win over Spartanburg Methodist College on October 6, 1990.

Sullivan paced the Bobcats with two goals and one assist, while O'Leary added two goals and Rich tallied a team-high three assists. Brooke Santerre (Port Republic, Md.) added a goal and two assists, as Meagan Thornton (Millville, N.J.), Arianna Smith (Jackson, N.J.), Katy McGee (Hudson, Fla.), and Mary Bowers (Alexandria, Va.) each found the back of the net in a balanced offensive effort. Senior Mary Gibson (Hendersonville, Tenn.) also added an assist, while Alicia Pierson (Brookville, Fla.) and Kaitlyn Briggs (Oviedo, Fla.) each played one half in goal for the Bobcats.

The Bobcats got on the board less than three minutes into the match, taking an early 1-0 lead on Sullivan's first of the season off a cross from Gibson. Thornton doubled the advantage midway through the ninth minute, tallying her first collegiate goal off a short corner from Rich. O'Leary pushed the margin to 3-0 late in the 17th minute, taking possession of a failed clearing attempt 30 yards from goal and delivering a masterful finish into the far corner of the net.

After Santerre pushed the lead to 4-0 in the 20th minute off a pair of drop offs from Sullivan and Rich, Sullivan netted her second goal of the day early in the 24th minute with a lovely finish into the bottom corner from 20 yards distance. O'Leary converted from the spot less than a minute later, pushing the margin to 6-0 before the Bobcats' lead swelled to seven tallies following an own goal in the 29th minute.

Bowers delivered perhaps the most beautiful goal of the day late in the 41st minute, sending a glancing header into the back of the net off a perfect cross from Santerre to send the Bobcats into the interval with an 8-0 advantage. McGee pushed the margin to 9-0 midway through the 78th minute, redirecting a driven corner from Rich off a defender and into the back of the net. Smith then added the final tally of the day in the 83rd minute, delivering a one-touch finish past the keeper off a free kick from Santerre.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Wednesday when the Bobcats travel to Bristol, Tenn. to take on conference newcomer King College in a 3 p.m. matchup.

Bobcats Volleyball Drops Pair At Tusculum Fall Classic

The Lees-McRae College women's volleyball team dropped a pair of heartbreaking decisions on the final day of Tusculum College's Fall Classic on Saturday, falling to Francis Marion University in five sets before host Tusculum defeated the Bobcats in four frames later in the afternoon.

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Francis Marion (3-4) defeated the Bobcats (2-6) by scores of 25-16, 20-25, 25-21, 25-17, and 15-9 in the morning match, before Tusculum (8-1) knocked off Lees-McRae by scores of 25-17, 23-25, 25-22, and 25-19 in a mid-afternoon contest.

Match One: Francis Marion 3, Lees-McRae 2 - Box Score

Francis Marion held the Bobcats to a .070 hitting percentage in the match, while posting 13 blocks and a .169 attacking clip of its own. Amanda Mitchell paced the Patriots with 12 kills on 21 swings, as Danielle Parker turned in a strong effort with 11 kills and a .562 hitting percentage. Nicole Bennett added 34 assists, while Hallie Legg and Ashlee Crook chipped in 15 and 13 digs, respectively.

Megan Epperson (St. John, Ind.) and Taylor Clendenin (Statesville, N.C.) paced the Bobcats with a double-double each, as Epperson tallied 15 kills and 11 digs while Clendenin added 14 smashes and 10 savers. Megan Mitchell (Minden, Nev.) nearly added a double-double of her own with a match-high 38 assists and eight digs, as Sariah Suryadevara (Cincinnati, Ohio) chipped in a contest-best 15 digs.

Match Two: Tusculum 3, Lees-McRae 1 - Box Score

Tusculum held on for a four-set win over the Bobcats, holding Lees-McRae to a .146 hitting percentage while posting a .224 attacking clip of its own. Brianna Anderson paced the Pioneers with 14 kills, while Natalie Gaudreau and Sam Underwood chipped in 13 and 12 kills,

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respectively. Caitlyn Dean chipped in a match-high 25 digs, while Ashley Sarmiento added a double-double with 34 assists and 18 digs.

Clendenin led the way for the Bobcats with 16 kills and a .341 hitting percentage, as Dana Oliver (Davie, Fla.) and Lauren Fox (Garland, Texas) each chipped in eight kills. Mitchell added a double-double with 33 assists and 14 digs, while Suryadevara chipped in a team-high 20 digs. Lees-McRae returns to the court on Tuesday when the Bobcats travel to Spartanburg, S.C. to open their Conference Carolinas schedule against Converse College at 7 p.m.

Dunn leads Bobcats to fourth-place finish at L-R Invitational

Junior Tyler Dunn finished fourth overall to lead the Lees-McRae College men's cross country team to a fourth-place performance at the Lenoir-Rhyne University Cross Country Invitational on Saturday.

Dunn placed fourth with a time of 26:45.4, putting him eighth on the program's all-time fastest list, while senior Craig Simpkins (Boiling Springs, S.C.) finished ninth with a time of 27:23.4.

Junior Jared Lupton (Nampa, Idaho) also finished 19th with a time of 28:07.1.

Mars Hill College won the team competition with 42 points, while Milligan College (50) and host Lenoir-Rhyne (70) rounded out the top three. Lees-McRae was fourth with 106 points, followed by Belmont Abbey College (138).

"I am proud of the improvement our men's team made today," said head coach Thomas Cason. "We ran much better in the later stages of the race."

Lees-McRae returns to action on Saturday, September 24 when the Bobcats travel to Greensboro, N.C. to take part in the Greensboro Invitational at Hagan Stone Park.

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Freshmen lead Bobcats to third-place finish at L-R Invitational

Emily Shields (Salisbury, N.C.) finished third overall, and Katherine Shields (Salisbury, N.C.) and Audrey Garrett (Weaverville, N.C.) each placed in the top 10 to lead the Lees-McRae College women's cross country team to a third-place performance on Saturday at the Lenoir-Rhyne University Cross Country Invitational.

Emily Shields turned in a strong third-place performance with a time of 19:50.1, while her sister Katherine Shields came in seventh with a time of 20:09.5. Garrett finished ninth with a time of 20:24.2. The Bobcats placed third in the team competition, tallying 76 points to finish behind Milligan College (33) and host Lenoir-Rhyne (64). Converse College (143) was fourth, while Belmont Abbey College (145) placed fifth.

"I am most proud of the way our women competed today," said head coach Thomas Cason. "It was a true team effort."

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