

## Bobcats sweep Trojans, 3-0

Written by LMC Sports Information  
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The Lees-McRae College women's volleyball team posted 12 service aces and seven blocks en route to a three-set sweep of Mount Olive College on Friday night in Conference Carolinas action.

Lees-McRae (4-6, 2-0 CC) won the match by scores of 25-20, 25-20, and 25-16, holding Mount Olive (4-5, 1-1 CC) to a -.042 hitting percentage while attacking at a .207 clip of its own. Senior Megan Epperson (St. John, Ind.) paced the Bobcats with a match-high 10 kills, while Taylor Clendenin (Statesville, N.C.) and Lauren Fox (Garland, Texas) added seven and six kills, respectively. Megan Mitchell (Minden, Nev.) posted a match-high 26 assists, while Sariah Suryadevara (Cincinnati, Ohio) and Clendenin added contest-bests of 10 digs and four service aces, respectively.

Carly White led the way for Mount Olive with eight kills on 20 swings, as Destiny Ma'ave-Kuewa added 13 assists. Lauren Lee chipped in 10 digs, while Dezirae Mackey added four kills. Lees-McRae started strong in the first set, opening an early 10-4 lead before pushing the margin to 14-5 on a well-placed dump by Mitchell. After the Bobcats stretched the margin to 17-7, Mount Olive stormed back with a 10-5 run, cutting the lead to 22-17 on a service ace by Charnel Austin. The Trojans would then cut the lead to 23-20 with a 3-1 spurt before the Bobcats responded, closing out the set with back-to-back points.

The second set proved to be a tightly contested affair, as neither team gained more than a three-point advantage until midway through the frame, when the Bobcats went on a 5-1 run to claim a 20-15 lead on a service ace by Dana Oliver (Davie, Fla.). Mount Olive stayed within striking distance for the duration of the set, cutting the lead to 20-17 before the Bobcats responded, closing out the frame with a 5-3 spurt that was capped by an Epperson kill.

Lees-McRae battled through the early moments of the third set, rallying from a 3-1 deficit to claim a 12-8 advantage on three straight Clendenin aces to cap a 5-0 run. The Bobcats continued to dictate play over the next several plays, pushing the margin to 19-10 with a 7-2 run that was capped by a Mitchell service ace. Mount Olive answered with a 4-1 spurt, closing the gap to 20-14 before the Bobcats regained control, closing out the set and the match on a Fox kill to cap a 5-2 spurt.

The Bobcats return to the court on Saturday, hosting Barton College, University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and Concord University in a set of five scheduled matches. Lees-McRae will take on Barton in conference play at 11 a.m. to kick off the day, followed by Barton vs. UNC Pembroke at 1 p.m., and the Bobcats against UNC Pembroke at 3 p.m. Pembroke will then square off against Concord at 5 p.m., as the Bobcats wrap up with the day with a 7:30 p.m. match against Concord.

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