

Silva Captures Individual Title, Bobcats Fourth At Cycling Nationals

Written by LMC Sports Information
Sunday, 18 September 2011 13:49

Freshman Iggy Silva (San Diego, Calif.) sprinted his way to his first career individual national championship in the men's point race on Saturday, leading the Lees-McRae College cycling team to a fourth-place finish in the team omnium at the USA Cycling 2011 Collegiate Track Nationals.

The Bobcats finished fourth in the team omnium with 592 points as defending champion Marian University ran away with the title, amassing 1,004 points to capture the crown by a margin of more than 300 markers. Fort Lewis College claimed the second spot on the podium with 673 points, while Midwestern State University came in third with 648 markers. Lees-McRae was fourth with 592 points, as Lindsey Wilson College rounded out the top five with 576 markers. Silva just missed a podium finish in the men's individual omnium, placing sixth with 119 points; Rachel Warner (Luray, Va.) finished 14th in the women's individual omnium with 86 markers. Warner got the weekend started for the Bobcats on Thursday, finishing third in the women's individual pursuit, the event which she won last fall. Cinthia Lehner (Greer, S.C.) and Jerika Hutchinson (Mount Shasta, Calif.) placed 11th and 12th, respectively, as the Bobcats finished second in the event behind Marian.

Silva and Spencer Oswald (Dubuque, Iowa) turned in the top performances for the Bobcats in the men's pursuit, finished 25th and 26th, respectively. Jake Boone (Hurst, Texas) rounded out the top three for Lees-McRae in the event with a 35th-place finish. Silva closed out the day with a 19th-place finish in the men's 1,000-meter time trial, turning in a time of 1:13.5, as Boone and Zac Felpel (Willowstreet, Pa.) placed 24th and 30th, respectively.

In the women's 500-meter time trial, Adormarie Martinez Adorno (Villa Carolina, Puerto Rico) turned in the top finish for the Bobcats with a 16th-place performance, while Elle Dalton and Lehner finished 20th and 26th, respectively.

The Bobcats opened the day on Friday with a third-place finish in the co-ed team sprint, as the group of Silva, Adorno, Felpel, Boone, Wes Rhoads (Huntington, W. Va.), and Megan Baab (Eules, Texas) turned in a time of 2:25.8. Warner, Lehner, Hutchinson, and Baab followed with a second-place finish in the women's team pursuit, posting a time of 4:08.3.

Boone and Silva followed later in the day with a pair of strong finishes in the men's sprint, placing 24th and 29th, respectively, as Baab turned in the top finish for the Bobcats in the women's point race with a 16th-place performance.

The Bobcats started the day on Saturday with a third-place performance in the men's team pursuit, as the group of Silva, Boone, Felpel, and Oswald turned in a time of 3:39.6. Adorno and Lehner paced the Bobcats in the women's sprint, finishing 15th and 16th, respectively, while Warner placed 24th to round out the top performers for LMC.

Silva then turned in the performance of the weekend for the Bobcats, running away with the men's point race after lapping the field in the early going en route to his first career national championship. Felpel and Oswald provided some crucial protection for their teammate down the stretch, as Felpel caught up with Silva by turning in the attack of his life to ensure Silva would top the podium, and proudly put on his first stars and stripes jersey.

The fourth-place finish in the team omnium marks the Bobcats' best team performance at track

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nationals since 2008, when Lees-McRae finished third and captured three individual titles. For complete results from the 2011 Collegiate Track Nationals, visit the event page [here](#), courtesy of USA Cycling.

Lees-McRae returns to action on Oct. 1 in Mars Hill, N.C., opening the mountain bike season at Mars Hill Mountain, hosted by Mars Hill College.