

Bobcats ground Eagles, 1-0

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Senior Vickie Rich (Arlington Heights, Ill.) scored her first goal of the season early in the first half, and freshman goalkeeper Kaitlyn Briggs (Oviedo, Fla.) made a pair of saves to lead the Lees-McRae College women's soccer team to a 1-0 win over Carson-Newman College on Monday, extending the Bobcats' winning streak to four matches.

Lees-McRae (4-2) outshot Carson-Newman (2-2) by a 16-8 margin, including an 8-3 edge in the first half, as the Bobcats extended their shutout streak to four matches. The Bobcats have not allowed a goal in their last 360 minutes of play, which is the program's longest such stretch since 1994.

Emily Jones (Leonardtown, Md.) paced the Bobcats with five attempts at goal, as Rich took four shots while tallying the match's lone goal. Briggs made a pair of stops to keep her third consecutive clean sheet.

Rich got the Bobcats on the board midway through the 19th minute, directing a volley into the back of the net off a loose ball in the penalty area to give Lees-McRae the early advantage. Briggs took it from there, denying Carson-Newman the equalizer three minutes later and coming up big again right at the death in the 90th minute.

After Eagle midfielder Brooke Ehman's shot was blocked, Briggs stood tall and denied Carson-Newman the late equalizer with less than a minute remaining, stopping Whitney Curtis' last-chance effort.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Wednesday, when the Bobcats host Catawba College in a regional matchup at 7 p.m. on Tate Field.