

No. 25 Anderson slides by Lees-McRae, 4-0

Written by Staff Reports

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The No. 25 Anderson University men's soccer team utilized a trio of first half goals en route to a 4-0 win over visiting Lees-McRae College in regional action on Wednesday afternoon.

Anderson (6-2) outshot Lees-McRae (4-3-1) by a 19-3 margin, including an 11-1 advantage in the second half, while playing a man up for nearly the entire match. Andrew Martin tallied a pair of goals for the Trojans, as Lasse Sohrweide and James Moseley each added a strike of their own.

Tyler Gibson (Gastonia, N.C.) played the majority of the match between the pipes for the Bobcats, relieving starter Thomas Rusling (Sheffield, England) after the sophomore was sent off in the third minute. Freshman James Smith (Eastbourne, England) paced the Bobcats with two shots, while James Galvani (High Wycombe, England) made one attempt at goal.

Anderson opened the scoring in the third minute, when Sohrweide converted from the penalty spot after Rusling was sent off for a challenge in the area. Martin doubled the advantage to 2-0 in the 39th minute, taking a pass from Tapiwa Munetsi and finding the back of the net from five yards distance.

Moseley pushed the margin to 3-0 just over a minute later, scoring off a blocked shot from five yards out. The score line read 3-0 until the 87th minute, when Martin found the finish following a blocked shot to equal the final margin of 4-0.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Saturday when the Bobcats host Barton College on Homecoming Weekend to resume Conference Carolinas play. The match is slated to kickoff at 3:30 p.m. on Tate Field.

Lenoir-Rhyne Men's Soccer Wins Easily Over Mountain State, 5-1

The Lenoir-Rhyne Men's Soccer Team (3-4-1) rolled to a 5-1 win over Mountain State (1-6) in a non-conference match Wednesday evening at the Moretz Sports - Athletic Complex.

Lenoir-Rhyne sophomore forward Chibuzo Nwosu (Macon, Ga.) and sophomore midfielder Emilio Morales (Dayton, Ohio) each scored twice as the Bears totaled a season high in goals en route to the easy win.

Junior defender Chris Johnson (Liverpool, ENGLAND) added three assists for L-R, who held a

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29-7 advantage in shots taken.

Lenoir-Rhyne freshman defender Tom Holland (Bolton, ENGLAND) opened the scoring in the ninth minute when he headed in a corner kick from Johnson.

Nwosu gave the Bears a 2-0 lead when he finished off another corner kick from Johnson at the 12:19 mark of the first half.

The Cougars cut the advantage to 2-1 when Rafael Borgess (Natal, BRAZIL) scored on a quick pass from Gustavo Maia (Lavras, BRAZIL) in the 49th minute of play.

The Bears responded just six minutes later when Nwosu scored on a breakaway down the left side. Johnson found Nwosu, who finished off the goal after three touches to give Lenoir-Rhyne a 3-1 lead.

Morales tallied the final two goals for the Bears to make it a 5-1 final.

Morales' second goal was a diving header on a long cross from the right by junior forward Sven Picton (Lenoir, N.C.). Picton was credited with two assists on the night.

L-R sophomore goalkeeper Stefan Dill (Southampton, BERMUDA) earned the victory after stopping two shots while Mountain State's Ricardo Romero (Quito, ECUADOR) suffered the loss in goal despite nine saves.

Lenoir-Rhyne travels to Jefferson City, Tenn., to take on Carson-Newman in a South Atlantic Conference match Saturday beginning at 7:30 p.m. Mountain State next hosts Virginia Intermont Saturday at 4 p.m.

Mercado representing Bobcats in pro ranks

Former Lees-McRae College men's volleyball standout Chad Mercado (Orlando, Fla.) has signed a professional contract to play for Cariduros de Fajardo of the Federación Puertorriqueña de Voleibol in Puerto Rico, announced College officials Wednesday.

Mercado starred on the court for the Bobcats during his four-year career, amassing 1,090 kills (3.63/set) while attacking at a .251 clip. The two-time all-Conference Carolinas selection also totaled 428 digs and 187 blocks during his career in the Green and Gold, posting personal-bests of 399 kills and 136 digs last season. Mercado also accomplished a first for the program last season, garnering Sports Imports/AVCA Men's Division I-II National Player of the Week honors on Mar. 7.

"It is my goal to grow as a player in my first season, and expand my game every time I step on the court," said Mercado. "I hope to work my way up in the pro leagues and one day earn a spot on the national team."

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Cariduros opened its season last week with a four-set win over Los Gigantes de Adjuntas, and have started the campaign 2-0 after a decisive home victory on Sunday. The season runs from late September into January, with the playoffs taking place in January.