

Conference Carolinas Player of the Week Megan Epperson (St. John, Ind.) continued her strong play Friday night, posting a match-high 16 kills to lead the Lees-McRae College women's volleyball team to a straight-set victory over St. Augustine's College.

Lees-McRae (11-6) won the match by scores of 25-22, 25-17, and 25-16, holding St. Augustine's (6-12) to a .056 hitting percentage while posting a .286 attacking clip of its own. The Bobcats also posted eight service aces and six blocks on the night.

Epperson paced the Bobcats with 16 kills and a .343 hitting percentage, while Dana Oliver (Davie, Fla.) and Lauren Fox (Garland, Texas) each posted eight kills. Megan Mitchell (Minden, Nev.) chipped in a match-high 35 assists, while Taylor Clendenin (Statesville, N.C.) added a contest-best four service aces to go along with nine digs. Sariah Suryadevara (Cincinnati, Ohio) posted a match-high 11 digs, while Jessica Singewald (Port St. Lucie, Fla.) added a contest-best three blocks.

Kathryn Tokarski, Keisha Parris, and Victoria Davis each posted five kills for the Falcons, as Tokarski also added a team-high seven digs. Roxanne Smith chipped in 10 assists and five digs, while Brittany Hicks added six savers and two blocks.

The first set proved to be a tightly contested affair, with neither side claiming more than a four-point advantage for the duration of the frame. With the scoreboard reading 18-17 in favor of St. Augustine's following a Tokarski block, the Bobcats responded with a 4-0 run, taking a 21-18 lead on a Clendenin ace to force a Falcon timeout. The Bobcats held the narrow advantage for the remainder of the set, closing out the frame on an Oliver kill for the 25-22 win.

Lees-McRae carried the momentum into the second set, taking a 15-10 lead on a Singewald kill. The Bobcats maintained the margin for much of the remainder of the set; closing out the frame with a 6-2 run that was capped by back-to-back kills from Epperson.

The Bobcats continued to dictate play early in the third frame, claiming a 12-5 lead on a Singewald kill before launching a 7-4 run to take a 19-9 advantage on a Falcon miscue. St. Augustine's would respond with a 5-2 spurt, closing the gap to 21-14 on a Tokarski kill before the Bobcats answered, closing out the set and the match with a 4-2 run.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Saturday when the Bobcats host Belmont Abbey College to resume their Conference Carolinas schedule on Homecoming Weekend. First serve is slated for 2 p.m. in Williams Gymnasium.