

## Bobcats hold off Falcons, 3-2

Written by Staff Reports

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Scott Hudgins nodded home his second goal of the season late in the second half to lead the Lees-McRae College men's soccer team to a 3-2 win over Pfeiffer University in Conference Carolinas play on Monday afternoon.

The win marks Lees-McRae's (8-3-1, 5-1 CC) fourth straight on-goal victory, as the Bobcats outshot Pfeiffer (1-10, 0-6 CC) by a 17-9 margin, including an 8-2 advantage in the first half. The match was a rescheduled fixture from Sep. 25, when play was stopped in the 51st minute due to lightning with the Bobcats holding a 3-0 lead.

James Galvani (High Wycombe, England), Andrew Shoemaker (Cary, N.C.), and Scott Hudgins (Fort Myers, Fla.) each found the back of the net for the Bobcats, as Galvani extended his goal-scoring streak to three matches with his fifth of the season. John Williams (Rutherfordton, N.C.) and James Smith (Eastbourne, England) each tallied an assist, as Thomas Rusling (Sheffield, England) played the full 90 minutes in goal for the Bobcats.

Fahret Salihovic and Niko Andrade each tallied a goal for Pfeiffer. Zach Liles played the first 70 minutes and made one save in goal, as Anthony Jacobs logged the final 20 minutes between the pipes and recorded one stop.

The match remained scoreless throughout the first half, as the Bobcats made several glorious attempts to break the deadlock in the first 25 minutes of play. Galvani and Preston Shahdad (Charlotte, N.C.) each had a breakthrough attempt blocked by a defender in the final minutes of the period, as the match went into the interval level at 0-0.

Galvani broke the deadlock midway through the 61st minute, nodding a cross from Williams past the keeper to give the Bobcats a 1-0 advantage. Pfeiffer leveled proceedings five minutes later, when Salihovic found the back of the net from 25 yards out to bring the Falcons back on terms at 1-1.

The Bobcats reclaimed the one-goal margin in the 70th minute, when Shoemaker converted from the penalty spot for his first career goal, giving LMC a 2-1 lead. Hudgins then gave the Bobcats a 3-1 advantage early in the 80th minute, nodding home a corner kick from Smith for his second goal of the season and the eventual winner. Andrade converted a chance of his own from the penalty spot in the 88th minute, cutting the margin to 3-2 for the Falcons.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Wednesday when the Bobcats continue their conference slate against Belmont Abbey College at 7 p.m. on Tate Field.

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