

Bobcats Nip Erskine In Tournament Opener

Written by Staff Reports

Tuesday, 01 November 2011 06:08

Emily Jones (Leonardtown, Md.) scored her second goal of the season in the 69th minute, and the top-seeded Lees-McRae College women's soccer team held on for a 2-1 win over eighth-seeded Erskine College in the quarterfinal round of the Conference Carolinas Tournament on Monday night on Tate Field.

Lees-McRae (13-4-1) outshot Erskine (6-11) by a

28-2 margin, including a 21-2 advantage in the second half, as the Bobcats advanced to the semifinal round of the conference tournament. Jones and Brooke Santerre (Port Republic, Md.) each found the back of the net for the Bobcats, as Vickie Rich (Arlington Heights, Ill.) and Meagan Thornton (Millville, N.J.) each added an assist. Kaitlyn Briggs (Oviedo, Fla.) played the full 90 minutes between the pipes for the Bobcats, allowing one goal and making one save. Molly Harpe tallied the lone goal for Erskine on the night, as Sam Abbott added an assist and Katie Lyle made four saves between the pipes.

The match remained scoreless until midway through the 61st minute, when Rich made a run into the box from the right flank and centered a pass to Santerre, putting the senior midfielder in perfect position to slot the finish past the keeper and give the Bobcats a 1-0 lead. Jones doubled the advantage to 2-0 eight minutes later, running onto a centering ball by Thornton and sending a driven strike over the keeper for her second goal of the season.

Erskine cut the margin to 2-1 in the 84th minute, when Abbott made a run into the corner and sent a cross into the area, finding a wide open Harpe who looped the finish into the back of the net. The Bobcats responded with a concerted effort on the backline, limiting the Flying Fleet to one additional chance before closing out the narrow one-goal victory.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Thursday when the Bobcats host third-seeded Limestone College in the semifinal round of the conference tournament at 7 p.m. on Tate Field. The Saints won the teams' regular season matchup on Oct. 25 in Gaffney, S.C. by a score of 2-0.

Bobcats Place Seven On Conference Carolinas All-Academic Team

Seven members of the Lees-McRae College women's soccer team have been named to the Conference Carolinas all-Academic team, announced league officials Monday.

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Lees-McRae, Mount Olive College, and Queens University of Charlotte each placed seven student-athletes on the team to lead the conference, as Pfeiffer University had six players meet the criteria for inclusion on the all-academic team. Bobcats Mary Dorn (Shallotte, N.C.), Brooke Santerre (Port Republic, Md.), Vickie Rich (Arlington Heights, Ill.), Emily Jones (Leonardtown, Md.), Jessica O'Leary (Millbury, Mass.), Monica Young (Supply, N.C.), and LeeAnn Sullivan (Greensboro, N.C.) were each selected to represent Lees-McRae.

Dorn is in the midst of a stellar season with the Bobcats, helping the Lees-McRae backline keep nine clean sheets in conference play en route to the program's first league title since 2000. A native of Shallotte, N.C., Dorn has posted three goals and one assist this season, while helping the Bobcats hold their opponents to two goals or less in all but one match this fall.

Santerre has put together another solid campaign with the Bobcats this fall, tallying seven goals, four assists, and one match-winner in league play this season. A native of Port Republic, Md., Santerre strung together a three-match goal-scoring streak earlier this fall, finding the back of the net four times against Barton, Converse and Queens.

Rich became the eighth player in program history to breach the 100-point plateau earlier this season, entering the conference tournament ranked eighth on the school's all-time list with 102 markers in her career. A native of Arlington Heights, Ill., Rich is also tied for sixth in goals (38) and seventh in assists (26), while entering Monday's conference quarterfinal against Erskine two match-winners shy of tying the program's all-time record.

Jones is enjoying another fine season for the Bobcats, tying a career-high with four assists this fall in 14 appearances. A native of Leonardtown, Md., Jones posted a season-high three points against Barton on Homecoming, tallying one goal and one assist to pace the Bobcats to a 6-2 victory over the Bulldogs.

O'Leary has put together a solid campaign in limited action this fall, recording two goals, three assists, and seven points in 14 appearances. A native of Millbury, Mass., O'Leary scored a career-high two goals on Sep. 10 against St. Andrews, converting from the spot and sending a tremendous strike into the back of the net from distance to lead the Bobcats to a 10-0 win over the Knights.

Young has been unable to take the pitch with the Bobcats this season, battling several injuries after a career season in 2010. The Supply, N.C. native enjoyed a pair of personal highlights last fall, scoring her first collegiate goal against Converse before tallying the first assist of her career against Coker.

Sullivan has performed well in her first season of competition with the Bobcats, tallying one goal and two assists in 17 appearances on the backline. A native of Greensboro, N.C., Sullivan has helped the Bobcat defense keep nine clean sheets in conference play this season, while scoring her first collegiate goal against Coker to cap a three-match points streak.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Monday when the top-seeded Bobcats host eighth-seeded Erskine College in the quarterfinal round of the Conference Carolinas Tournament at 7 p.m. on Tate Field.

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Duffy, Gibson Named To Conference Carolinas All-Academic Team

The Lees-McRae College men's soccer team placed two student-athletes on the Conference Carolinas all-Academic team, announced league officials Monday.

Queens University of Charlotte paced the conference with seven all-academic selections, as King College and Belmont Abbey College had five and four honorees, respectively. The Bobcats were represented by seniors Luke Duffy (Wakefield, England) and Tyler Gibson (Gastonia, N.C.)

Duffy is in the midst of another fine season with the Bobcats, helping the Lees-McRae backline keep four clean sheets in conference play this fall. A native of Wakefield, England, Duffy has also accounted for one goal and one assist this season in conference play, netting the decisive goal in extra time against St. Andrews for his first career match-winner.

Gibson has set career-bests in nearly every statistical category this fall, making five appearances while posting a 3-1 record and making 15 saves. A native of Gastonia, N.C., recorded three consecutive victories over Barton, Carson-Newman, and Queens, allowing three goals in a trio of 2-1 victories for the Bobcats.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Tuesday when the second-seeded Bobcats host seventh-seeded King College in the quarterfinal round of the Conference Carolinas Tournament at 7 p.m. on Tate Field.