

Bobcats Ranked 4th Nationally In Scoring

Written by Staff Reports

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The Lees-McRae College women's soccer team is ranked fourth in the nation in scoring offense, announced NCAA officials Wednesday with the release of this week's NCAA Division II women's soccer statistics.

Lees-McRae (13-4-1, 11-1 Conference Carolinas) is in the midst of one of the best seasons

in program history, capturing the Conference Carolinas regular season championship for the first time since 2000, while entering Thursday's conference tournament semifinal round having earned a result from 14 of its last 16 matches. The Bobcats enter the week ranked fourth in scoring offense (3.06), 11th in shutout percentage (0.647), 36th in goals against average (0.697), and 39th in winning percentage (0.735).

Senior Vickie Rich (Arlington Heights, Ill.) enters the week ranked 11th in the nation in match-winners (5.0), 27th in total assists (8.0), and 33rd in helpers per contest (0.47).

Sophomore Kaitlyn Kerrigan (Lakewood Ranch, Fla.) is ranked 16th in assists per match (0.57) and 27th in total helpers (8.0), while freshman goalkeeper Kaitlyn Briggs (Oviedo, Fla.) enters the week ranked 40th in goals against average (0.705).

Freshman Meagan Thornton (Millville, N.J.) is ranked 29th in total goals (12), 32nd in goals per match (0.706), and 38th in points per contest (1.71), while sophomore MaryBeth Sullivan (Greensboro, N.C.) is listed 30th in match-winners (4.0) and 71st in goals per contest (0.588). Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Thursday when the Bobcats host third-seeded Limestone 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.

Lees-McRae listed in NCAA statistics

The Lees-McRae College men's soccer team is listed in 15 individual and team categories, announced NCAA officials Wednesday with the release of this week's NCAA Division II men's soccer statistics.

Lees-McRae (13-4-1, 9-2 Conference Carolinas) has not skipped a beat in Lee Squires' first campaign at the helm, advancing to the semifinal round of the Conference Carolinas Tournament for the fifth straight year while finishing the regular season second in the league

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table with a 9-2 record against conference opponents.

The Bobcats enter the week ranked 26th in the nation in winning percentage (0.735), 59th in shutout percentage (0.29), 70th in total goals (29), 76th in scoring offense (1.71), and 79th in team goals against average (1.35). Lees-McRae is also ranked 82nd in save percentage (0.747) and 95th in stops per match (4.18).

Sophomore James Galvani (High Wycombe, England) enters the week ranked 40th in the nation in total goals (10), 48th in both total points (23) and goals per match (0.63), and 51st in points per contest (1.44). Freshman James Smith (Eastbourne, England) is ranked 49th in total assists (6.0) and 73rd in helpers per match (0.35), while sophomore goalkeeper Thomas Rusling (Sheffield, England) is listed 57th in save percentage (0.775) and 63rd in goals against average (1.16).

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Friday when the second-seeded Bobcats host sixth-seeded Erskine College in the semifinal round at 7 p.m. on Tate Field. The Flying Fleet won the regular season matchup between the sides by a 3-1 score line in Banner Elk on Oct. 19.