

Bobcats Reach Conference Finals

Written by Staff Reports

Saturday, 05 November 2011 07:12

Freshman James Smith (Eastbourne, England) tallied a goal and an assist to lead the second-seeded Lees-McRae College men's soccer team to a 3-1 victory over sixth-seeded Erskine College in the semifinal round of the Conference Carolinas Tournament on Friday night on Tate Field.

Lees-McRae (14-4-1) outshot Erskine (10-8-1) by a

21-10 margin, including an 11-5 advantage in the first half, while holding a narrow 6-4 edge in corner kicks. Smith paced the Bobcats with one goal and one assist, while Scott Hudgins (Fort Myers, Fla.) and Scott Alford (Hillsborough, N.C.) each found the back of the net for LMC, as James Galvani (High Wycombe, England) added an assist.

Thomas Rusling (Sheffield, England) posted five saves for the Bobcats, while Erskine's Roberto De La Vina made nine stops for the Flying Fleet. Randy Johnson tallied the lone goal for Erskine, as Jonathan Rutter added an assist.

Smith opened the scoring early in the 18th minute, taking a centering ball from Galvani and finding the bottom corner with a finish through a defender's legs to give Lees-McRae an early 1-0 lead. Hudgins doubled the advantage to 2-0 midway through the 25th minute burying a loose ball in the upper 90 for his third goal of the season. Alford pushed the margin to 3-0 in the 41st minute with his seventh goal of the season, nodding home a free header off a Smith corner.

The Bobcats held the three-goal lead until the closing minutes of regulation, when Johnson cut the margin to 3-1 off a cross from Rutter to equal the final score line.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Sunday when the second-seeded Bobcats travel to Hartsville, S.C. to take on No. 5 and top-seeded Coker College in the Conference Carolinas Tournament final at 1 p.m. The Bobcats won the teams' regular season meeting by a 1-0 score line in an extra time thriller.

Santerre nets first team Academic all-District

Lees-McRae College senior Brooke Santerre (Port Republic, Md.) has been named to the 2011 Capital One Academic all-District III Women's Soccer Team, presented by Capital One and

Bobcats Reach Conference Finals

Written by Staff Reports

Saturday, 05 November 2011 07:12

selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA), announced College officials Friday.

Santerre garners academic all-district honors for the second straight season, earning first team recognition this year after becoming the first player in program history to be selected to the team last fall. The junior midfielder is in the midst of another solid season for the Bobcats, tallying eight goals, four assists, and 20 points en route to her second consecutive all-Conference Carolinas First Team selection.

A native of Port Republic, Md., Santerre is also a tremendous student, sporting a 3.93 grade point average as a psychology major and sociology minor. She is a member of the Alpha Chi Honor Society, and Chi Alpha Sigma National College Athlete Honor Society. Santerre has also been listed on the Conference Carolinas Presidential Honor Roll for each of the last four semesters.

Lees-McRae returns to the pitch on Saturday when the top-seeded Bobcats host third-seeded Belmont Abbey College in the Conference Carolinas Tournament final at 1 p.m. on Tate Field. The Bobcats won the teams' regular season meeting by a 1-0 score line in Banner Elk.