

Eagles Claw Past Bobcats, 94-73

Written by Staff Reports

Saturday, 10 December 2011 22:51

The Carson-Newman College men's basketball team placed three players in double figures and outscored visiting Lees-McRae College by a 52-24 margin in the first half en route to

a 94-73 victory on Saturday afternoon in Holt Fieldhouse.

Carson-Newman (7-4) posted a field goal percentage of 56.6 percent on the afternoon, including a 61.5 percent clip in the first half, while limiting Lees-McRae (0-7) to a 44.4 percent mark from the floor overall. The Eagles edged the Bobcats by a 34-31 margin on the glass, including a 28-21 advantage on the defensive boards, as the Bobcats posted a 55.2 percent field goal percentage over the final 20 minutes of play.

Jeremiah Henry (Semmes, Ala.) and DJ Brown (Anderson, S.C.) paced the Bobcats with 16 points each, as Daniel Sepokas (Illwaong, Australia) added 11 markers and a game-high seven assists. Freshman Asad Lamot (Mebane, N.C.) added seven points and six assists, while DeAndre Tillman (Charlotte, N.C.) chipped in seven markers and six rebounds.

Antoine Davis and Ishmael Sanders each poured in a game-high 21 points to lead the way for Carson-Newman, while Kennedy Eubanks added 16 points on 6-of-7 shooting. Sanders and Davis also dished out six and five assists, respectively, while finishing in a four-way tie for the team lead with five rebounds.

Lees-McRae started off strong, taking a narrow 9-7 lead on a three-point play by Tillman at the 16:39 mark before Carson-Newman responded, going on a 37-12 surge to open a 44-21 advantage on a pair of Sanders freebies with 4:16 to play in the half. The Eagles would then close out the half with an 8-3 spurt to take a 52-24 lead into the intermission.

The Bobcats came out determined in the second half, opening the period with a 12-6 run to cut the margin to 58-36 on a three-pointer by Brown at the 16:52 mark. After Carson-Newman pushed the lead to 69-42 on a jumper by Kevin Hare, the Bobcats responded with an 8-0 run, closing the gap to 69-50 on a Brown free throw with 10:31 left on the clock.

Carson-Newman would refuse to cede control, outscoring the Bobcats by a narrow 25-23 margin over the final 10 minutes to close out the 94-73 victory.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Monday when the Bobcats travel to Young Harris, Ga. to take on Young Harris College in a 7 p.m. matchup.

CARSON-NEWMAN 94, LMC 73

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LMC: YOUNG 3, SEPOKAS 11, BROWN 16, TILLMAN 7 (6 REBOUNDS), HENRY 16 (7 REBOUNDS), LOPEZ 2, LAMOT 7, ASAD 3, EPPLEY 5, SAINT MARC 4. FG: 24-54, 3FG: 9-23, FT: 16-29. 31 REBOUNDS, 16 TURNOVERS, 18 ASSISTS.

CARSON-NEWSON: PEREZ 8, EUBANKS 16, DAVIS 21, SANDERS 21 (6 ASSISTS), HARE 8, JOHNSON 6, LEATHERWOOD 2, LIKELEY 2, POPE 6, JACKSON 4. FG: 30-53, 3FG: 7-19, FT: 27-34. 34 REBOUNDS, 12 TURNOVERS, 22 ASSISTS.

Photo Courtesy: Jeremiah Henry, LMC Athletics