

Mountain Lions Claw Bobcats, 94-71

Written by Staff Reports

Tuesday, 13 December 2011 07:44

The Young Harris College men's basketball team placed five players in double figures, and outscored

visiting Lees-McRae College by a 45-27 margin in the second half en route to a 94-71 victory in non-conference play on Monday evening.

Young Harris (6-2) posted a field goal percentage of 47.9 percent on the evening, including a 48.6 percent mark in the first half, as Lees-McRae (0-8) shot at a 48.4 percent clip in the contest. The Bobcats shot 55.9 percent from the floor in the first half, as the Mountain Lions converted 20 Lees-McRae miscues into 22 points. Young Harris also edged the Bobcats on the glass by a 40-37 margin, including a 13-8 advantage on the offensive boards.

Jeremiah Henry (Semmes, Ala.) paced the Bobcats with 18 points on 9-of-14 shooting, as BJ Battle (Orlando, Fla.) chipped in 14 markers with a 7-for-12 night from the floor. Daniel Sepokas (Illawong, Australia) chipped in a team-high eight assists, as Henry and DeAndre Tillman (Charlotte, N.C.) each added a squad-best six rebounds.

Frank Adams and Steve Viterbo each poured in a game-high 21 points to lead the way for the Mountain Lions, as Bryson Robertson added 11 markers and a contest-best 12 rebounds to post a double-double. Vince Martin and Malcolm Jackson both chipped in 10 points, as Adams and Viterbo posted game-highs of nine assists and four steals, respectively.

Young Harris got off to a strong start, opening an early 15-6 lead on a Viterbo layup at the 16:09 mark. After the Bobcats answered with a 13-6 run to trim the margin to 21-19, the Mountain Lions countered with a 7-0 spurt of their own to push the lead back to nine (28-19) on a Robertson dunk with 9:52 to play in the half.

The Bobcats would answer once again, launching a 21-12 run to even the tally at 40-40 on a Sepokas jumper before Young Harris responded with 9-4 spurt to close out the half and take a 49-44 lead into the intermission.

Young Harris carried the momentum into the second half, opening the period with a 12-2 run to push the margin to 61-46 on a Jackson put back at the 11:36 mark. The Mountain Lions would take control from there, closing out the win with a 25-16 run over the final eight and a half minutes to seal the victory.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 when the Bobcats open their Conference Carolinas slate with a 7:30 p.m. home matchup against Belmont Abbey College in Williams Gymnasium.

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1st 2nd Total

Lees-McRae..... 44 27 - 71

Young Harris..... 49 45 - 94

LMC: TILLMAN 9 (6 REBOUNDS), HENRY 18 (6 REBOUNDS), LAMOT 4, SEPOKAS 8 (5 REBOUNDS, 8 ASSISTS), BROWN 3, LOPEZ 2, YOUNG 7, BATTLE 14, EPPLEY 2, OJI 4. FG: 31-64, 3FG: 2-11, FT: 7-12. 37 REBOUNDS, 20 TURNOVERS, 19 ASSISTS.

YOUNG HARRIS: ROBERTSON 11 (12 REBOUNDS), MARTIN 10, ADAMS 21, VITERBO 21, MATTA 6, REID 4, COOK 9, JACKSON 10, UYS 2. FG: 34-71, 3FG: 9-23, FT: 17-26. 40 REBOUNDS, 10 TURNOVERS, 24 ASSISTS.

Photo Courtesy: B.J. Battle, LMC Athletics