

Bobcats Tabbed Second in Conference Carolinas Preseason Poll

Written by Staff Reports
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The Lees-McRae College men's volleyball team is picked to finish second in the race for this spring's Conference Carolinas regular season championship, announced league officials Friday. Lees-McRae posted a

16-10 overall record last season, while finishing tied for second in the conference standings with a 5-3 mark against league opponents. The Bobcats registered a trio of victories over NCAA Division I opponents while pushing No. 11 Penn State University to five sets.

Two-time defending conference champion Mount Olive College tops the poll with 25 points and five first-place votes, after capturing both the league regular season and tournament titles last spring. Lees-McRae is second with 19 points, followed by King College with 17 markers and one first-place vote. Limestone College (14) is fourth, followed by Pfeiffer University (10) and Barton College (5).

The Bobcats return 11 letter-winners from last year's squad, including rising sophomores Eduardo Gonzales (San Juan, Puerto Rico), Chris Flood (Louisville, Ky.), John Lucas (Cincinnati, Ohio), Matt Harpenau (Cincinnati, Ohio), and Randy Ramirez (Guaynabo, Puerto Rico).

Lees-McRae opens the 2012 season on Friday, January 13 when the Bobcats travel to Columbus, Ohio to take on the defending national champion and preseason No. 8 Ohio State University. The match is slated to begin at 7 p.m.

2012 Conference Carolinas Men's Volleyball Preseason Poll

Rk.School (1st place votes)Pts.

1. Mount Olive (5) 25
- 2. Lees-McRae** □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□ **19**
3. King (1) 17
4. Limestone 14
5. Pfeiffer 10
6. Barton 5