

## Trojans Blast Bobcats, 79-51

Written by Staff Reports  
Saturday, 14 January 2012 20:46

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The Mount Olive College women's basketball team built a 22-point halftime lead, outscoring Lees-McRae College by a 40-18 margin over the first 20 minutes en route to a 79-51 victory in Conference Carolinas play on Saturday afternoon.

Mount Olive (11-3, 5-0 CC) continued its strong start to the

conference season, shooting 47.8 percent from the floor on the afternoon while holding Lees-McRae (5-6, 1-4 CC) to a field goal percentage of 39 percent. The Bobcats posted a 46.9 percent clip from the floor in the second half, edging the Trojans by a 39-37 margin on the glass as Mount Olive converted 34 LMC turnovers into 37 points.

Icey Patterson (Seneca, S.C.) led the way for the Bobcats with 14 points on 7-of-12 shooting, recording a game-high five steals to go along with three assists. Kerri Belcher (Roanoke, Va.) added eight points and a team-high eight rebounds for the Bobcats.

Tamara Nesmith paced the Trojans with game-highs of 17 points, nine rebounds, and six assists, knocking down 8-of-15 attempts from the floor. Jasmine McDonald and Andrea Jones each added 13 points, while Alyssa Luebs chipped in eight rebounds, six assists, and a game-high three blocks.

Mount Olive led wire-to-wire, scoring the game's first 15 points and opening an early 19-3 lead on a Luebs lay-in at the 14:04 mark. The Bobcats would respond with two quick buckets to cut the margin to 21-7, before the Trojans countered with a 19-11 run to close out the half and take a 40-18 lead into the intermission.

The Bobcats answered early in the second half, opening the period with a 15-8 run to cut the lead to 48-33 on a jumper by DeAnna Waters (Upper Marlboro, Md.) with 13:05 to play. Mount Olive recovered quickly, responding with a 28-9 surge over the next 10 minutes to put the game out of reach.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Monday when the Bobcats travel to Bristol, Tenn. to take on King College in a conference matchup at 5:30 p.m.

### MOUNT OLIVE 79, LMC 51

Score by Periods 

	1st	2nd	Total
Mount Olive			
Lees-McRae			

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Lees-McRae.....18 33 - 51  
Mount Olive.....40 39 - 79

**LMC:** PARKER 6 (6 REBOUNDS), BELCHER 8 (8 REBOUNDS), TATE 5, PATTERSON 14, WHITAKER 5, CAKAREVIC 3, FALTUS 4, WATERS 6. FG: 23-59, 3FG: 3-16, FT: 2-6. 39 REBOUNDS, 34 TURNOVERS, 16 ASSISTS.

**MOUNT OLIVE:** NESMITH 17 (9 REBOUNDS, 6 ASSISTS), LUEBS 8 (8 REBOUNDS, 6 ASSISTS), WEBB 9, McDONALD 13, JONES 13, GARY 3, WALLACE 2, HALL 2, GRIFFIN 3, MITCHELL 3, GRAHAM 2, PRINGLE 4. FG: 32-67, 3FG: 3-16, FT: 12-19. 37 REBOUNDS, 21 TURNOVERS, 23 ASSISTS.

### Defending champs sweep Bobcats in season opener

The No. 8 and defending NCAA Division I national champion Ohio State University men's volleyball team posted a .299 hitting percentage en route to a straight-set sweep of Lees-McRae College on Friday night in St. John Arena.

Ohio State (2-2) hit a blistering .481 in the first set, holding Lees-McRae (0-1) to a .159 clip overall, and winning the match by scores of 25-19, 25-21, and 25-18. The Buckeyes recorded 39 assists and 29 digs on the night, as the Bobcats posted totals of 29 and 24, respectively. Sophomore Jose Ribas paced the Bobcats with a match-high 11 kills, while John Lucas (Cincinnati, Ohio) and Joshua Jones (Christmas, Fla.) added six and five smashes,

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respectively. Randy Ramirez (Guaynabo, Puerto Rico) chipped in a contest-best 28 assists, while Efrain Negrón (Orlando, Fla.) added nine digs.

Michael Henchy led the way for Ohio State with nine kills on 21 swings, while John Tholen added seven smashes and a .500 hitting percentage. Kyle Lawrence chipped in 25 assists and five digs, while Peter Heinen added 11 helpers of his own. Shawn Herron also posted seven kills on eight swings.

The Buckeyes jumped out to an early lead in the first set, opening the frame with a 6-3 run highlighted by a pair of Henchy service aces. Lees-McRae fought back with a 5-3 spurt, closing the gap to 9-8 before Ohio responded with an 8-5 run to snatch a 17-13 advantage on a Herron ace. Ohio State pushed the lead to 23-18 following a Bobcat miscue, before back-to-back kills by Henchy and Shawn Sangrey sealed the 25-19 victory.

After the sides exchanged points early in the second set, Nick Gibson buried a pair of kills before a Bobcat miscue gave the Buckeyes a 7-4 lead. Following a Lees-McRae kill that cut the advantage to 10-9, Ohio State stretched the margin to 14-11 on back-to-back smashes by Sangrey. The Buckeyes would hold on from there, closing out the set with a 25-21 win to claim a commanding 2-0 advantage in the match.

Ohio State opened the third set with a pair of 3-0 runs, claiming an early 7-3 advantage before pushing the margin to 14-8 following a Tholen kill. The Buckeyes then closed out the set with kills by Henchy and Grayson Overman, capping a 25-18 third-frame win.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Saturday night when the Bobcats travel to Cincinnati, Ohio to take on NCAA Division III College of Mount St. Joseph at 7 p.m.

**Photo Courtesy: Icey Patterson, LMC Athletics**