

## **Bobcats down Valkyries, 77-45**

Written by Staff Reports

Tuesday, 24 January 2012 23:37

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Icey Patterson (Seneca, S.C.) poured in a career-best 20 points and recorded game-highs of seven steals and five assists on Tuesday night, leading the Lees-McRae College women's basketball team to a 77-45 win over Converse College in Conference Carolinas play in Williams Gymnasium. Lees-McRae (6-9, 2-7 CC) posted a field goal percentage of

38.4 percent on the night, including a 43.9 percent clip in the second half, while limiting Converse (2-15, 2-6 CC) to a 33.3 percent mark from the floor. The Bobcats won the battle on the glass by a 53-39 margin, including a 24-9 advantage on the offensive boards, while converting 30 Converse turnovers into 38 points.

Paige Whitaker (Harrisburg, N.C.) led all scorers with 21 points on 7-of-16 shooting, knocking down six three-pointers and grabbing seven rebounds to pace the Bobcats. Patterson added 20 markers on 10-of-17 shooting, while Kerri Belcher (Roanoke, Va.) nearly posted a double-double with 10 points and a team-high nine rebounds. Candace Flowers (Charlotte, N.C.) chipped in nine points, while DeAnna Waters (Upper Marlboro, Md.) and Sophie Witte (Hamburg, Germany) posted nine boards and a game-high three blocks, respectively. Colleen Leung paced the Valkyries with 17 points on 7-of-15 shooting, nearly posting a double-double with nine rebounds while adding four steals and three assists. Samira Gillcrese chipped in a game-high 10 rebounds and eight points.

Lees-McRae answered an early Converse bucket with a 19-5 run, claiming a 19-7 lead at the 13:40 mark on three consecutive fast break layups, two from Patterson and one by Flowers. After Converse trimmed the margin to 19-15 with an 8-0 run, the Bobcats answered with a 13-6 spurt of their own to close out the half, taking a 32-21 lead into the intermission.

The Bobcats carried the momentum into the second half, opening the period with a 19-9 run to take a 51-30 advantage with 12:29 to play on back-to-back triples by Whitaker. Lees-McRae closed out the win from there, finishing the contest with a 26-15 surge to equal the final margin of 77-45.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Saturday when the Bobcats travel to Wilson, N.C. to take on Barton College in a conference matchup at 5:30 p.m.

**LMC 77, CONVERSE 45**

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### Score by Periods 1st 2nd Total

Converse..... 21 24 - 45

Lees-McRae..... 32 45 - 77

**CONVERSE:** GATHERS 3, GILLCRESE 8, RIVERS 5, MIDDLEBROOKS 6, VAUGHN 4, LEUNG 17, SELLARS 2. FG: 18-54, 3FG: 6-22, FT: 3-8. 39 REBOUNDS, 30 TURNOVERS, 10 ASSISTS.

**LMC:** WHITAKER 21 (7 REBOUNDS), PARKER 5, BELCHER 10 (9 REBOUNDS), COLEMAN 6, PATTERSON 20 (5 ASSISTS), FLOWERS 9, WATERS 4 (9 REBOUNDS), WITTE 2. FG: 33-86, 3FG: 7-21, FT: 4-5. 53 REBOUNDS, 16 TURNOVERS, 22 ASSISTS.

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

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