

Bobcats Edge Wolves

Written by Staff Reports
Saturday, 17 March 2012 21:51

Jessica Travers (Asheville, N.C.) made eight saves, and Jessica MacConnell (Cary, N.C.) and Olivia Gudewich (Frederick, Md.) each posted a hat trick to lead the Lees-McRae College women's lacrosse team to an 11-8 win over Newberry College on a rain-soaked Tate Field on Saturday afternoon. Lees-McRae (1-5) edged

Newberry (1-5) by a 29-22 margin in shots, including an 18-11 advantage in the first half, while winning the battle in ground balls by a 36-26 stretch. The Bobcats controlled 13-of-21 draws on the afternoon, as Newberry converted 11-of-17 clear attempts.

MacConnell and Gudewich each tallied three goals for the Bobcats, as Katelin Rooney (Naples, Fla.) added two goals and two assists. Anna DeLuke (Woodstock, Ga.) chipped in two goals and one assist, while Nicole Dupont (Fort Myers, Fla.) notched a goal of her own. Travers made eight saves between the pipes for the Bobcats, as Rooney added six ground balls and six draw controls. DeLuke and Dupont chipped in five ground balls each.

Meg Kelly led the way for Newberry with a game-high four goals, as Becca Eddy added one strike and one assist. Victoria Thomas posted a game-high seven ground balls and four caused turnovers, as Sam Capers chipped in 14 saves for the Wolves. MacConnell opened the scoring for the Bobcats less than two minutes into the game, giving Lees-McRae an early 1-0 lead off an assist from Rooney. Kenny answered for the Wolves with a pair of strikes, putting Newberry ahead 2-1 before DeLuke and MacConnell countered with a goal each to give the Bobcats a 3-2 advantage with 18:44 to go in the first half.

After Eddy evened the tally at 3-3 for the Wolves, Lees-McRae scored a trio of goals to take a 6-3 lead on Gudewich's first strike of the game with 4:28 left in the half. Newberry answered quickly in the second half, cutting the margin to 6-4 on a free position goal by Kristin Stensholt 35 seconds into the period.

Rooney and DeLuke responded with a pair of quick strikes to push the Bobcat lead to 8-4 with 27:37 to play, before Tessa Davis found the back of the net 30 seconds later to cut the margin to 8-5. After MacConnell answered for the Bobcats, Thomas and Kenny countered with a trio of goals to trim the Lees-McRae lead to 9-8 with 12:41 to play. The Bobcats responded three minutes later, as Gudewich scored the first of two goals to cap the afternoon's scoring and equal the final margin of 11-8.

Lees-McRae returns to action on Wednesday, March 28 when the Bobcats travel to Hickory, N.C. to take on Lenoir-Rhyne University in non-conference play at 5:30 p.m.

Photo Courtesy: Olivia Gudewich, LMC Athletics