

Crusaders Sweep Bobcats

Written by Staff Reports

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The North Greenville University softball team utilized a pair of late-inning efforts en route to a doubleheader sweep of Lees-McRae College in Conference Carolinas play on Tuesday afternoon at the

Bobcat Softball Field. North Greenville (17-5, 12-0 CC) posted 11 hits in the twin-bill sweep, defeating Lees-McRae (12-21, 3-3 CC) by a 3-0 margin in the opener before registering a 4-0 victory in the nightcap. The Crusaders held Lees-McRae to five hits on the day, including a one-hit shutout in game one.

Kim Coley (Marion, N.C.) and Karli Robb (Hayes, Va.) each tallied two hits to pace the Bobcats, as Laurel Gregg (Mars Hill, N.C.) allowed three unearned runs on one hit in seven innings of work in the opener. Holli Crickenberger (Boydton, Va.) surrendering two earned runs and struck out five in game two.

In game one, North Greenville's Rachel Glazebrook held Lees-McRae to just one hit in the opener, carrying a no-hitter into the seventh inning before closing out the shutout. Glazebrook struck out 13 and walked two for the Crusaders, as Gregg surrendered three unearned runs on one hit and struck out five over seven innings for the Bobcats.

The game remained scoreless until the top of the seventh, when North Greenville capitalized on four Bobcat miscues in the top of the seventh, plating three runs to take a 3-0 lead.

Lees-McRae started to rally in the bottom of the inning, breaking up the no-hitter with a leadoff single by Coley before Crickenberger drew a walk to put runners on first and second with no outs. Glazebrook would shut the door from there, recording three straight outs to seal the 3-0 victory.

In game two, The nightcap remained scoreless until the top of the sixth, when North Greenville took a 2-0 lead on a two-run triple by Sarah Armstrong that plated Rachel Holeman and Marielena Santos. North Greenville would add a pair of runs in the seventh, taking a 4-0 advantage on two hits and a pair of Bobcat errors.

The Bobcats put together a pair of strong scoring chances in the third and sixth innings, putting runners on first and second with less than two outs in each frame before North Greenville shut the door with solid pitching and strong defense. North Greenville would close out the sweep with a scoreless bottom of the seventh, retiring the Bobcats in order to seal the win.

Lees-McRae returns to the diamond on Wednesday when the Bobcats host Erskine College in conference play at 3 p.m. at the Bobcat Softball Field.