

## Eagles claw Bobcats In Three Sets

Written by Whitney Noble

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The Carson-Newman College women's volleyball team posted a .250 hitting percentage en route to a straight-set sweep of Lees-McRae College on Tuesday evening in non-conference play at Holt Fieldhouse. Carson-Newman (5-7) won the match by scores of 25-12, 25-16, and 25-18, holding Lees-McRae (7-8) to a .079 clip

on the attack while posting nine blocks. The Eagles notched 51 digs, 36 kills, and 10 service aces in the match, as Lees-McRae recorded 35 digs and 26 smashes.

Lauren Fox (Garland, Texas) paced the Bobcats with nine kills and a .375 hitting percentage, while Rachel Grether (Ocala, Fla.) added seven smashes. Sariah Suryadevara (Cincinnati, Ohio) posted a team-high nine digs, as Taylor Pritchett (Apex, N.C.) chipped in 18 assists and eight digs.

Lauren Santarelli led the way for Carson-Newman with 10 kills and a .444 clip on the attack, as Sabina Papala and Rachel Harper added nine and eight smashes, respectively. Kristen Pickett chipped in a double-double with a match-high 31 assists and 10 digs, while Angelle Hayes posted a contest-best 12 digs.

Carson-Newman got off to a strong start in the opening set, taking an 11-5 lead before pushing the margin to 18-9 following a block by Santerelli and Ashley Ferris. The Eagles would close out the set with a 7-3 spurt, taking the frame by a 25-12 margin following a kill from Papala.

After Carson-Newman opened the second with a 9-5 run, and the Bobcats countered with a 5-1 spurt to even the tally at 10-10 following a trio of Grether kills, the Eagles answered with a 9-4 surge to claim a 19-14 advantage on a Santerelli smash. The Bobcats would trim the margin to 19-16 on a kill by Haydn Beatty (Norman, Okla.) before Carson-Newman countered with a 6-0 spurt, claiming the set on a Santerelli smash.

The Eagles carried the momentum into the third frame, taking an early 11-4 lead on a Santerelli service ace. After the Bobcats closed the gap to 15-11 following an Eagle miscue,

Carson-Newman pushed the lead to 22-13 with a 7-2 spurt. The Bobcats countered with a 5-2 run, fighting off a pair of match points on back-to-back kills by Fox before Ferris capped the frame and the contest with a smash of her own.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Friday when the Bobcats host Belmont Abbey College to continue their Conference Carolinas slate, kicking off Homecoming weekend against the Crusaders at 7 p.m. in Williams Gymnasium.

**Photo Courtesy: Lauren Fox, LMC Athletics**