

Clendenin Keys Bobcats to sweep of Pfeiffer on Senior Day

Written by Whitney Noble
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Senior Taylor Clendenin (Statesville, N.C.) recorded a match-high 11 kills to lead the Lees-McRae College women's volleyball team to a straight set victory over Pfeiffer University on Saturday afternoon as the Bobcats celebrated their senior day

in Williams Gymnasium. Lees-McRae (12-14, 8-6 CC) won the match by scores of 25-16, 25-14, and 25-16, posting a blistering .427 hitting percentage as a team while holding Pfeiffer (7-17, 4-9 CC) to a .028 clip on the attack. Each team recorded five blocks in the contest, as Lees-McRae smashed down 44 kills in the sweep.

Clendenin celebrated her senior day with a match-high 11 kills, posting a .389 hitting percentage and moving into fourth on the program's all-time list with her 117th career service ace. Fellow senior Megan Mitchell (Minden, Nev.) added a match-high 37 assists, as senior Dana Oliver (Miami, Fla.) chipped in four kills on eight attempts.

Jordan Banta (Virginia Beach, Va.) recorded eight kills and a .500 hitting percentage, while Haydn Beatty (Norman, Okla.) and Lauren Fox (Garland, Texas) each posted seven smashes. Beatty added a match-high four block assists, as Molly Corhn (Hendersonville, N.C.) notched a contest-best nine digs.

Jessica Homrich led the way for Pfeiffer with seven kills, posting a .500 hitting percentage as Kelly Lancellot added a contest-best four block assists.

The Bobcats jumped out to an early lead in the first set, stringing together an 11-2 run to open a 12-4 advantage following a Banta smash. Lees-McRae would push the lead to 19-9 before Pfeiffer answered, closing the gap to 22-14 with a 5-3 spurt that was capped by a Milana Mervosh kill. After Pfeiffer fought off a pair of set points, the Bobcats closed out the frame with a Rachel Grether (Ocala, Fla.) smash to take a 1-0 lead in the match.

Lees-McRae carried the momentum into the second set, opening an early 12-6 lead on a dump kill by Mitchell. After the Falcons closed the gap to 14-10 following a Bobcat miscue, Lees-McRae countered with an 11-4 run to cap the set following a Beatty smash to claim a commanding 2-0 advantage in the match.

The Bobcats continued to dictate the pace of play in the third, answering a block by Homrich and Anna Vizary with a 7-2 run to take an 18-9 lead following a stuff from Banta and Beatty. Pfeiffer would battle back, trimming the margin to 19-14 with a 5-1 spurt before Lees-McRae countered with a run of its own, closing out the set and the match with a 6-2 run that was capped by a Clendenin smash.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Tuesday, October 30 when the Bobcats travel to Charlotte, N.C. to take on Queens University of Charlotte in league play at 7 p.m.

Photo Courtesy: Taylor Clendenin, LMC Athletics