

Bobcats Earn Fifth Straight NSCAA Team Academic Award

Written by Whitney Noble

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The Lees-McRae College women's soccer team has received the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Team Academic Award for the 2011-2012

academic year, announced NSCAA officials Monday. Lees-McRae posted a combined grade point average of 3.33 last year to garner the award for the fifth consecutive season.

Lees-McRae, Coker College, and King College each garnered the award to represent Conference Carolinas, as Lees-McRae led the way with its 3.33 GPA. King posted a GPA of 3.23, while Coker recorded a mark of 3.08. The Bobcats posted one of the best seasons in program history this fall, capturing the school's second straight Conference Carolinas regular season title while advancing to the semifinal round of the league tournament for the third consecutive year.

Lees-McRae is expected to return to 18 letter-winners from this year's Conference Carolinas regular season championship squad, including rising seniors Alicia Pierson (Brooksville, Fla.), LeeAnn Sullivan (Greensboro, N.C.), Kaitlyn Kerrigan (Lakewood Ranch, Fla.), and MaryBeth Sullivan (Greensboro, N.C.).

The Lees-McRae College men's soccer team has received the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Team Academic Award for the 2011-2012 academic year, announced NSCAA officials Monday. Lees-McRae posted a combined grade point average of 3.16 last year to garner the award for the first time in the program's history.

Lees-McRae, Coker College, and Limestone College each garnered the award to represent Conference Carolinas, as Lees-McRae led the way with its 3.16 GPA. Coker and Limestone each posted a GPA of 3.05. The Bobcats fought hard all season, putting together a far better campaign than their record would indicate with several outstanding performances against some of the top teams in the country.

Lees-McRae is expected to return 19 lettermen from this year's squad, including rising seniors Thomas Rusling (Sheffield, England), Scott Hudgins (Fort Myers, Fla.), James Galvani (High Wycombe, England), Brandon Meade (Mocksville, N.C.), and Chris DeSanto (Greensboro, N.C.).