

Bobcats Hold Off Cobras For First Win

Written by Whitney Noble

Saturday, 19 January 2013 20:23

Sophomore Asad Lamot (Mebane, N.C.) scored 13 points to lead the Lees-McRae College men's basketball team to a narrow 60-58 victory over Coker College on Saturday afternoon, as the Bobcats held off a late Cobra rally in Conference

Carolinas play. The win marks the first of head coach Steve Hardin's tenure at Lees-McRae (1-13, 1-7 CC), as the Bobcats converted 18-of-20 attempts at the free throw line while knocking down four three-pointers and turning 20 Coker (6-8, 4-5 CC) miscues into 18 points.

Lees-McRae posted a field goal percentage of 40.4 percent in the contest, as Coker canned 42.9 percent of its attempts from the floor.

Lamot and Jeremiah Henry (Semmes, Ala.) paced the Bobcats with 13 points each, as Daniel Sepokas (Illawong, Australia) added nine markers with a perfect 9-for-9 night from the charity stripe. DeAndre Tillman (Charlotte, N.C.) chipped in a team-high five rebounds for the Bobcats. Julian Nelson led the way for Coker with a game-high 21 points on 7-of-14 shooting, while Larry Felder added a double-double with 10 markers and a contest-best 10 rebounds. Bryce Arnott chipped in game-highs of four assists and four steals.

The first half proved to be a tightly contested one, with the teams trading the lead five times and the squads standing even on six occasions. Neither team would hold more than a four-point advantage throughout the first 20 minutes, with Lees-McRae taking a narrow 7-6 lead on a Tillman lay-in with 14:51 left in the first half, before Coker snatched a 21-18 advantage following a Teon Beckett triple at the 7:23 mark.

A Nelson three-point play with 3:24 left in the half would give the Cobras a 25-21 lead before the Bobcats responded with a 6-0 run, taking a 27-25 advantage on a Henry lay-in at the 1:43 mark. Henry would score the final seven points of the half for the Bobcats, giving Lees-McRae a narrow 30-28 lead heading into the intermission.

The game remained a closely contested affair in the second half until the Bobcats launched a 23-12 run midway through the period, claiming a 60-50 lead following a pair of Lamot freebies with 1:39 to play. Coker would fight back, cutting the margin to 60-55 with 1:09 left on the clock before Nelson knocked down a clutch three-pointer with 51 ticks remaining, trimming the lead to 60-58.

Lamot then made perhaps the play of the day for the Bobcats, stripping the ball with less than five seconds left to seal the victory and prevent the tying opportunity for the Cobras.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Monday when the Bobcats travel to Bristol, Tenn. to take on King College in conference play at 7:30 p.m.

LMC 60, COKER 58

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Score By Periods

	1st	2nd	Total
Lees-McRae	30	30	60
Coker	28	30	58

Lees-McRae Coker

Pts: Asad Lamot, Jeremiah Henry- 13, Pts: Julian Nelson - 21
Reb: DeAndre Tillman - 5, Reb: Larry Felder - 10
Ast: Daniel Sepokas - 2, Ast: Bryce Arnott - 4

Team Statistics Lees-McRae Coker

Field Goal %	40.4% (19-47)	42.9% (21-49)
Rebounds	29	34
Assists	6	10
Turnovers	20	20
Pts off Turnovers	18	21
2nd Chance Pts	11	15
Pts in the Paint	20	26
Fastbreak Pts	0	6
Bench Pts	30	15

Cobras Snap Bobcats' Winning Streak

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The Coker College women's basketball team held off a late rally by Lees-McRae College on Saturday afternoon en route to a 55-45 win in Conference Carolinas play, snapping the Bobcats' five-game winning streak.

Coker (10-6, 6-4 CC) held Lees-McRae (6-6, 4-5 CC) to a field goal percentage of 29.8 percent in a defensive battle, as the Cobras won the fight on the glass by a 50-35 margin, including a 16-11 advantage on the offensive boards.

Kabrina Truesdale (Wilmington, N.C.) paced the Bobcats with nine points, as Candace Flowers (Charlotte, N.C.) and Layana De Souza (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) each added seven markers. Alyssa Munson (Summerfield, N.C.) chipped in six points, five rebounds, and a game-high two blocks.

Autumn Lau led the way for Coker with a game-high 14 points, knocking down four three-pointers as Priscilla Fenty added eight markers and a contest-best seven boards. Hannah Kuhn chipped in six rebounds, while Amber Lau posted seven markers and five glass-cleanings. Coker jumped out to an early lead in the first half, taking a 9-2 lead following an Autumn Lau triple before Flowers and De Souza answered with back-to-back treys, cutting the advantage to 9-8 with 13:45 left in the period. The Cobras would respond with an 11-0 run, pushing the margin to 20-8 on a Fenty layup at the 10:14 mark.

After Flowers cut the lead to 20-16 with her second three-pointer of the game, Coker answered with a 14-7 to close out the half and take a 34-23 advantage into the intermission following a last-second trey by Hailey Yohn.

The Cobras carried the momentum into the second half, opening the period with a 12-2 run to push the lead to 46-25 on a Theresa Jackson-Henderson lay-in with 15:13 to go. The Bobcats would keep pace with the Cobras for the remainder of the game, finishing strong with a 9-2 run over the final four and a half minutes to equal the final margin of 55-45.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Monday when the Bobcats travel to Bristol, Tenn. to take on King College in conference play at 5:30 p.m.

COKER 55, LMC 45

Score By Periods 1st 2nd Total

Lees-McRae 23 22 - 45

Coker 34 21 - 55

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██████████ **Lees-McRae** ██████████ **Coker**

Pts: Kabrina Truesdale - 9, Pts: Autumn Lau - 14

Reb: TEAM - 7, Reb: 3 Players (Priscilla Fenty, T. Jackson-Henderson- 7)

Ast: Lauren Lewis - 3, Ast: H. Kristmundsdottir - 4

Team Statistics ██████████ **Lees-McRae** ██████████ **Coker**

Field Goal % 29.8% (17-57) 35.6% (21-59)

Rebounds 35 50

Assists 6 10

Turnovers 20 26

Pts off Turnovers 17 20

2nd Chance Pts 7 11

Pts in the Paint 12 18

Fastbreak Pts 8 4

Bench Pts 18 26

Photo Courtesy: Asad Lamot, LMC Athletics