

Shields, Bobcats Garner All-Academic Recognition

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The Lees-McRae College women's cross country team has earned all-Academic status from the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association for the sixth time in the last seven years,

announced USTFCCA officials Monday. Lees-McRae is one of three programs from Conference Carolinas to garner national recognition for its work in the classroom during the fall semester, joining Belmont Abbey College and King College as the league's trio of representatives. King paced both the league and the nation with an outstanding 3.819 grade point average as a team during the 2012 fall semester.

The Bobcats enjoyed a strong fall in the classroom as well, posting a GPA of 3.43 as a team. Twin sisters Emily and Katherine Shields (Salisbury, N.C.) each garnered individual academic honors as well, both being named to the USTFCCA all-Academic Cross Country team after finishing seventh and 10th, respectively, at the conference championships to earn all-conference second-team recognition.

Lees-McRae is expected to return four harriers next season, including rising senior Heather Peterman (Buford, Ga.).