

Bobcats Ink Tutton, Felton

Written by Whitney Noble
Tuesday, 30 July 2013 19:50

Raul Tutton, Jr. (Germantown, Tenn.) and Rishad Felton (Hendersonville, N.C.) have signed National Letters of Intent to attend Lees-McRae College in the fall of 2013 and play men's basketball, joining an already impressive recruiting class, announced head coach Steve Hardin Tuesday. "Both Rishad and Raul are winners first and foremost," praised Hardin. "I am excited to sign both players. Raul can play multiple positions and Rishad is a point guard that will defend 94 feet. They both embody our FIRE culture on and off the floor, and we couldn't be happier to have them in our program."

Tutton joins the Bobcats from nationally ranked Motlow College in Tullahoma, Tenn., where he helped the team to the second round of the NJCAA National Tournament, losing to eventual national champion College of Central Florida. A two-time member of the TCCAA all-Academic team, Tutton averaged nine points, five rebounds, two assists and two steals as a sophomore. Prior to his two years at Motlow, Tutton starred for Houston High School in Germantown, Tenn., where he averaged 19.9 points, 10 rebounds, and two blocks per game as senior. He was also named to the all-Metro and District 15 AAA teams, as well as the District 15 AAA all-Tournament team.

"Raul is a perfect fit for our FIRE system," said Hardin. "He can play multiple positions on offense and will be a key ingredient to create deflections in FIRE. I am extremely excited to have Raul in the Bobcat family. He represents a student athlete first with carrying a 3.5 GPA and is a winner. Raul is a great addition to our team!"

Felton comes to Lees-McRae from Hendersonville High School in Hendersonville, N.C., where he set a pair of program records this past season for three-point field goals in a single game (12), as well as the single-season mark for treys (108). A native of Hendersonville, Felton was named the Western Highlands Conference Player of the Year as well as the WHC Tournament MVP, earning all-district and all-state honors in each of the last two seasons.

The 5-8 point guard averaged 19.3 points, 3.6 rebounds, 3.4 assists, and 3.3 steals per game last season, knocking down 41 percent of his attempts from downtown, while finishing his career at Hendersonville with over 1,200 career points.

"I recruited Rishad for most of the year," said Hardin. "With having a mentor in Coach [Scott] Polsgrove at Avery, Scott told me how good he felt Rishad was and could be early in November. He can get to the rim and make the right play, while also knocking down the key shot.

"Rishad's high school coach Marvin Featherstone speaks very highly of Rishad's character and work ethic. I am extremely tough on PG's and I feel that Rishad will become our PG for the future. Rishad is a winner and embodies our "FIRE" culture. The coaching staff is glad to welcome Rishad Felton into our Bobcat basketball family."

Tutton and Felton join an already impressive recruiting class for the Bobcats, which already includes Donte Falls (Shelby, N.C.), Avery Wallis (Ronda, N.C.), Darius Smith (Woodridge, Va.), Logan Chaucer (Wilmington, N.C.), Marcus Hash (Wytheville, Va.), Josh Gaither (Statesville, N.C.), Chase Arnold (Kingsport, Tenn.), Daruis Malbon (Hickory, N.C.) and Mike Chambers (Winston-Salem, N.C.).

Photo Courtesy: Raul Tutton and Rishad Felton, LMC Athletics