

## Valkyries Blank Bobcats

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The Converse College women's volleyball team tallied 31 kills and 26 digs en route to a straight-set victory over Lees-McRae College on Friday evening in Conference Carolinas play.

Converse (5-21, 5-9 CC) won the match by scores of 25-15, 25-19, and 25-17, attacking at a .208 clip while limiting Lees-McRae (2-25, 0-14 CC) to 21 kills and seven service aces.

Avalon Liscio (Naples, Fla.) led the way for the Bobcats with eight kills, as Kortnie Curry (Lexington, N.C.) and Angela Morse (Greenville, S.C.) each added four smashes. Haydn Beatty (Norman, Okla.) chipped in a match-high nine digs, while Molly Corhn (Hendersonville, N.C.) posted nine assists and two aces.

Katie Butler paced the Valkyries with 10 kills and nine digs, while Kandace Griffin added nine assists and a match-high four aces. Ashley Biggs and Meg Taylor chipped in seven and five kills, respectively, as Jenna Martin tallied 12 assists.

Converse jumped out to an early 10-5 lead in the first set before the Bobcats responded, trimming the margin to 11-8 following a smash from Liscio. The Valkyries quickly answered with a 7-3 spurt, pushing the advantage to 18-11 on an ace by Scottie Kay Auton. After Lees-McRae fought back with straight points, Converse countered with a 7-1 run, closing out the set, 25-15, on a Bobcat miscue.

The Valkyries carried the momentum into the second, opening the set with a 12-5 run before pushing the margin to 16-6 on a Biggs kill. Lees-McRae battled back with a 9-1 spurt, closing the gap to 17-15 following a pair of Curry smashes. Converse answered with seven of the next nine points, pushing the Bobcats to set point and closing out the frame after kills from Liscio and Morse.

The Bobcats started to rally in the third, breaking a 5-5 tie with a 7-3 spurt to take a 12-8 lead following a smash by Morse. Converse answered with a 13-5 run, claiming a 21-16 advantage before Haylee Leonard (Wallburg, N.C.) countered with a smash for the Bobcats. The Valkyries would respond with a 4-0 spurt, capping the set and the match on a Biggs kill.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Saturday when the Bobcats travel to Gaffney, S.C. to take on Limestone College at 1 p.m. in conference play.