

Smith's Hat Trick Leads No.23 Bears Over Carson-Newman

Written by Staff Reports

Wednesday, 06 November 2013 08:35

The Lenoir-Rhyne Women's Soccer Team (14-3-1) easily passed through the Quarterfinal Round of the 2013 Food Lion SAC Tournament with a 5-1 win over Carson-Newman (6-7-4) Tuesday evening at the Moretz Sports - Athletic Complex.

The Bears, the league regular season champions, were the top seed in the conference tournament while the Eagles were seeded eighth.

Lenoir-Rhyne, ranked No. 23 in NCAA Division II, will face fifth-seeded Lincoln Memorial in the semifinals on Friday at 7:00 p.m., at Manchester Meadows in Rock Hill, S.C.

Lincoln Memorial defeated fourth-seeded Catawba, 2-1, Tuesday in the opening round in Salisbury, N.C.

The Bears were led by sophomore midfielder Kendall Smith (Asheville, N.C.), who finished with three goals and an assist as Lenoir-Rhyne won its fourth straight match.

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Carson-Newman opened the scoring on a goal by Danna Stringle (Woodstock, Ontario, CANADA) just 2:04 into the contest but it was all Lenoir-Rhyne after that.

Smith notched the next two goals including the game-winner in the 35th minute off a long pass from senior defender Jessica Lintz (Florence, S.C.), who was credited with the assist.

L-R junior midfielder Lauren Donovan (Hollywood, Md.) scored just before halftime on a cross from Smith for a 3-1 advantage entering the break and the Bears remained in control the rest of the way.

Smith finished off the hat trick in the 51st minute while sophomore forward Leah Mullins (Kissimmee, Fla.) rounded out the scoring for Lenoir-Rhyne, who held a 27-7 advantage in shots taken.

Junior goalkeeper Genny Little (Fredericksburg, Va.) improved to 13-1 on the year after picking up the win to go along with two saves. Carson-Newman's goalkeeper, Tiarna McKenna (Lisburn, NORTHERN IRELAND) suffered the loss despite stopping eight shots on the night.

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Photo Courtesy: Kendall Smith, L-R Athletics