

Chambers Leads Bobcats Over King

Written by Whitney Noble

Sunday, 08 December 2013 11:16

Freshman Mike Chambers (Winston-Salem, N.C.) poured in a game-high 29 points with an 11-for-14 night at the free throw line to lead the Lees-McRae College men's basketball team to its first-ever NCAA Division II win over King University in Conference Carolinas play on Saturday evening.

Lees-McRae (4-5, 1-0 CC) connected on 40.7 percent of its attempts from the floor on the night, including a 46.2 percent clip in the second half, while holding King (3-5, 1-1 CC) to a field goal percentage of 32.1 percent on the night. The Bobcats won the battle on the glass by a 41-36 margin, including a 27-22 advantage on the defensive end, and limited the Tornado to an 8-for-36 night from beyond the arc.

Chambers led all scorers with 29 points on 7-of-17 shooting, knocking down four three-pointers and converting 11-of-14 attempts at the free throw line. Jacquise Moore (Concord, N.C.) and Darryle Bond (Nashville, Tenn.) each added 14 points, as Bond and Raul Tutton (Memphis, Tenn.) each recorded four steals. Moore chipped in a team-high eight rebounds as he and Darius Smith (Woodbridge, Va.) both dished out three assists.

Logan Lyle paced the Tornado with 15 points and three steals, as Drew Standifer nearly missed a double-double with 10 points and a game-high nine rebounds. C.J. Good added 12 points with a 3-for-5 night from downtown.

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The Bobcats never trailed in the contest, opening a 19-15 lead on a triple by Chambers at the 9:04 mark to cap an 8-4 spurt. After a Good trey cut the advantage to 19-18, Lees-McRae closed out the half with a 16-7 run to take a 35-28 lead into the intermission.

King responded early in the second half, opening the period with an 11-8 spurt to close the gap to 43-39 following a three-point play by Lyle at the 15:12 mark. Lees-McRae quickly countered with a 12-8 run of its own, pushing the margin to 55-47 on an emphatic throw down by Moore with 8:12 to go.

King would cut the lead to one possession four times over the final eight minutes, but the Bobcat defense stood strong, weathering the storm and limiting the Tornado to 1.33 points per possession during the stretch. The Tornado's last challenge came with 29 seconds left, trimming the advantage to 75-73 before the Bobcats closed out the victory with a trio of clutch freebies from Moore and Smith in the waning moments.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Tuesday when the Bobcats host Emory & Henry College in their final home game of 2013 in Williams Gymnasium at 7 p.m.

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King Rallies Late Against Bobcats

The King University women's basketball team rallied from a six-point deficit midway through the second half with a 20-6 run, and held off Lees-McRae College in the final moments en route to a 63-55 victory in Conference Carolinas play on Saturday evening.

King (4-2, 2-0 CC) won the night on the glass by a 49-33 margin in a defensive battle, besting Lees-McRae (4-6, 1-1 CC), 14-9 on the offensive boards, while knocking down 40 percent of its attempts from the floor. The Bobcats converted 20 King turnovers into 15 points, and connected on 11-of-14 tries at the charity stripe.

Lauren Lewis (Concord, N.C.) paced the Bobcats with a game-high 14 points, knocking down four three-pointers, while Alyssa Munson (Summerfield, N.C.) added 12 points with a 6-for-10 night from the floor. Kerri Belcher (Roanoke, Va.) and Layana De Souza (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) each chipped in nine points, as Belcher and Kabrina Truesdale (Wilmington, N.C.) both pulled down seven rebounds.

Bonnie Durrett led King with eight points and a game-high 13 points, as Kelly Jackson and

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Stephanie Brantley both recorded eight points. Tia Keitt, Chelsea Bowling, and Whitney Mitchell each chipped in seven points.

King jumped out to a 17-8 lead before the Bobcats responded, closing the gap to 22-19 with an 11-5 spurt that was capped by a Munson jumper at the 4:47 mark. After the Tornado countered with a pair of buckets, Lees-McRae ended the half with a 9-0 run to take a 28-26 lead into the intermission.

The teams traded momentum throughout the second half, with King opening the period with an 11-4 run to claim a 37-32 advantage with 16:35 left on the clock. Lees-McRae quickly countered with a 13-2 surge, opening its largest lead of the game at 45-39 following a Lewis triple at the 10:41 mark.

The Tornado answered with a 12-5 spurt, taking the lead for good after Keitt gave King a narrow 51-50 advantage with 4:54 to go. King would score 11 of the game's final 16 points to close out the win, as Tayler Collins (Fayetteville, N.C.) capped the night with a late jumper for the Bobcats.

Lees-McRae returns to the court on Thursday, December 19 when the Bobcats travel to Wingate, N.C. to take on Wingate University in non-conference play at 11 a.m.

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Photo Courtesy: Mike Chambers, LMC Athletics