

## LMC Women Win Third Straight

Written by Chris Parker

Thursday, 16 January 2014 08:15

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Lees-McRae senior Lauren Lewis matched a season-high with 24 points while sophomore Alyssa Munson recorded her third double-double of the season to help LMC jump out to a 22-5 lead on its way to a 84-72 victory against Barton in Conference Carolina at Williams Gymnasium in Banner Elk, N.C.

The Bobcats (7-8, 4-2 CC) are on a season-high three-game win streak while leading wire-to-wire and defeating Barton for the first time since 2005. The Bulldogs (7-7, 4-2) saw their three-game win streak snapped despite a 22-point effort from Nyeshea Willie.

LMC scored early and often while sprinting out to a 7-0 lead in the first 2:36 of the game following a pair of treys from Lewis (Concord, N.C.).

The Bobcats didn't back down while they extended the lead to a healthy 17 points, 22-5, after a pair of Kerri Belcher (Roanoke, Va.) free throws at the 8:47 mark. Layana De Souza (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) chipped in with four points during the run.

The Bulldogs Tiffany Webster scored six points in a two minute span to help shave the deficit to eight, 28-20, but a Kabrina Truesdale (Wilmington, N.C.) three-point play stretched the Bobcat lead back to 15 moments later.

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The Bobcats held a solid 39-26 lead at the half after holding BC to 30.3% from the field and 0-7 from three-point range. LMC shot 43.3% in the first 20 minutes and knocked down 10 free-throws.

Willie connected one of her two three-pointers at the 12 minute mark to cut the LMC lead to six, 49-43.

However, senior Icey Patterson (Seneca S.C.) connected on a three, converted two free-throws and registered an assist to help the Bobcat squad extend the lead back to 12, 68-56.

The Bulldogs wouldn't back down when a Shatisha Dukes layup made it 71-65 in LMC's favor with 1:57 on the clock.

Patterson drained another three before the Bobcats iced the game with free throws from Munson and Lewis.

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LMC forced 18 turnovers and won the battle on the boards, 44-37. Munson impressed with 19 points and 12 rebounds while Belcher nearly missed a double-double (8 points, 11 rebounds).

The charity line was busy in the second half as both teams took 20 shots for it while the Bobcats shot an impressive 50% from the floor in the final 20 minutes. BC shot 33.3% from the floor and went 4-of-22 from long range.

The Bobcats wrap up a four-game homestand when North Greenville visits the friendly confines of Williams Gymnasium in a Conference Carolina battle Saturday at 2 p.m.

## **Bobcats' Rally Falls Short Against Barton**

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The Lees-McRae men's basketball team shot 47.8% from the field, but fell victim to a three-point attack from Barton in a 92-84 loss in Conference Carolinas play Wednesday night at Williams Gymnasium in Banner Elk, N.C.

The Bulldogs (7-8, 3-2 CC) saw Chris Flemmings explode for 32 points, including seven three-pointers in the first half while collecting their third win in four games. The Bobcats (6-9, 1-4 CC) dropped their fourth consecutive game despite a double-double (16 points, 12 rebounds) from junior Darryl Bond (Nashville, Tenn.).

Neither team could earn much breathing room for much of the first half. The Bobcats grabbed a one-point lead following a layup from Chad Hicks (Winston-Salem, N.C.), 31-30.

BC responded with a 14-3 run thanks to back-to-back threes from Travis McEachern and Flemmings to take a 44-34 lead with 3:13 on the clock.

Junior Raul Tutton (Memphis, Tenn.) hit consecutive layups to make it a six-point deficit, but an

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unstoppable Flemmings drained three straight triples to cap off a 9-2 Barton run to end the half.

LMC dominated the paint in the first 20 minutes, 28-16, despite trailing 53-42. The Bobcats shot an impressive 50% in the first period, but BC connected on nine three-pointers.

Senior Darius Smith (Woodbridge, Va.) got in the mix with a bucket at the 17:31 mark to make it a 56-53 game.

However, Barton rattled off a 7-0 run following a Brian McNair three, to extend the lead to 10, 63-53.

Barton would stretch the lead to 16, 74-58, thanks to solid free-throw shooting.

The Bobcats would claw their way back into it after 20-8 run after freshman Mike Chambers (Winston-Salem, N.C.) ripped off seven of his team-high 19 points. Bond drove and scored on a layup with 2:01 remaining to cut the deficit to three, 85-82.

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BC would go 7-for-7 from the free-throw line to claim the victory despite being outscored 28-14 in the paint in the second half.

Chambers paced the Bobcat offense and was a rebound away from a double-double. Tutton finished the game with 13 points and three steals.

The Bulldogs had a quartet of players register double figures, led by Flemmings. McNair had 14 while Daniel McClendon and Khari Fiason had 13 and 11, respectively.

LMC was held without a converted three-pointer (0-for-8) for the first time this season, but went 18-of-23 from the free-throw line.

The Bobcats look to snap their skid when they welcome North Greenville Saturday at 4 p.m. to Williams Gymnasium.

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**Photo Couttesy: Alyssa Munson, LMC Athletics**