

## Balanced Attack Buries Bobcats

Written by Chris Parker

Wednesday, 22 January 2014 23:39

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Despite sophomore Alyssa Munson's fourth 20-point effort of the season, the Lees-McRae women's basketball team was unable to rebound after a sluggish start while seeing its four-game win streak

snapped in a 67-52 loss to Mount Olive in Conference Carolina action Wednesday night in Mount Olive, N.C. at Kornegay Arena.

The Trojans (9-7, 4-4 CC) used a balanced attack that saw three players record double figures while three others corralled at least 10 rebounds. The Bobcats (8-9, 5-3) were dealt their first loss since Jan. 4 and was held to a season-low 52 points and 30% from the field.

Senior Lauren Lewis (Concord, N.C.) continued her solid-shooting season with a pair of three's in the first eight minutes to keep the game close while UMO led 15-14 at the 11:57 mark.

The Trojans defense would clamp down and hold LMC scoreless for the next 4:12 while stretching their lead to 11, 25-14.

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Munson (Summerfield, N.C.) cut the deficit to five with a layup at the 5:44 mark before UMO went on a 13-5 run to end the half.

The Bobcats struggled from the floor while shooting 31% in the first half while Mount Olive knocked down five treys and shot 40.6%.

UMO's Katie Paschal connected on a layup at the 18:07 mark before LMC's Kerri Belcher (Roanoke, Va.) went on a personal 7-0 run while Layana De Souza (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) chipped in with four points while the Bobcats shaved the deficit to three, 41-38.

A Jasmine McDonald three-pointer capped off an UMO 7-0 run to stretch the lead back to 10, 50-40.

LMC provided one last charge after Munson cut the lead to six, but the Trojans proved too strong defensively and held the Bobcats to three points over the last 4:54 of the game.

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Kirkstein Mitchell paced the Trojan offense with 19 points while Paschal finished with 14. Anamaria Zjadic and Ty Wallace impressed with 13 rebounds each while Leah Graham had 12.

Belcher and Munson were the only Bobcats to produce double figures while De Souza paced the squad with nine rebounds. LMC forced 17 turnovers but was outrebounded, 50-33.

The Bobcats return to action when they face King University Saturday at 3:30 p.m. in Williams Gymnasium. LMC is a perfect 6-0 at home this season.

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