

LMC Stumbles Against Barton

Written by Chris Parker

Saturday, 22 March 2014 18:55

Lees-McRae senior Matt Harpenau cranked out a match-high 20 kills while LMC hit better than .450 in consecutive sets, but fell in a five-set battle to Barton, 23-25, 25-18, 25-19, 19-15, 8-15, in

Conference Carolinas action Saturday afternoon at Williams Gymnasium in Banner Elk, N.C.

The Bulldogs (9-14, 5-6 CC) swung at an eye-popping .550 clip in the fourth set while Zach McCalla tallied 17 kills and five aces. The Bobcats (12-11, 4-6) dropped their second five-setter in as many days and sixth over.

The Bulldogs used a hot start to jump out to a 7-2 lead in the opener. However, Bobcat freshman Gabriel Rivera (Cupey Bajo, Puerto Rico) dished out three assists to Harpenau (Cincinnati, Ohio) while collecting a solo block to tie at 15.

Freshman Mark Shayka (Hamilton, Va.) delivered consecutive kills from Rivera, but LMC trailed 22-21.

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BC used a pair of Chad Stanback Jr. kills to clip LMC, 25-23, in the first set.

Both teams swung effectively while the Bulldogs went for a .333 mark.

The second set was tight throughout while it produced 11 ties. The Bulldog's Ladislav Lelkes failed to clear the net on a serve, which was the sparkplug for a Bobcat 10-3 run.

Senior Josh Cothron (Bradenton, Fla.) and Harpenau stuffed consecutive shots off the arm off J. Novoa Miralles before Harpenau smashed home two kills to end the second.

LMC had the hot hand in the third hand while swinging at a .458 clip and used a 16-10 run, capped off by a Sam Sheers (Centerville, Ohio) and Kevin Morrison (Norfolk, Va.) block to take a 20-14 advantage.

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Brady Markle (York, Pa.), Cothron and Morrison registered a kill over the next 10 points while LMC took a 2-1 set lead.

The Bulldogs responded by leading the fourth set in wire-to-wire fashion. McCalla and Tyler Malpass stuffed a Bobcat attack, giving the visitors an 11-6 lead.

LMC would cut the deficit to two, 14-12, following a Randy Ramirez (Guaynabo, Puerto Rico) ace.

Ramirez averaged 10 assists per set.

BC methodically stretched the lead to 20-14, thanks to consecutive McCalla kills.

Markle chipped in with two of his 19 kills, but the Bulldogs staved off LMC to claim the fourth.

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The Bobcats quickly took a 2-0 lead in the deciding set, but BC duplicated its previous set' success with a 10-4 run to forcing LMC to call a timeout, 10-6.

The Bulldogs swung at a .400 mark while wrapping up the match in the fifth.

Sheers led the squad in digs (11) while notching double digit kills (10).

Both teams amassed nine total team blocks while BC churned out 10 service aces.

The Bobcats look to snap their recent skid with a trip to King (Tenn.) Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Bristol, Tenn.

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LMC Fourth Quarter Effort Not Enough at Mount Olive

Lees-McRae sophomore Dustin Barrow notched a goal and an assist, but an 8-0 Mount Olive run to start the game proved to be insurmountable while Mount Olive handed LMC a 19-4 loss in Conference Carolinas men's lacrosse action Saturday afternoon on Amon Field in Mount Olive, N.C.

The Trojans (8-1, 1-0 CC) had 13 different players record a goal while Matt and Dan Shields notched a hat trick each. The Bobcats (0-8, 0-2) successfully made all their clear attempts while forcing 15 Mount Olive turnovers.

M. Shields tallied two goals and an assist while Ryan Morris dished out two assists while the Trojans took a 5-0 lead after first quarter.

Bobcat freshman Mike Gregory (Greensboro, N.C.) made five of his nine saves in the opening period.

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Mount Olive's Jesse Mitchell added two assists before LMC Kyle Judge's (Hampstead, Md.) goal from Dalton Lamb (Clemmons, N.C.) at the 7:04 mark made it, 8-1.

The Trojans took advantage of two penalties while notching two man-up goals at the 3:52 and 10 second mark, respectively.

Mount Olive had four different players score in the third quarter.

LMC came out firing in the fourth while Schuylor Dickerson (Crozet, Va.) and Jarrod Brady (Kernersville, N.C.) tallied a goal while LMC cut the deficit to 15-3.

Barrow registered an unassisted goal with 4:08 remaining in the contest.

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The Bobcats won five of the eight faceoffs in the final quarter after amassing a game-high eight groundballs in the third.

Brady led the team with eight shots and Dillon Quinn (Greensboro, N.C.) forced two turnovers.

LMC welcomes Young Harris to Tate Field March 29 at 2 p.m. in a nonconference tilt.

Women's Tennis Dropped by Mount Olive, 8-1

Lees-McRae women's tennis freshman Jordan Mayer claimed a win at No. 6 singles, but LMC dropped an 8-1 decision to Mount Olive in its home opener Saturday morning at the LMC Tennis Courts in Banner Elk, N.C.

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The Trojans (9-3, 4-2 CC) earned their fourth win in their last five matches. The Bobcats (1-10, 0-4) remain winless in Conference Carolinas despite tight matches throughout the day.

Mayer (Timberlake, N.C.) took a 1-0 set lead after notching the opener, 6-2, against Nicole Karas. Karas responded with a 6-4 win in the second set, but Mayer buckled down and won the deciding set, 10-4.

Bobcat freshman Caroline Green (Columbia, Tenn.) hung tough with Alejandra Hernandez at No. 3 singles, but fell 6-3, 6-3.

Freshman Amanda Chapman gave Maite Belloso fits at No. 5 singles, but the Trojan fended her off, 6-4, 6-2.

LMC returns to action Wednesday March 26 to take on North Greenville at 3 p.m. in Tigerville, S.C.

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Conference Carolinas Leader Mount Olive Down LMC, 9-0

The Lees-McRae men's tennis team suffered a 9-0 loss to Conference Carolinas leader Mount Olive in LMC's home opener Saturday morning in Banner Elk, N.C.

The Trojans (11-1, 5-0 CC) continued their impressive start the 2014 campaign while taking all matches in singles and double play. Bobcat (3-8, 0-4) junior Hang Lak Choi (Newton, N.C.) fared well in No. 4 singles, but was unable to gather a win.

Choi tangled with Stanley Roffe in a tightly-contested singles bout, but fell 6-3, 7-5.

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Duel-sport athlete Scott Alford (Hillsborough, N.C.) put up a scrappy battle at No. 6 singles despite falling 6-4, 6-2.

Taduez Poplawski (Asheville, N.C.) and Joao Araujo (Curitiba, Puerto Rico) were downed in No. 1 singles play, 8-4.

LMC returns to play Wednesday March 26 to take on Conference Carolina foe North Greenville at 3 p.m. in Tigerville, S.C.