

Fowler, Dutton Ignite LMC to Split at Pfeiffer

Written by Chris Parker
Sunday, 23 March 2014 08:25

Lees-McRae sophomore Kendall Fowler went 5-for-6 and freshman Charlie Dutton tossed 3.2 scoreless innings while LMC split a Conference Carolinas doubleheader at Pfeiffer Saturday afternoon in

Misenheimer, N.C.

Game 1 – Pfeiffer 4, LMC 1

The Falcons (10-12, 3-3 CC) snagged a 2-0 lead following a five-hit outbreak in the bottom of the third against LMC's Taylor Billings (Sophia, N.C.) (2-3). PU took advantage of a fielding error in the following inning to stretch the lead to four.

Coach Merritt Yackey's squad threatened in the top half of the fifth when junior Tori Wright (Boone, N.C.) and Fowler (Buford, Ga.) reached on consecutive singles. The Falcons were able to wiggle free thanks to a double play and strike out.

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Sarah Stallings (Greensboro, N.C.) plated Shylyn Pierce (Orange Park, Fla.) after reaching on an error in the top of the seventh. The Bobcats had an opportunity to tie it when they loaded the bases with two outs, but were unable to convert.

Dutton (Monroe, Ga.) worked 2.2 innings of scoreless relief and racked up three strikeouts. Fowler produced three of LMC's six hits.

Game 2 – LMC 5, Pfeiffer 4

The Bobcat (6-25, 1-3) offense didn't take long to get rolling when they scratched across a run when Stallings stole home in the bottom of the first.

LMC picked up its first road win after Hollie Crickenberger (Boydton, Va.), Sarah Beth Ashley (Walkertown, N.C.) and Fowler had multi-hit performances.

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The Bobcats loaded the bases with no outs in the top of the second and would take advantage when Sadie Lagle (Harmony, N.C.) notched a pair of RBI.

PU's third baseman Dew connected on a two-run single in the bottom of the fourth to slice the deficit to one, 3-2.

Stallings scooted home on a wild pitch after reaching on one of the Falcons four errors in the game in the fifth.

PU responded with a run of its own on an RBI groundout from Saine.

LMC's Celeste Sheppard (East Julian, N.C.) (3-11) pitched her way out of a bases load jam while the Falcons threatened in the bottom of the sixth. The freshman worked around a pair of hits and walk to keep LMC up 5-3 going into the seventh.

PU led off the final frame with a double and Saine singled to second to put runners on first.

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Bullington plated a run with a fielder's choice. However, Dutton calmly retired the next two batters and earned her second save of the year while LMC picked up its second in the last three games.

The Bobcats will an eight-day break before battle King in a Conference Carolinas doubleheader March 30 at 2 & 4 p.m. in Bristol, Tenn.

Records Fall at Power Sox Invitational

Eight Lees-McRae student-athletes earned top-three finishes while freshman Erin Bingham and junior Rachelle Cleveland shattered school records at the Power Sox Invitational in Hickory, N.C.

Bingham (Jefferson, N.C.) completed the 100-meter hurdles in 14.81 seconds to finish second.

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The freshman bested Andrea Brown's 2004 record by .12 seconds.

Cleveland (Moyock, N.C.) claimed first place with a heave of 36.84 meters in the javelin throw. It was the best mark in LMC outdoor history, which was set by Chelsea Wood in 2011 (36.73 meters).

Senior Evan Webb (Salisbury, N.C.) earned his spot in the nationals when he easily cleared 4.90 meters in the pole vault while claiming the title.

Freshman Kayla Powell (Moyock, N.C.) earned two top-three finishes when she won the shot put with a throw of 11.21 meters. She followed up with a third-place finish in the discus throw with a distance of 37.20 meters.

Makayla Boswell (Mocksville, N.C.) won the high jump with a leap of 1.62 meters. The freshman set a personal record.

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Junior Meagan Thornton (Millville, N.J.) continued to have a successful week both on and off the track when she finished second in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:29.78.

Junior teammate Ryan Trask (Cobleskill, N.Y.) finished third in the discus throw with a chuck of 37.20 meters.

Coach Ley Fletcher's squad returns to action March 28 at the Winthrop Invitational in Rock Hill, S.C.