

## **ARGONAUTS FALL TO DEFENDING FRONTIER CONFERENCE CHAMPS BY ONE**

**HAVRE** — Electric City native Shaun Tatarka drained seven 3-pointers and scored 26 points as the Montana State-Northern Lights defeated the University of Great Falls Argos 63-62 Friday night in a Frontier Conference men's basketball game.

Tatarka, a former Great Falls High star, became the 17th Northern player to surpass the 1,000-point milestone.

"He made shots," said UGF head coach Steve Silsby. "He hit some deep ones, too, with guys in his face. In the end, they just made one more shot than we did."

Great Falls had two chances to tie in the closing seconds, but 3-pointers rattled out. The Argos scored a tip-in with a second left to provide the final margin.

"It was a helluva Frontier Conference game," said Silsby. "I'm real proud of my guys. It was a great effort. This is a game we can learn from and build on."

James Holmes scored 20 points for the Argos, who fell to 0-1 in league play and 12-4 overall. Leon Sutton and Melvin Williams combined for 23 points for Silsby's team.

Great Falls was just 3-for-10 from 3-point range, while Northern shot 11-for-28 from beyond the arc. The Lights (1-0, 14-2) got 11 points from LaVon Myers and nine points from Joe Simpson.

Tatarka, who has blistered his hometown college team often in the past, shot 7-for-14 from 3-point range. He also had five rebounds and two assists.

The Great Falls men's team returns to McLaughlin Center next weekend for Frontier games against Montana Western and Montana Tech.

### **GREAT FALLS (62)**

L.J. Jones 3-5 0-2 6, Naren Maynard 2-2 0-0 4, Marcel Townes 1-8 0-0 2, Melvin Williams 2-8 6-8 11, Leon Sutton 5-7 1-2 12, Miguel Bocachica 0-0 1-2 1, James Holmes 7-10 6-7 20, Reid Tramelli 1-2 0-0 3, Ken Anderson 1-2 1-2 3.

Totals 22-44 15-23 62

## **MSU-NORTHERN (63)**

David Maddock 1-3 0-0 3, Devin Jackson 1-4 0-0 3, Jordan Harris 1-1 0-0 2, Shaun Tatarka 8-16 3-5 26, LaVon Myers 3-7 3-4 11, Sean Kelly 0-1 0-0 0, Mike LaValley 0-1 0-0 0, Chris Brown 1-3 1-2 3, Joe Simpson 2-8 5-6 9, Ben Mitchell 2-6 0-0 4, Corbin Pearson 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 20-51 12-17 63

Halftime: Great Falls 31-30.

3-pt FG:Great Falls 3-10 (Jones 0-1, Townes 0-1, Williams 1-5, Sutton 1-2, Tramelli 1-1), MSU-N Lights 11-28 (Maddock 1-3, Jackson 1-3, Tatarka 7-14, Myers 2-4, Kelly 0-1, LaValley 0-1, Mitchell 0-2). Rebounds: Great Falls 29 (Williams 7), MSU-N Lights 29 (Tatarka 5). Fouls Great Falls 17, MSU-N Lights 21. Fouled out: Simpson . Technical: Holmes, Simpson, MSU-N Lights Coach. Assists: Great Falls 2 (Williams 1, Sutton 1), MSU-N Lights 6 (Maddock 2, Tatarka 2). Steals: Great Falls 9 (Sutton 4), MSU-N Lights 9 (Maddock 2, Kelly 2, Simpson 2). Blocked shots: Great Falls 1 (Jones 1), MSU-N Lights 1 (Mitchell 1). Turnovers: Great Falls 20, MSU-N Lights 19.

**Story curtesy of the Great Falls Tribune**