

Argonauts Exact Revenge on the Lights

GREAT FALLS - The University of Great Falls Argonauts Men's Basketball Team defended their home court today and exacted revenge on Montana State University Northern Lights by beating the NAIA # 10 team 69-68 in front of an estimated 1200 fans.

In early January the Argonauts traveled to Havre, Montana to take on MSU-Northern in the Frontier Conference opener. The Lights defended their house and beat the Argonauts by a single point.

Fast Forward twenty-nine days and the team changed locations. This time in the Argonauts house and this time another one point game, but this time the Argos grabbed the victory.

"What a great team win." Head Coach Steve Silsby said. Phoenix, Arizona sophomore Marcel Towns dropped a game high twenty-four points to lead the Argos offensive attack. "You gotta give it to Leon (Sutton); he had a true game winner." Silsby added. Las Vegas, Nevada's Leon Sutton only scored eight points on the night but it was his final three that will be long remembered in Argo athletic history. The Argos were trailing the Lights by seven points with less than four minutes left to play. The Argos battled back, played great defense were within 2 points with 1.5 seconds left in the game. That is when Sutton banked a three-point shot off the glass and the Argos took the lead.

The Lights coach quickly called a time out to design the right play with 1.5 seconds left. The time out allowed the Argonauts to regroup and think about playing defense and trying to keep the Lights from scoring. "I was glad they called a time out. It gave us a chance to regroup and plan out our defense." Silsby added. The last Lights shot did not find the bucket and the Argonauts won their second home conference game of the season.

Melvin Williams and Miguel Bocachica both scored ten for the Argonauts. Great Falls native Shaun Tatarka scored a team high eighteen for the Lights. In the first meeting Tatarka scored twenty-six against the Argonauts. "It was critical to play "Get-in-their-face-defense"." Silsby commented. The Argonauts did just that. Holding the Lights offense to 43 percent (24-53) shooting from the floor, 41 percent (13-32) from three-point land. The Argos shot 48 percent (25-52) from the floor and 55 percent (6-11) from beyond the Arc.

"We played a real good transition game." Silsby said. The Argos scored seventeen points off of Lights turnovers. Ken Anderson and Marcel Towns led the Argonauts with eight rebounds.

The Argos improve to 500 (4-4) in the Conference Play and 16-7 overall. "We need to work hard and get ready for our road trip. This conference is still wide open." Silsby concluded.

The Argonauts hit the road next weekend for the longest trip in their conference schedule. Their first stop is in Lewiston, Idaho to battle Lewis-Clark State College and then to Salt Lake City, Utah to take on Westminster College.

The Argonauts are back home on the 17th to host Carroll College and then on the 18th to host Rocky Mountain College on Senior Night.