



University of Great Falls
ARGONAUTS

SPORTS INFORMATION * NEWS RELEASE

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Harris' Late Heroics Gives UGF First Conference Win

Great Falls, MT – He only made one field goal in the entire game, but he made it count as a driving lay-up past Montana Tech defenders by sophomore guard Kevin Harris (Houston, TX) with 2.3 seconds left propelled the University of Great Falls men's basketball team to a 74-73 win over the Orediggers before a raucous crowd at the McLaughlin Center. The Argos snapped a six game losing streak and picked up their first win in Frontier Conference play of the season to move to 5-14, 1-4 on the season while the Orediggers fall to 7-15, 0-6.

Harris' clutch shot was set up by the heroics of sophomore forward L.J. Jones (Anaheim, CA) who made his Argonaut debut after becoming academically eligible. Jones was 9 of 13 from the field and scored a team-high 21 points. His offensive array included jump shots, drives to the basket, post moves and a thunderous one-handed dunk off a feed from Harris.

"It certainly feels good to get that first conference win under our belt," said UGF head coach Steve Silsby. "We told the guys before the game to believe in themselves and to believe in each other. They showed tremendous heart tonight and I couldn't be prouder right now. With that being said, we're coming back to work on Monday to get ready for the defending national champions (Rocky Mountain College). You can't ask for a better opportunity than that."

Junior guard Norman Towns (Phoenix, AZ) came off the bench to give the team an offensive spark with 14 points on 4-of-6 shooting, including a 28-footer just before the buzzer at halftime. Point guard Lukas Hamsch (Chandler, AZ) knocked down two early three-point baskets and finished the night with 10 points and five assists. Big man Dyston Madsen (Chandler, AZ) came through with a game-high nine rebounds just one day removed from fracturing his nose against Montana Western.

For the Orediggers, Dean Colbray (Pasco, WA) was dynamite all night long as he scored 15 of his 25 points in the second half, including an improbable runner with 13.6 seconds to go that briefly gave Montana Tech the lead at 73-72. A.J. Paine (Billings, MT) added 12 points and Dirk Anderson (Idaho City, ID) chipped in with 11. The Orediggers were held to just 39% shooting from the field but kept themselves in contention thanks to a 25-of-34 showing from the charity stripe.

As Silsby mentioned, next on the docket for UGF is a trip to Billings to face the Battlin' Bears this coming Thursday. Following that, the Argos are on the road against rival Carroll College on Saturday before returning home on February 5 to face Westminster College.

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