



University of Great Falls
ARGONAUTS

SPORTS INFORMATION * NEWS RELEASE

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Azusa Pacific Tops Lady Argos Hoops In Season Opener

Great Falls, MT – With balanced scoring and a dominating effort on the backboard, Azusa Pacific University bested the University of Great Falls Lady Argonauts 84-73 tonight at the McLaughlin Center in the Lady Argos' 2009-2010 season opener. Azusa Pacific moves to 2-0 on the season, while UGF falls to 0-1.

"We started a little bit slowly," said **UGF head coach Shawn Chaffin** as he saw his team a little anxious at the start. "They opened the game with strong defensive pressure that bothered us for a few minutes. Once we got our composure we were fine, but you're not going to beat anyone when you get out-rebounded by 20, especially on your home floor."

Junior center **Kristel Eddington (Long Beach, CA)** led the balanced Cougar scoring effort with 14 points. **Kristie Hala'ufia (San Mateo, CA)** and **C.J. Hill (Northridge, CA)** split 24 points for Azusa while **Michelle Byrd (Moreno Valley, CA)** and **Teri Higgenbottom (Santa Rosa, CA)** had 11 apiece.

Hala'ufia led the Cougar rebounding efforts with 15 while teammate **Amber Williams (Claremont, CA)** added 12. Azusa out-rebounded UGF 49-29 in the contest.

The Lady Argos were paced by the strong backcourt combination of junior college transfer **Kristy Henderson (Aurora, CO/Northeast Junior College)** and sophomore returnee **Leslie Saunders (Bozeman, MT/Bozeman High School)**. Henderson went nine-for-16 from the field and finished with a game-high 25 points to go with four steals. Saunders lit it up for 19 points on eight-of-11 shooting. Junior forward **Marissa Skogen (Great Falls, MT/Great Falls High School)** chipped in with 12 points while senior center **Stasia Holden (Arleta, CA/Cumberlands University)** hauled in a game-high 16 rebounds.

"We'll take a look at the film and get better from this," Chaffin commented afterwards. "I'm pleased with the effort overall and Azusa is a heck of a team."

Next on the docket for UGF is a trip to North Dakota for games against Minot State University (Nov. 6 at 6pm) and Dickinson State University (Nov. 7 at 6pm).

[BOX SCORE vs. AZUSA PACIFIC](#)

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