

## **LADY ARGOS FALL IN CONFERENCE OPENER**

**HAVRE** — The University of Great Falls women's basketball team put forth a valiant effort in its Frontier Conference opener, but fell 55-47 to one-loss Montana State University-Northern in a defensive battle here Friday.

The Lady Argos trailed by 13 points at halftime before battling back to take a four-point lead midway through the second half. But UGF was unable to sustain the advantage as the Lights converted 20 free throws to the Lady Argos' five.

"We just didn't finish out the game," UGF coach Bill Himmelberg said. "They did a better job getting to the foul line than we did. I thought we needed to attack the rim better than we did at times."

Himmelberg lauded the defensive effort of his team, which held Northern under 60 points for just the fourth time this season.

"I thought tonight was the best defensive effort we've had," Himmelberg said. "We were well-prepared and I thought our coaching staff did a good job of preparing the team. They were a big part of that. We executed the game plan, but we didn't quite make enough baskets."

Sarah Sciascia grabbed seven rebounds and was the only UGF player in double figures with 12 points. Chelsea Adams had nine points and Kindra Jones added eight. Kizia Ford had 13 rebounds to pace the Lady Argos.

Lindsey Abramson had six rebounds, two blocks and three steals, while being charged with guarding Lights standout Jordan Bruuresma, who finished with 10 points — four below her season average.

"(Abramson's) defensive effort on Jordan Bruuresma was good tonight," Himmelberg said. "She made (Bruuresma) work for all 10 of those points."

The Lady Argos attempted only eight free throws on the night with all eight coming in the second half. Getting to the line will be a point of emphasis going forward.

"We did a lot of good things, but I think we turned it over a couple times too many and we didn't get to the foul line," Himmelberg said. "We had (Northern) frustrated and they're a really good team."

UGF (4-8, 0-1) plays host to Walla Walla University tonight at 6 and tomorrow at 1. The Lady Argos return to Frontier Conference action January 13 at home against Montana-Western at 5:30.

Great Falls (47 )

Shorty Ramos 1-1 1-2 3, Chelsea Adams 4-8 1-2 9, Kezia Ford 2-7 2-2 6, Sarah Sciascia 5-14 1-2 12, Sydnee Burke 2-8 0-0 5, Lindsey Abramson 2-9 0-0 4, Khayla Gladney 0-3 0-0 0, Kindra Jones 4-10 0-0 8. Totals 20-60 5-8 47

MSU-N Skylights (55)

Nikki Tresch 4-8 2-2 12, Laramie Schwenke 2-10 11-15 16, Kylee Denham 1-3 4-6 6, Rachelle Bennett 0-1 2-4 2, Taylor Cummings 0-2 0-0 0, Jordan Bruuresma 5-11 0-1 10, Micah Kirkpatrick 0-1 0-0 0, Kelly Millager 3-6 0-2 6, Laci Keller 1-4 1-2 3. Totals 16-46 20-32 55

Half: Northern 27-14.

3-pt field goals: Great Falls 2-11 (Adams 0-1, Sciascia 1-5, Burke 1-5), MSU-N 3-11 (Tresch 2-4, Schwenke 1-5, Bruuresma 0-2). Rebounds: Great Falls 44 (Ford 13), MSU-N 35 (Bruuresma 8). Fouls: Great Falls 22, MSU-N 10. Fouled out: Adams. Technical: none. Assists: Great Falls 2 (Ford 1, Burke 1), MSU-N 8 (Denham 2, Bruuresma 2). Steals: Great Falls 9 (Abramson 3), MSU-N 9 (Tresch 3, Millager 3). Blocked shots: Great Falls 6 (Abramson 2, Jones 2), MSU-N 2 (Denham 1, Millager 1). Turnovers: Great Falls 20, MSU-N 13.

**Story courtesy of the Great Falls Tribune**